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## Links golf course to reopen this summer

Thursday 17th November, 2005 Posted: 20:13 CIT (01:13 +1 GMT)

A totally new Links at Safehaven 18 Hole Championship Golf Course will open June/July 2006. This was announced to the registered members at a meeting on the course on Wednesday 16 November 2005 by Project Manager Davy Ebanks.

The entire course was covered in flood waters after Hurricane Ivan hit this island in September 2004 and consequently all the irrigation systems will be renewed together with the entire grass area of greens, tees and fairways.

The new grass is a variety of Paspalum called Sea Isle Supreme and when established will create additional savings in the huge maintenance expenses. This grass is already used in the USA, Jamaica, St Kitts and the Dominican Republic on golf courses in those countries. Bunkers are to be reshaped and resupplied with replacement white sand imported from Guyana.

This work was started on 1 November 2005 and will be overseen by the new ground Superintendent Bruce Tucker, a native of Stuart Florida, who has 12 years experience in courses such as Black Diamond Ranch in Ocala ranked third best in Florida and the Raymond Floyd designed Old Baha Golf Club in West Palm Beach. He and his staff will be putting in 60 hour weeks for the next few months to prepare for the summer opening.

The original company that built the course Gregori International from France is contracted for the rebuilding of the Links.

The Driving Range will be reopened in about 3 to 4 months after leveling and other treatment together with the restaurant and bar facilities.

Members welcomed the news of the definitive date for reopening and also that the previous pro, Bob Cook, will be returning to take up his post in the New Year.

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