



NEWS

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PGA National Unveils Renovations to Champion Course

Nicklaus Changes Make Course Play as Par 70 for The Honda Classic

Palm Beach Gardens, FL (February 07, 2007) – With the arrival of the PGA Tour’s Honda Classic for the next six years beginning this month, the storied Champion course at PGA National is poised to retake its place as a premier stop for the world’s top professional golfers. In preparation for the tournament, several changes have been made at the direction of Jack Nicklaus to enhance one of Florida’s most celebrated layouts. But none of the changes has been more talked about than the shift of the course to a Par-70 from the traditional Par-72.

The Par-5 holes at No. 6 and No. 10 will be played as long Par-fours for the tournament. The sixth hole will set up as a 488-yard Par-4 and the tenth hole will set up as a 525-yard Par-4. In addition to those adjustments, new tees have been built at holes two, five, eight, nine, eleven, seventeen and eighteen that will stretch the course from the previous long distance of 7,048 yards to the new tournament length of 7,241 yards. Other changes include a new pot bunker at the front of the first hole and a new greenside bunker on the left side of the seventh green to increase the difficulty of approach shots on those holes.

“The addition of seven extra tees combined with the reduction of par to 70 and the extra bunkers to put a premium on shot making have brought the course to a level that will challenge the Tour players of today,” said Bob Coman, PGA National’s Director of Golf. “They have modernized the course. The additional length to the Champion course layout will provide a good test, but if the wind blows it will become extremely challenging for the PGA Tour players.”

Located in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, PGA National Resort & Spa offers a complete resort experience for its guests and club members with a full array of amenities and services that speak to a wide range of interests and agendas. Developed as the centerpiece of a 2,340-acre luxury residential community, the 339-room resort boasts five master-designed golf courses. PGA National also features a multi-million dollar, 40,000 square foot Spa with the renowned *Waters of the World* collection of outdoor mineral pools, an extensive program of tennis instruction and competition on its 19 Har-Tru tennis courts, a 33,000 square foot Health & Racquet Club with personal trainers and a wide range of classes, five professional croquet lawns, multiple dining options, 34,000 square feet of meeting facilities and a resort pool which fronts a 26-acre lake.

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