

Hole-by-hole breakdown

Course to challenge O & E golfers

By DOUG FUNKE

Chances are good that golfers in the Observer & Eccentric Golf Tournaments will have the opportunity to use every club in their bag during their rounds over Whispering Willows Municipal Golf Course in Livonia.

nicipal Golf Course in Livonia.

The women will battle for honors in an 18-hole tournament Sept. 11, with the men following in a 36-hole test Sept. 15-16.

Amateur golfers who reside in the

Observer & Eccentric circulation area may enter. Entry fee is \$25 for men, \$10 for women. Golfers may register by mail with the coupon found in most editions of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

Entry blanks are also available at the course, which is on Newburgh Road just south of Eight Mile Road.

Whispering Willows plays 6,265 yards for men and 5,772 yards for women. Par is 71 for both.

There are sand traps on each hole and water comes into play on five of the 18 holes. The course places a premium on accuracy rather than long-distance hitting.

The longest hole for men is 485 yards, for women 455. The shortest hole is 125 yards for both.

Following is a hole-by-hole description of what players will have to contend with come next month.

FIRST HOLE: Men - 460 yards, par 5; Women - 430 yards, par 5. A confidence builder, this hole features wide open spaces and very little trouble from tee to green.

Better players should make birdie here. There is a trap on the right edge of the fairway 150 yards from the green and a large trap at the right back part of the green. Other than that, smooth sailing.

SECOND HOLE: Men - 337 yards, par 4; Women - 305 yards, par 4. Unless one is a straight blitzer, there is plenty of potential for big trouble both left and right of a narrow fairway.

What form does that trouble take? Dense woods.

It may be wise to use an iron off the tee for better control and accuracy.

There is a trap to the left of the putting surface to snare errant second shots, if one is fortunate to have a decent shot after the drive.

THIRD HOLE: Men - 311 yards, par 4; Women - 304 yards, par 4. A severe dogleg left, there is quite a bit of room across the fairway for which to aim from the tee. It's important to stay in the middle or to the right of the middle on the drive.

Woods lurk on the left and could leave one in a bind if the ball is on the left side of the fairway with a drive.

A drain, two to three feet wide, runs across the fairway about 30 yards from the tee. A trap guards the green.

FOURTH HOLE: Men - 395 yards, par 4; Women - 380 yards, par 4. Slight dogleg right, the fairway is pretty much wide open both left and right. No trouble spots until the green, which is surrounded by three traps. However, the traps aren't all that close to the green. A fairly easy test.

FIFTH HOLE: Men - 360 yards, par 4; Women - 320 yards, par 4. This is a straight hole with a wide target area. There are traps both left and right of the fairway about 150 yards from the green. The green is protected by three traps.

(Continued on page 6B)

Men's, Women's Open Golf Tournaments

Sponsored by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and Whispering Willows Municipal Golf Course

MEN'S
36 holes medal play: Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 15 and 16. Entry fee: \$25 (green fees, trophies and prizes).

WOMEN'S
18 holes medal play: Tuesday, Sept. 11. Entry fee: \$10 (green fees, basket of practice balls and trophies). Make checks payable to Gary Whitener, tournament director, and enclose with entry blank.

NAME

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PHONE HANDICAP

Men's entries close Monday, Sept. 10, at 6 p.m. Call for starting times on Friday, Sept. 14, after 9 a.m. (476-4493).

Women's entries close Thursday, Sept. 6, at 5 p.m. Call for starting times Friday, Sept. 7, after 5 p.m.

Open to all residents of Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Garden City, Westland, Redford Township, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Southfield, Birmingham, West Bloomfield, Bloomfield Township, Bloomfield Hills, Troy, Rochester and Avon Township.

Entries may be mailed to Tournament Director Gary Whitener, Whispering Willows Golf Course, 20500 Newburgh, Livonia.

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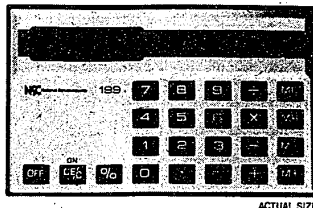
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