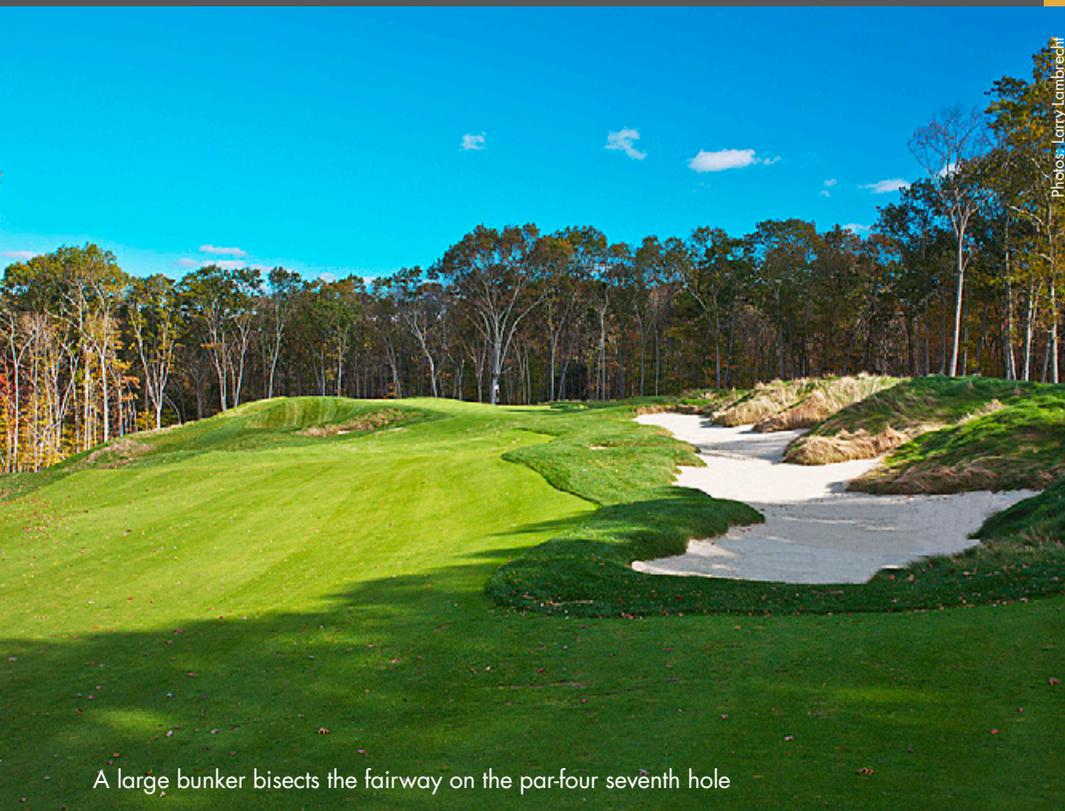


# MOHEGAN SUN CC



Photos: Larry Lambrecht

A large bunker bisects the fairway on the par-four seventh hole

**M**ohegan Sun is a casino resort in Baltic, Conn., created in 1996 as a destination for gaming, shopping, dining and entertainment. In 2007, the resort's owners, the Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority, purchased Pautipaug CC in Baltic, with the aim of bringing a high-quality golf experience under the Mohegan Sun umbrella.

Following the purchase, the owners decided to embark on a comprehensive golf course enhancement plan, driven by the imminent expiry of a water allocation permit and need to develop a self-sustaining water resource management program.

At the same time, they felt the course was in need of updating to accommodate a rise in play that was expected from existing and new members, and resort guests. Improvements to tees, greens and irrigation were all required.

Mohegan Sun turned to Robert McNeil, ASGCA to oversee enhancements to what would become Mohegan Sun CC, and provided him with the flexibility to work to a single

overall budget to achieve the best possible results.

Partnering with irrigation and construction specialists, McNeil and his team developed a self-sustaining system of lakes which were integrated into the design and strategy of several new holes. All drainage and rainfall is captured within the lakes, which have also eliminated historical flooding of adjacent roadways.

New tee complexes were built on all holes providing enlarged surfaces and more options for length and angle of play. 65 new bunkers were constructed in a consistent style that is unique to Mohegan Sun and work was also completed on greens and cart paths.

The improvements have had an immediate effect, with existing members retained and many new members engaged. The design goals were achieved and the course now avoids closure following rain.

“Credit should be given to the late Geoffrey Cornish, ASGCA, the course's original designer,” says McNeil. “Part of the reason for the purchase was the overall soundness of the golf course's lay on the land.”

**Location:**  
Baltic, Connecticut

**Architect:**  
Robert McNeil, ASGCA  
The Northeast Golf Company  
[www.northeastgolfcompany.com](http://www.northeastgolfcompany.com)

**Project summary:**  
A comprehensive golf course renovation to accommodate a forecasted increase in play and the need to develop a self-sustaining water resource management program. The project also resulted in a reduction in maintained areas and a new character and strategy for the course.

**Partners:**  
NMP Golf Construction, GCBA  
J. Sarkisian Associates, ASIC  
Jacklin Golf  
Winding Brook Turf Farms  
DAF Services – Water Management  
MacFarland Johnson – Project Engineer

[www.mohegansun.com/golf](http://www.mohegansun.com/golf)



The project involved lake excavation (top) and the development of a new bunker style (mid-construction, below)