

# GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTURE

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Tee Box

## New bunkering for Secession



Golfers will soon be enjoying bunkers that have been rebuilt using the Ecobunker construction method at Secession Golf Club in South Carolina.

The current project came about after Michael Harmon, the club's director of golf, competed in the Seniors Open tournament at Southerndown Golf Club in Wales, UK.

Southerndown's course includes a substantial number of Ecobunker synthetic turf bunkers, and after being impressed by what he saw, Harmon instigated a project that will see Secession become the first US club to introduce bunkers built using the Ecobunker construction method.

Ecobunker's Llewellyn Matthews is now working alongside superintendent Mark Mitchell to rebuild all the bunkers on the course.

Mitchell commented: "The natural finish provided by EcoBunker, complementing the traditional links design, was essential and we are looking forward to completing the project in time for reopening in September."

## Norman to start work on Tupper Lake renovation



Work at Tupper Lake is scheduled to be completed by 2018

Greg Norman Golf Course Design has been brought in to renovate the course at Tupper Lake Golf Club in New York State, US.

Located within the six million acre Adirondack State Park, the course was originally designed by Donald Ross and built in 1932.

The project team will aim to integrate and preserve elements and characteristics of Ross's work with those of a Greg Norman Signature design.

"The diamond is there," Norman said in an interview with *Bloomberg*. "It just needs to be polished off. I've been in some extremely remote places in the world building golf

courses with developments that are looking into the future, so I've got the experience of understanding and seeing how they can be successful. When you do create something special, people will go there."

The golf club is set to form part of a proposed ski and golf facility near the town of Tupper Lake, construction of which is scheduled to get underway later this year.

The renovations to the golf course will begin as soon as possible, but this is dependent on when the ground freezes at Tupper Lake. With two anticipated growing seasons, the course is likely to reopen in 2018.

## First Els Golf Academy coming to Vietnam

The first Els Performance Golf Academy is under construction in Hanoi, Vietnam.

The flagship facility aims to set a new standard for golf instruction, junior and novice development in what is an emerging golf market.

The academy will provide amateur golfers with access to high quality facilities, gym equipment and coaching, and aims to encourage 'a tour pro mentality for the masses'.

The facility will include expansive grass and synthetic practice tee areas, short game practice holes, a large contoured putting green and a strategically-designed par-three academy course. Visitors will also have access to two video swing analysis studios.

The Els Performance Golf Academy is scheduled to open early next year, and will be followed by a second such facility at The Els Club Desaru Coast in Malaysia.

