

Pebble Beach to redesign its 5th

MONTEREY, Calif. — The Pebble Beach Golf Links will undergo a major change this year when a new 5th hole is built. The existing 5th hole plays uphill through a chute of trees away from the water. The new 160-yard hole will be perched on a cliff above Stillwater Cove, adding another dramatic hole to an already dazzling layout.

The original 5th hole was the only one in a stretch from the 4th to the 10th that didn't bring the cove or Carmel Bay into play. That's because, when Samuel Morse built the course, a private landowner demanded \$20,000 for the parcel of waterfront property. Morse decided against buying the land and routed the course inward at the 5th. The Pebble Beach Co. recently purchased the chunk of land for \$8.9 million, clearing the way for the new routing.

Construction will start after the 1997 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am in early to mid-February. The new 5th hole is expected to be ready in time for the 1998 AT&T.

Joneses named 1996 Nicklaus Golf Family of the Year

JUPITER, Fla. — The Robert Trent Jones family, a driving force in golf course architecture for nearly 80 years, will receive the NGF Jack Nicklaus Golf Family of the Year Award for 1996.

The family award is an outgrowth of an NGF golf promotion campaign that was created in 1986, with the help of Jack Nicklaus, to increase public awareness of golf as a game that can be enjoyed by the entire family. The award last month was presented during the nationally televised Office Depot Father/Son Challenge.

Between them, Trent Jones and sons Bobby and Rees — both of whom have earned their own reputations as first-class course architects — have participated in the design and redesign of more than 700 golf courses, all around the world.

As one observer put it: "The three Jones design firms have altered the landscape of every continent but Antarctica; they have shaped dunes on the shores of every ocean and most minor seas; and they have introduced golf to several archipelagoes."

In addition their design work, Trent

and his sons have been instrumental in helping set the standards for their profession and, in so doing, advancing the role architects play in golf course development and operations today. Most of this has been accomplished through the American Society of Golf Course Architects which Trent helped found in 1946. Trent later served as its president, as have both Bobby and Rees.

They've also been at the forefront of the industry's ongoing efforts to ensure that courses continue to emerge and operate in harmony with their natural environments.

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Texas expansion delayed one year

BASTROP, Texas — A nine-hole expansion of the golf course here at Bastrop State Park, initially set to open last fall, won't be completed for at least another year.

Heavy clearing and earthmoving work is done, according to Dwight Williford, a project manager with the state's parks and wildlife department. Williford attributed the delay to two factors: a \$500,000 federal grant arrived late and periodic shortages of workers, some of whom are volunteers and prison workers.

The \$1 million project includes a new clubhouse and cart paths. Bastrop State Park's original nine-hole course was built in 1938. The expansion fulfills a promise made in 1966 to the city of Bastrop, which donated 1,145 acres to expand the popular park. The nine new holes were designed by Craig Metz.

Stormwater costs

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were setting the rates.

"But golf course owners never seem to be able to band together on any issue. It was the same here. I saw this coming two years ago and we filed the lawsuit to protect our right to object to our assessment. If we didn't file it within a certain time period, we would have been stuck with these rates with no right to appeal."

Talbot is one of seven members of a golf course steering committee that was scheduled to meet with county officials in mid-December. Talbot warned that golf course owners elsewhere should be aware of the situation. "Sarasota County is planning to sell its assessment plan to other counties," she said.



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