

Wyndgate set to open public doors

The Wyndgate, an opulent and grandiose private golf club in Rochester Hills, will go public this summer. That is, the people who founded, built and maintain the extremely high standards that members have enjoyed at The Wyndgate since 1995 are putting the finishing touches on a brand new golf course adjacent to the club – a course that will be available to The Wyndgate members and the general public on a daily basis.

Westwynd at The Wyndgate, a brand new 18-hole course on the western edge of The Wyndgate property along Adams Road at Gunn Road, is expected to open in August.

The Wyndgate director of golf, Michigan PGA Professional Kevin Muir, is excited about the prospect of overseeing both the exclusively private facility and the public daily-fee operation.

“We plan to expose the public golfer to the very same high standards of conditioning and service that we provide to our members at The Wyndgate,” said Muir, who showed me around both facilities on Wednesday afternoon.

For \$75 per round at Westwynd, public players will be able to see why The Wyndgate is one of the most talked-about golf clubs in Michigan. Both clubs are adorned with dramatic landscaping, floral beds, waterfalls, and rock gardens.

Nothing less than red brick cart paths lead the golfer on his path from start to finish, and the ser-



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vice standards at Westwynd will be as opulent as the facility. “We will keep starting times 10 minutes apart so that the players will never feel crowded. Our goal is for Westwynd at The Wyndgate the highest quality experience a public golfer can have.”

Quality will also be offered in Westwynd’s Colonial-style clubhouse, where the Gatehouse Grill will host diners who want to be served great grill items on the veranda overlooking the placid lake that glimmers in front of and along the giant double-green for the third and 18th holes.

The presentation will be as good as the view. Large ready-to eat takeaway sized portions will also be available for the golfer who wants to bring dinner home to the family or the area resident who simply wants to squire home a gallon of pasta or a few dozen wings.

Oh yes, the golf. Westwynd at The Wyndgate was designed by Kansas City-based architect Craig Schreiner, who may be best known for his renovation of the south course at Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio. Westwynd was covered with snow when I peered

at it this week, but I am told that the course will be best known for the dramatic, scalloped bunkering that guards the fairways and greens that play along a large ridge, wetlands, and a stream.

Aficionados of great golf will recall that while U.S. Opens and the PGA Championship were played on the Oakland Hills Country Club south course, its’ north course at one time was a public facility and the north course, though overshadowed by its’ famed sister course, deserves acclaim of its’ own, just as Westwynd aspires to do at The Wyndgate.

Now that I’ve given you a true sneak preview of Westwynd at The Wyndgate, a visit there of your own will surely prompt you to shield the sun from your eyes and look east across the property to catch a glimpse of exactly how the Wyndgate members are being delighted. There is not enough room in this column to give you a sneak peek at The Wyndgate itself, but if your visit to Westwynd encourages you take interest in full or social membership at The Wyndgate, a friendly staffer can likely be coerced into giving you a tour of the Disneyesque, 65,000 squarefoot Federalist era-styled clubhouse that sweeps the American golfer back in time and onto the golf course.

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