



Get Into The Swing

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Gar Vasey is golf pro at Chinguacousy Country Club.

Chinguacousy Country Club

Scenery is a selling point

Chinguacousy is an Indian word that means "land of small pines."

As the name of the Chinguacousy Country Club, it quietly understates the scenic beauty visitors find when they visit the course for the first time.

Located in the Caledon Hills along the Credit River, it's not uncommon for golfers at Chinguacousy to have to share a fairway with a small flock of Canada geese, or let a doe and her fawn "play through." Sometimes it's difficult to remember Chinguacousy is merely a 10-minute drive north of Brampton.

Gar Vasey is club pro at Chinguacousy and says the course is presently in excellent condition.

The course first opened as a private club in 1961. Three years ago, it went semi-private for a two-year period, and since then has been public.

"It's a difficult course," Vasey says of Chinguacousy's 18-hole, Par-71 layout. "Yardage-wise, it perhaps doesn't look it. Topographically, it's quite similar to North Halton (in Georgetown) with its water, and lots of trees. But I'd have to say Chinguacousy is a fraction tougher because we have more sand traps."

Chinguacousy is strictly public in

the sense there are no actual memberships. However, the course does sell a limited number of season's passes.

Tee-off times can be booked two days in advance by calling. Or for a tee-off time one week in advance, players can phone and provide the club with a credit card number.

Among the specials the course offers is a Twilight Rate, which takes effect each day after 5 p.m. On weekdays, the green fees rate drops from \$17 to \$11, and on weekends, the rate goes from \$21 to \$13.

And from Monday to Thursday, power cart rentals after 3 p.m. go from \$21 to \$16. Twenty power carts have been added to the fleet at Chinguacousy, bringing its full complement to 50.

The club's general manager Dan Christante says their goal is to ensure any visit to Chinguacousy is an enjoyable one.

"We're trying to create a very professional public golf course," he says. "There are a lot of public facilities out there, and we feel our players are second to none."

Some golfers may find Chinguacousy slightly more regimented than other courses. But Christante maintains this is simply instilling a sense of discipline that

most golfers accept and appreciate.

Among the other features of Chinguacousy are a 25-metre pool and two tennis courts, that have recently undergone reconditioning.

The club's lounge opens at 7 a.m. for a continental breakfast, and from 11 a.m. until 8:45 p.m. has light menu items. The dining room, with more extensive menu items, is open from 5 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

As many as 300 people can be accommodated in the club's air-conditioned main hall, making it an ideal spot for wedding receptions or other types of parties.

For the future, Christante says the focus will be mainly on further internal renovations. But there are plans in the works, as well, that could make Chinguacousy a popular place during the months of January through March, with cross-country skiing and other winter-related activities.

In the meantime, Chinguacousy will continue to give players their money's worth in the form of a challenging game of golf.

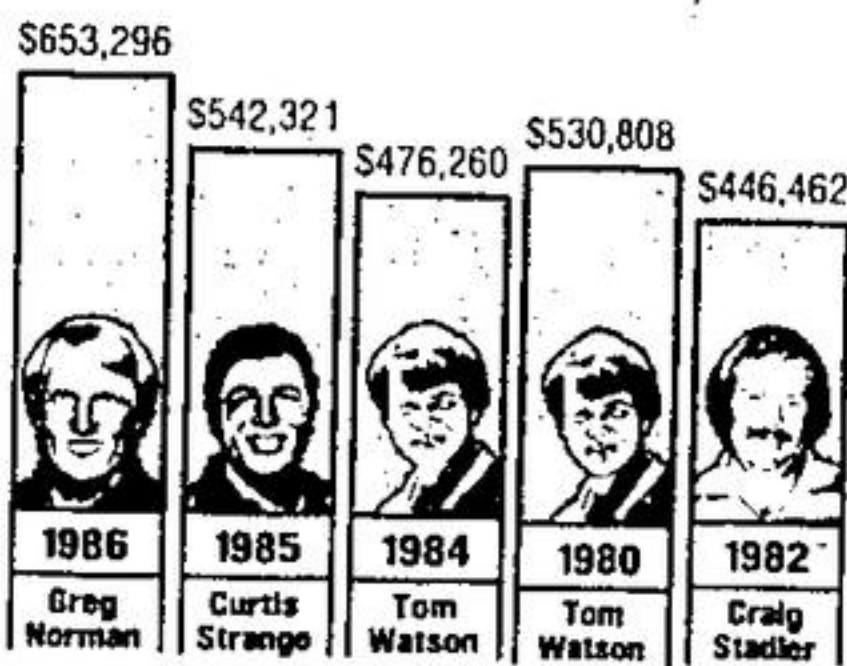
No charge for the scenery. To reach Chinguacousy Country Club, drive north on Highway 10 from Brampton, and turn left at Peel Road No. 12.

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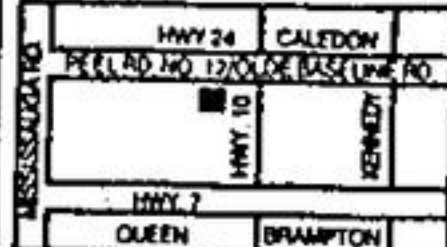
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