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Mount Washington Resort reopens the restored 18-hole Ross golf course

August 13, 2008 - Front Section

Mount Washington Resort's 18-hole golf course reopened on Friday, August 1st after a restoration project that lasted two seasons.

According to Michael Carroll, Mount Washington Resort's director of golf & club operations, "Opening day was a huge success! We are absolutely thrilled with positive reviews of the new layout!"

The Mount Washington Course was designed by golf course architect Donald Ross, from Scotland, and opened in 1915. Brian Silva of Brian Silva Design led the restoration project, rebuilding the golf course based on Donald Ross' original design plans which had been preserved over the years at the resort. Ross was known for designing golf courses according to the natural contours and terrain of the land, and for placing challenging bunkers perpendicular to the shot.

According to Silva, who provided a walking tour of the new layout to members of the Mount Washington Alpine & Country Club and the Resort's executive management team, "This is mountain golf at its best!"

With the original Ross plans for the Mount Washington Course in hand, Silva discovered the 18-hole course was not simply the "flat thing" that he recalled during earlier visits to the resort in the early 1970s and late 1980s. By comparing the original Ross plans to those of the course in 2007, Silva unveiled the original intent of Ross, which had been lost or buried over the years. Fairway bunkers crafted with Ross' flair were unearthed, including the discovery of Ross' signature "principal's nose" bunker on the 4th hole. In keeping with Ross' "meadowland" design, which features expansive views, Silva significantly enhanced the course's wide open vistas by strategically removing trees. Silva also, made use of the natural rolls and swells of the ancient riverbed upon which the Course was built when placing tees, fairways, bunkers, and greens, as did Ross in his original plans.

Matt Massei, the resort's general manager came to Mount Washington Resort after a 15 year career at Pinehurst, in North Carolina, where he oversaw PGA National Club Professional Championships in 1997 and 1998, and the US Open in 2005. Massei noted how impressed he has been with the way the entire project has been executed and the significance of the new layout. "Within the next five or so years we certainly hope to host one of the 13 USGA championship events here at Mount Washington Resort," he said.

"The August Golf & Stay Package" has been designed to welcome the opening of the restored golf course with a special commemorative gift, and is valid for the month of August only.

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