

For immediate release

24 February 2019

## **Press Release**

#### SICC Groundbreaks for a 27-Hole Golf Course

The Singapore Island Country Club (SICC), the largest member-owned golf and country club in the region will begin construction on its extensive \$50 million renovation on the New and Millennium golf courses on 25 February 2019. The 27-hole course layout offers a stunning setting, bordering the nation's nature reserve.

More than 80 golfers and club officials gathered at the New Course Hole 18 at the end of the charity golf game on 24 February 2019 for a symbolic groundbreaking ceremony, marking the closure of the New and Millennium golf courses and the commencement of construction for the 27-hole golf course.

The New Course, opened in 1965, was originally designed by UK's Frank Pennink, one of the most famous architects of golf courses. British Open winner, Australia's Peter Thomson, later redeveloped the course in 2002 to a sand-based course that allows the course to remain playable throughout the year. The course, which covers 6,525m was considered the most challenging course, amongst the four 18-hole golf courses at SICC.

Leading the project is Graham Marsh Golf Design (GMGD), an award-winning golf design company who has completed more than 50 golf course designs worldwide. GMGD is best known for its exceptional work with Sutton Bay, South Dakota, USA and Ras al Hamra Golf Course in Oman, UAE. In a statement, Graham Marsh Golf Course Design said, "This course is a unique design that caters to the objective of allowing golfers of all proficiencies to enjoy. The Club has chosen a strong in-house leadership team comprising both members and staff to stay actively involved in the day-to-day operations of construction. It will be an exciting period at the SICC, and we look forward to creating another iconic golf course in the region."

"The primary focus of this golf course redevelopment will be to increase golf course capacity at Island, in anticipation of the land leases of Sime and Bukit Courses expiring end of 2021 and 2030 respectively. We want to continually invest in our properties to surpass expectations and be a leader in the golf and country club industry. This will enhance our members' golfing and club experience and increase the value of the membership," says SICC President Andrew Low.

"This is the first major renovation since more than 17 years ago and we are very excited to be elevating the golf experience for our members. This redevelopment, scheduled to take 24 months of construction, will ensure that our course is the best of its kind in the region and will increase the desirability of our golf club for years to come," says SICC Club Captain Ivan Chua.

SICC General Manager Desmond Tay concurred, "Though there are many golf courses in the region that have started and/or completed their redevelopments, this presents an opportunity for the team and various consultants to plan and adopt the best practices with the latest technology on construction, irrigation, water harvesting and improved turfgrass varieties to ensure course sustainability, efficiency and most importantly an improved playing experience for our members."

"This project entails many rounds of discussions and consultation with various stakeholders. The SICC worked towards the PUB's requirement to be less reliant on the water catchment areas in the future. Part of the project includes the construction of a public park connector along the reservoir edge. Stringent guidelines in construction methods by NParks ensure that the nature reserve remains unaffected," Mr Tay added.

## **About The Singapore Island Country Club**

Formed in 1963 from a merger of The Royal Singapore Golf Club and the Royal Island Club, the Singapore Island Country Club has a very distinguished history and heritage. Today, the SICC is Singapore's most established and largest golf and country club with premium facilities and award-winning golf courses. Nestled amid lush greenery near the nature reserve, the SICC is a sanctuary away from the hustle and bustle of the city. With four 18-hole golf courses, 12 food & beverage outlets, and a wide range of sports and social facilities over two locations, there is something for everyone in the family.

