



## What's **New** at Pebble Beach?

Chris Dalhamer points out where there will be no intermediate cut between the fairway cut and the ocean during the U.S. Open.



*Stops esQapes dead.*

**W**hen Chris Dalhamer began his job as golf course superintendent of Pebble Beach Golf Links in 2005, he was already thinking about getting the course ready for the 2010 U.S. Open.

"That was the focus from day one: What do we want to do in the next five years and how are we going to get there?" Dalhamer says.

There has been plenty to keep Dalhamer and his 29-member crew plus six interns busy. They rebuilt all of the bunkers and added some new ones. They also improved drainage throughout the course.

"We've tried to polish Pebble Beach as much as possible," says Dalhamer, who expects about 100 volunteers to join his crew for the tournament, June 17-20.

What will golfers who played in the 2000 U.S. Open (won by Tiger Woods in a rout) notice that's different about the course this year?

For starters, the ocean will be back in play at Pebble Beach for this U.S. Open, unlike in 2000. That means players will have to contend with the water on holes four, six, eight, nine, 10 and 18. There will be no rough or intermediate cut between the fairway cut and the ocean. Misplayed balls will roll easily off the turf and over the rocky cliffs into the deep, blue sea.

The fairways will also appear and play differently. Dalhamer says the United States Golf Association's Mike Davis, senior director of rules and competitions, has added a serpentine edging to the fairways, which had more of a straight edge

in 2000. The tiered rough that was popular at the previous two U.S. Opens will also appear at Pebble Beach.

The course has also added about 200 yards since 2000. New tees were built on the third, ninth, 10th, 11th and 13th holes. It's the first time the course has played more than 7,000 yards.

According to the United States Golf Association Green Section's Pat Gross, there will be no green filters on the television cameras at Pebble Beach, which means the course might not appear so vibrant in color.

"This is a good thing," Dalhamer says. "It's reality. I think it's great we'll see a little off-color in certain areas."

— Larry Aylward

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