

Maxwell, NGF team up on ADA-compliant design

SMYRNA, Tenn. — Maxwell Golf Group's golf course design division has been working with the National Golf Foundation (NGF) to design a project that will meet the guidelines of the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

When funding is approved, the nine-hole course will be an addition to the city of Smyrna's existing 18-hole Smyrna Municipal Golf Course.

"From the day we first spoke with the NGF and Hal Loflin (Smyrna Municipal's golf profes-

sional/general manager)," said MGG senior design associate Nathan Crace, "we were excited about the prospect of being involved with such a proactive approach to making golf accessible to more people."

The proposed nine-hole addition will be an executive course to be used primarily as a facility

for beginning golfers and juniors. The par-29 layout will have seven par-3s and two par-4s, a new lake, and a number of bunkers scattered throughout. The mostly wooded site will use gently rolling mounds to help contain shots, add aesthetic appeal, and delineate areas between holes.

"The size and configuration of

the property dictated that we create an executive-style layout," Crace said. "And that provided a perfect fit for Hal's vision of a beginners' short course. He asked us to look into the ADA compliancy issue because the course is down the street from one of only seven federal occupational therapy rehabilitation centers in the country, and he has the foresight to make this

one of the few golf courses which would be truly accessible to physically challenged golfers."

Crace said the next step is to secure funding for the project. The city is growing, with the strong support of its citizens and businesses, Crace said, adding: "I believe a facility such as this can only add to the quality of life the residents of Smyrna already enjoy."

Schmidt-Curley to design Calif. desert layout

HEMET, Calif. — Heartland Village LLC, consisting of Heartland of Seattle and MSK Development Group of Carlsbad and Landmark Golf Co. of Palm Desert have signed a contract to develop an 18-hole golf course at a new 665-acre active adult community near Hemet's western border.

Groundbreaking for the golf course community, which is approved for 1,775 homes, and the golf course is expected to take place in early 2000.

"This is a great piece of property for a golf course," said Ernie Vossler, president of Landmark Golf. "The natural topography is perfect for a course that offers dazzling vistas and challenging holes," he said. "I've had my eye on the property since 1982."

Schmidt-Curley Design of Scottsdale, Ariz., has been selected to design the course.

"This property has the same terrain as PGA West, the La Quinta course we designed with Pete Dye," said Brian Curley, a principal in the firm which has been involved in the design of many Landmark courses.

"It will play a lot like PGA West," Curley noted. "It has a rock-strewn mountainside with a natural water course transitioning to a gently sloping plain. The isolated mountainside gives to the opportunity to create several holes that are framed by rugged rock formations from tee to green. The gently sloping areas provide the setting for lots of water features."

The par-71 layout will measure 6,706 yards.

"But we're putting the emphasis on playability," Curley said. "We're very conscious that a lot of our players will be seniors."

The golf course will be open to the public, with special consideration given to residents of the active adult community for people over 55.

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