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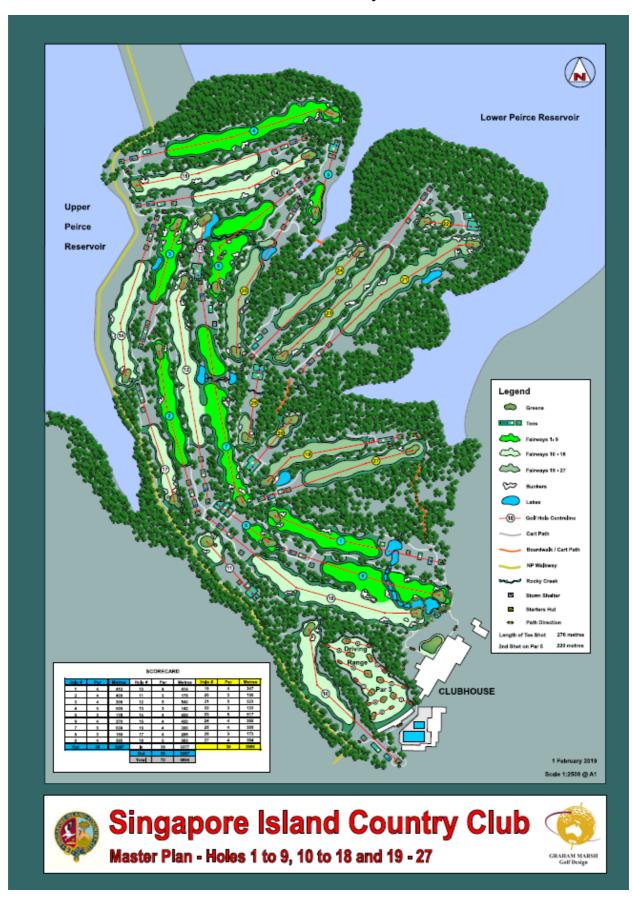
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DID: 6431 8354 | HP: 9852 5647 Email: <a href="mailto:yvonne.toh@sicc.org.sg">yvonne.toh@sicc.org.sg</a> Annex A – 27-Hole Course Layout

Annex B – Artist's Impressions of the 27-Hole Golf Course

Annex C – Pictures from the Groundbreaking Ceremony on 24 February 2019

Annex A - 27-Hole Course Layout



# Annex B – Artist's Impressions of the 27-Hole Golf Course



(Hole 6, Image 1: A well-designed Par 4 features a creek splitting the fairway and a dog leg left.)



(Hole 6, Image 2: A straight Par 4 that requires an accurate tee shot into the landing zone split by a creek crossing the fairway.)



(Hole #9, Image 1: Approach onto the green is well protected by bunkers.)



(Hole #9, Image 2: The green is protected by a water catchment pond on the right of the green and a bunker before the green on the left.)



(Hole #13, Image 1: With water all along the right side of the approach and green, this Par 3 hole demands an accurate tee shot.)



(Hole #13, Image 2: A single catch bunker protects the left side of the green.)



(Hole #18, Image 1: Longer hitters can take on the dogleg which will be an advantage.)



(Hole #18, Image 2: The slightly elevated green is protected with water on the left and bunkers on the right.)



(Hole #21, Image 1: With a slight left to right bend the uphill hole has bunkers to the left with a water catchment pond.)



(Hole #21, Image 2: Players would have to navigate well positioned bunkers during approach shots into onto the green.)



(Hole #22, Image 1: A short downhill Par 3.)



(Hole #22, Image 2: The green is protected by bunkers on both sides and run off at the back of the green.)

# Annex C - Pictures from the Groundbreaking Ceremony on 24 February 2019



The SICC New Course Groundbreaking Ceremony on Sunday, 24 February 2019 (From left) SICC Golf Redevelopment and Planning Committee Chairman Kenneth Chen, SICC Deputy Chairman Tay Joo Soon, SICC Chairman Khoo Boon Hui, SICC President Andrew Low and SICC Club Captain Ivan Chua. (Photo credit: The Singapore Island Country Club)



The SICC New Course Groundbreaking Ceremony on Sunday, 24 February 2019 (From left) SICC Club Captain Ivan Chua, SICC President Andrew Low, SICC Chairman Khoo Boon Hui, SICC Deputy Chairman Tay Joo Soon, and SICC Golf Redevelopment and Planning Committee Chairman Kenneth Chen. (Photo credit: The Singapore Island Country Club)



The SICC New Course Groundbreaking Ceremony on Sunday, 24 February 2019. (Photo credit: The Singapore Island Country Club)