

## Jacobson's Broadlands off to fast start

NORTH PRAIRIE, Wis. — The Broadlands Golf Club opened quietly in this suburb of Milwaukee recently, and it hasn't been quiet here ever since — even though the official grand opening isn't until next May.

The championship facility, designed by golf architect Rick Jacobson of Libertyville, Ill., has been a big hit with Wisconsin golfers seeking country club conditions at a reasonable price.

"Rick has designed a fun golf course that people just love to play," said Broadlands general manager and partner Andy Spaulding. "We already have people coming back every weekend."

The par-72 layout, which stretches to 6,846 yards from the tips, features rolling terrain, native grasses, oak savannahs and major elevation changes. The front nine is characterized by a 4.3-acre lake, which comes into play on four holes. Jacobson used fescue grasses to give definition to the fairways on the open former farmland.

The 18th hole will likely be one of the more memorable — and controversial — on the course. It's a 190-yard par-3 located on one of the more exposed parts of the site. The hole plays into a prevailing southwest wind across a 20-foot ravine to a green guarded by bunkers in the front and by a steep fall-off in the back.

"I've never been there when there wasn't at least a 10 mile-an-hour wind blowing," Jacobson said. "If you want to finish your round with a birdie, you have to pick the right club on this hole."

One reason for the club's rapid popularity might be the golfer-

friendly weekend greens fee of \$37 per person plus \$13 for a half cart — a \$50 total. Weekday greens fees are \$31, and Spaulding has been giving 25-percent discounts as a welcome gesture to local players.

"The Broadlands definitely was developed with the public golfer in mind," said Jacobson, a

University of Wisconsin graduate and Jack Nicklaus protege who began his firm in 1991. "We think golfers will find the course fun, challenging and visually very interesting. It's an open, flowing kind of course with generous landing areas and plenty of bailout areas. But by no means is it an easy course."



The second hole at The Broadlands Golf Club outside Milwaukee



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### Sandy Lyle Group opens in the East

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Sandy Lyle Golf Design/Strategic Golf Design is opening a new office here on the East Coast, to be headed by principal architect Rick Elliott. He will focus on expanding the firm's presence in the region. Additionally, the eastern base will allow him to more easily service European clients. The company currently has projects underway in California, Alabama and Portugal. The offices in California and Colorado will remain open.