

NJSGA Member Golf Days Planned at Famous Courses

Three New Jersey State Golf Association Member Golf Days remain on the 2013 schedule to give NJSGA members an opportunity to experience superb private golf courses and compete in an atmosphere that is less stressful than at state championships.

Metedeconk National will host a Member Golf Day Monday, August 5, followed by outings Wednesday, August 21 at Rockaway River in Denville and Monday, October 7 at Upper Montclair in Clifton.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to play great courses that golfers may never again have the opportunity to play," said Rich Kennedy, the NJSGA director of membership and handicapping services. "These courses rank among the best New Jersey has to offer."

Golfers, who pay \$125 to take part in any of the three events and receive green fee, cart, lunch, prizes and post-golf hors d'oeuvres, will play in less competitive

tournament conditions than those in NJSGA championships.

Metedeconk National, a 27-hole facility designed by Robert Trent Jones Sr. with Roger Rulewich, features tree-lined fairways, Strategic bunkers and, especially, the use of water for hazards. Almost every hole is considered an entity unto itself. The club's practice area is expansive and multi-featured.

Rockaway River, which dates to 1915, straddles the river for which it is named. Dramatic elevation changes confront the golfers. The long 18th hole is particularly memorable with the river cutting across the landing area and running down the left side to the green. The club has served as the venue for numerous NJSGA championships, and it is the annual site for the New Jersey PGA's Charity Clambake.

Historic Upper Montclair, another 27-hole facility, is known as the long-time location of professional tour events. Its three nines designed by A.W. Tillinghast were

replaced in the 1950s by the current layout designed and built by Robert Trent Jones Sr.

To register for Member Golf Days at www.njsga.org, male and female golfers over the age of 18 must be registered at an NJSGA member facility and hold an active Handicap Index of less than 30.0. Golfers 14 and older may participate with a parent or guardian.

"These are less formal competitions which will give golfers a chance to compete in a net format," Kennedy explained. "The tournaments will include three four-ball (two-person) team net events and three individual stroke-play events with Stableford (points) scoring."

"In the four-ball team events, a partner can pick up the other on a bad hole while Stableford is the only stroke-play format in which a golfer can implode on a hole, pick up the ball with no penalty, and head to the next tee to try to make birdie," Kennedy said. 🏊



The ninth hole on Upper Montclair's South nine offers a memorable conclusion for championship events.