

Around the Mid-Atlantic

Lighthouse Sound Open

Arguably the most scenic course in the area opened April 27th near Ocean City, MD. Bordered by Assawoman Bay and the St. Martin River, Lighthouse Sound has water views on ten holes. Designed by Art Hills and built by McDonald & Sons, the course is owned by Tom Ruark, who's portfolio includes Rum Point and Nutters Crossing. Butch Howard, formerly the assistant at River Run is the Superintendent. Butch describes Lighthouse as a scenic but difficult layout especially when the wind blows. There are four forced carries over 175 yards and a 622 yard par 5. Greens are L-93, fairways L-93/Southshore, Penncross tees, and Bluegrass roughs. It has Toro Site Pro LTC irrigation and 1,450 sprinklers.

Waterworks

Several MAAGCS members are starting up new irrigation systems this spring. At our November meeting at Bretton Bay many of us saw Bernie Beaven's new system going in the ground. It is a Rainbird Stratus II sys-

tem installed by TEBCO. His new pumphouse is a Childers Vertical Turbine.

Course improvements continue at River Bend. Tom Kessell has a new Rainbird Nimbus II installed by Jeff Mack's ISI. Because of the narrow fairways Tom has part circle fairway and rough heads.

Norbeck also installed Nimbus II with Scott Robinson and Organics Unlimited doing the work. Bruce Zickafoose now has two and three rows of heads.

Rockville residents will probably get a tax increase because Ray Evans at Redgate has a new Rainbird Nimbus double row system installed by A&F Irrigation.

Whiskey Creek Opens June 17th

Kemper Sports Management will own and operate the new Whiskey Creek Golf Course near Ijamsville, MD. The course was designed by J.M. Poellot, with Ernie Els as a design consultant. The contractor is Ryan Central and the Superintendent is Bart Miller, who comes to our area after years as a Superintendent in South Carolina. Bart

won't be growing Bermudagrass here but plans on having L-93 greens, tees and fairways. He describes Whiskey Creek as three courses in one with several links type holes, others being tree lined with mountain views, and the rest with hills and bluffs in play. He has Rainbird Nimbus irrigation and complete coverage with a double and triple row design.

Uplands Underway

Superintendent Jim McHenry says "you can't miss us" driving to the beach on Rt. 404. The new course is being built by McDonald & Sons and will be the first complete project for Chip's new designer Joel Wieman. The course is privately owned and will be an upscale daily fee operation. A tremendous amount of earth is being moved to convert a relatively flat site into a very interesting layout with water on eleven holes. Jim says it will be bentgrass from tee to green with Rainbird Stratus irrigation. It should open the spring of 2001.

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