

Feds delay completion of Scottsdale golf facility

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — An unexpected federal regulatory hurdle has pushed back, for at least a year, the completion of the long-delayed Scottsdale Links, public 18-hole course in the Indian Bend Wash Greenbelt near the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

Construction was scheduled

to start in January on Scottsdale Links at Indian Bend, a \$5 million joint venture between the city and private golf course developers. But a permit needed from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers halted those plans. The delay pushed back the anticipated opening of the 132-acre, 18-hole layout from November

of this year to November 1999.

This latest development is yet another setback for golfers in the area who have been waiting more than a decade for a new course that would improve an undeveloped and often unkempt section of the Indian Wash Greenbelt. The city has been unable to get at least two previous

proposed golf course projects at the site off the ground.

The key stumbling block for the project is that 90 acres are within regional flood-control channels, over which the Corps has jurisdiction. A misunderstanding between

the city and the developer, Even Par Golf LLC, and the Corps over

whether a special permit was needed caused the delay. Even if the Corps grants the permit, the project still requires final design approval from Maricopa County,



Oregon's Indian Bend nears local gov't approval

BEND, Oregon — The city has filed the last formal paperwork for an 18-hole municipal course near the sewage treatment plant east of town.

The site plan for Indian Bend Golf Course was submitted to Deschutes County for an upcoming hearing on the \$4.5 million, privately financed project.

Plans for 5.5-acre pond to store effluent for irrigating the course have been scrapped, as have all other water features, at the urging of the Federal Aviation Administration. The FAA was worried the ponds would attract migratory birds that could interfere with planes at nearby Bend Municipal Airport.

A practice range, putting greens, 4,350-square-foot clubhouse, parking for 170 cars, paved cart paths and 5,000-square-foot maintenance building are also planned. If the proposal wins approval soon, construction could start this spring with the course ready for play by mid-1999.

The county first proposed the course at the site in 1991. The city took over the project in 1996. Last fall the city agreed to a 25-year, \$100-a-year lease of the 170-acre site to SRL Corp., a local group which includes PGA golf pro Greg Little, Richard Page, Ray Schmidt and course architect Robert Muir Graves.

PALMER TO DESIGN COURSE IN SACRAMENTO

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Golf Dimensions has signed a 45-year lease with the Sacramento Municipal Utility District to develop, finance and operate the Rancho Seco Golf Facility to be built on a portion of a 1,600-acre site owned by the District. The daily-fee course was designed by Palmer Course Design Co. The project design is complete and all permits secured. Plans include a full-sized practice facility and 12,000-square-foot clubhouse. Golf Dimensions expects to break ground in April and have the course ready for play by January 1999.

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