

PGA NATIONAL RESORT & SPA OPENS RENOVATED PALMER COURSE

DESIGNED BY THE ARNOLD PALMER DESIGN COMPANY,
LEGENDARY COURSE CELEBRATES RE-BIRTH

PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL (JANUARY 22, 2008) – As part of a multi-million dollar property-wide facelift, PGA National Resort and Spa has just completed an extensive renovation of the popular Arnold Palmer designed golf course. Under the direction of the Arnold Palmer Design Company, the renovations and redesign were officially unveiled on January 22, 2008 in a festive ceremony led by Hall of Famer Arnold Palmer and PGA National Resort & Spa Managing Director, Joel Paige.

“As always, we hope to build a fun and enjoyable golf course and think the changes made to this early project will help bring it up to date,” said Arnold Palmer.

“It was a pleasure to work with the PGA National team,” said Arnold Palmer Design Company architect Eric Wiltse. “We have made several subtle changes and a few major ones and hope that we have injected a little more strategic and visual interest back into an updated version of a great classic Florida golf course.”

Completed renovations to the popular course include a new irrigation system, ensuring the success of the course’s new state-of-the-art grass, Champion Turf Bermuda; re-designed native landscaping; re-shaped and re-built holes and bunkers; and all new laser-leveled tee locations featuring five distinctive sets of tees.

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The course’s cart paths, restrooms, shelters, signage and recycling / refuse options have all been upgraded as well. Hole 12 now features an all-new double fairway design that allows golfers to choose two completely different approaches to the hole.

Players face a classic risk / reward off the tee – the route to the left requires a long and precise drive over water, but a shorter distance to the green – making the number 12 a challenging, exciting, and potentially reachable par 5. The higher fairway option, which is separated by an expansive bunker, features a more conventional dog-leg par 5 but with little hope of getting home in two.

“Working with the Arnold Palmer Design Company was a great experience for our team at PGA National Resort & Spa,” said Paige. “We are thrilled to be sharing this course improvement with our guests and members, kicking off the opening of numerous projects that are part of our multi-million dollar makeover.”

“The Palmer course has always been popular among golfers of every skill level,” adds Paige. “These enhancements will do an even better job of framing tee shots and, with more bunkers, make it tougher for the discerning golfer. At the same time, new forward tees will continue to make it a favorite for the casual golfer as well.”

Committed to “creating championship experiences” and making PGA National Resort & Spa the best golf destination in Florida, the new ownership has embarked on

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resort-wide renovations. “We want professional and amateur golfers, as well as our non-golfing guests, to know that PGA National Resort & Spa retains its rich history and that we’re investing in a compelling future.”

About The Palmer Course

Named for its designer, the legendary Arnold Palmer, The Palmer Course is currently the most forgiving for the "grip it and rip it" style of play. The Palmer Course is a subtle nod to the game's Scottish roots with links-style routing, numerous grass bunkers, and the sharing of a common green on holes 8 and 12. The open fairways and larger greens are quite accommodating, allowing the golfer to not become overly penalized for missing the fairway or primary rough.

New home to the Honda Classic, PGA National Resort & Spa is the legendary site of more professional golf events than any other resort in America. With the headquarters of the Professional Golfers

Association of America (PGA) on site, it is fitting that the resort has been host to over 19 major PGA championship events including the 1987 PGA Championship, the 1983 Ryder Cup matches, the 1982 Grand Slam and close to two decades of the PGA Seniors Championship. In addition to its five 18-hole master-designed golf courses, the PGA National Resort golf experience includes a full service, professional tournament staff, a comprehensive caddie program and the PGA National Golf Academy.

About PGA National Resort and Spa

Opened in 1981, PGA National Resort and Spa is a stunning South Florida vacation and meeting destination. The legendary 339-room resort is in the midst of multi-million dollar facelift that will include a completely new front entrance, outdoor pool and pavilion as well as enhanced public areas, restaurants, golf courses and landscaping. PGA National Resort and Spa offers 90 holes of championship golf. Other distinguishing features include a 42,000 square foot European Spa with 56 treatments areas and the exclusive Waters of the World outdoor mineral pools, a world-class health and racquet club, 34,000 square feet of self-contained conference space and seven on-site restaurants and lounges. PGA National Resort is located in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. For more information call 800-633-9150 or visit www.pgaresort.com

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