

# Michigan Golf History from 2001 - 2005

By Art McCafferty

After having set records for golf course construction in the 80's and 90's, the turn of the century brought a significant downturn in golf course construction. This, in turn, led to golf architects leaving the state for work, trying to get by with renovations or just totally getting out of the business.

The new course openings in the first part of this century found some of Michigan's favorite architect's Jerry Matthews, Art Hills & Steve Forrest and Ray Hearn still very busy. There were also newcomers to our state and to the



Photo by Art McCafferty

Jim Engh and Jack Berry chat about True North Golf Club.



Photo by Art McCafferty

Arnold Palmer, Fred Couples, Lee Trevino and Phil Mickelson at the Treetops Tylenol Par 3 Shootout.



Photo by Art McCafferty

Jerry Matthews is one of the latest inductees to the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame.

craft, namely, Jim Engh, Canadian John Robinson and Michigan's Mike DeVries.

Michigan's soft economy and the overbuilt golf market helped contribute to a stagnant golf industry. In addition, the state lost two of its prestige tournaments, the LPGA Oldsmobile Classic and The Farmers Charity Golf Classic. However, Michigan did remain in the national spotlight with the U.S. Amateur, The U.S. Publinx, The Arnold Palmer Turning Point Invitational, Par 3 Shootout and The Ryder Cup all being held here

The Michigan Golf Hall of Fame recovered from its 10-year respite and brought 19 golfers into a fold that includes golf legends Walter Hagen, Horton Smith, Al Waltrous, Dave and Mike Hill, Gene Bone, Ben Smith, Shirley Spork and Warren Orlick. The turn of the century inductees included; Mary Fossum, Meg Mallon, Robert Mc Masters, Betty Richart, Clarence Wolfrom, Jack Berry, Cindy Figg Curier, Joyce Kazmierski, Greg Reyjnolds, Mary Jane Anderson Hiestand, Jack Saylor, Lloyd, Dan Pohl, Elaine Crosby, Jack Berry, Sara Wold, Stan Aldridge, Jeff Roth and Jerry Matthews.

Scott Hebert, Jeff Roth, Bob Ackerman and Michael Harris were the Michigan professionals to watch in the past five years, while Dan Pohl, Meg Mallon and Tom Gillis were making some noise on the professional side.

**Web:**

<http://michigangolfer.com/history.html>



Photo by Art McCafferty

The Ryder Cup was a tremendous success at Oakland Hills.

On the amateur side, Jeff Cuzxort, Mandi McConnell, Casey Baker, EMU's Korey Mahoney and young phenom Ryan Brehm of MSU were the headliners. Bart Lower, former EMU star, became a TV star on the Big Break II and Big Break IV television show during this time.

The three major golf associations in Michigan remained strong during the past five years. The Michigan PGA Section, changed leadership, after Ken Devine stepped down and Kevin Helm took over the helm. David Graham and his GAM team continued their strong leadership on the amateur side. Kate Moore solidified her position with the MGCOA

Photo by Art McCafferty



Scott Hebert has a total of five Michigan Open wins.

and continued to focus the organization on the business of golf.

As we head into the second five years of the century's first decade, we will no doubt experience more course closings, tepid response to tournament sponsorships and few new course openings. The awesome golf boom of the 80's and 90's is past history and the next one, will likely be quite some time from now.

### 2001

**Blackshire at Lakewood Shores Resort**  
Oscoda  
Designed by Kevin Aldridge

**Calderone Farms**  
Jackson  
Designed by Bill Newcomb

**The Chief GC**  
Bellaire  
Designed by John Robinson

**Fox Hills Strategic Course**  
Plymouth  
Designed by Ray Hearn

**The Grande GC**  
Jackson  
Designed by Ray Hearn

**The Jackal GC**  
Brighton  
Designed by Bruce Matthews III

**Kingsley Club**  
Kingsley  
Designed by Mike DeVries

Photo by Art McCafferty



Sandy Dul Mily, Estelle Dul, and Kathy Dul Aznavorian of Fox Hills cut the ribbon on their new Fox Hills Strategic course.

Photo by Art McCafferty



The 3rd hole at Moose Ridge. The course was designed by Ray Hearn.

**Lochenheath GC**  
Traverse City  
Designed by Steve Smyers

**Moose Ridge GC**  
South Lyon  
Designed by Ray Hearn

**The Tribute GC, Otsego Club**  
Gaylord  
Designed by Gary Koch and Rick Robbins

## 2002

**Pheasant Run GC**  
Canton  
Designed by Art Hills & Steve Forrest

**Lyon Oaks**  
South Lyon  
Designed by Art Hills & Steve Forrest

**Hawk's Eye GC**  
Bellaire  
Designed by John Robinson

**Rifle River GC**  
Sterling  
Designed by Richard Moll

**Forest View GC**  
Midland  
Designed by Brian Wilson

**Tullymore**  
Stanwood  
Designed by Jim Engh

## 2003

**Hemlock GC**  
Ludington  
Designed by Ray Hearn

**Eagle Eye**  
Bath  
Designed by Chris Lutzke

**Diamond Springs**  
Grand Rapids  
Designed by Mike DeVries

**Hawk Ridge GC**  
Grayling  
Designed by John Robinson



Photo by Art McCafferty

Gary Koch, Keith Gornick and Rick Robbins at the opening of the Tribute Golf Club at Otsego Club.



Photo by Art McCafferty

The 7th hole at Forest View Golf Course near Midland.

Photo courtesy of Greywalls



The 6th hole at Greywalls, Mike DeVries new course in Marquette.

**Forest Dunes**  
Roscommon  
Designed by Tom Weiskopf

**Wyngate GC**  
Rochester Hills  
Designed by Craig Schreiner

**Yarrow**  
Augusta  
Designed by Ray Hearn

**Royal Scot**  
Lansing  
Designed by Ray Hearn

**2004**

**Angels Crossing**  
Vicksburg  
designed by Bruce Matthews III

**Sundance GC**  
Kewadin  
Designed by Jerry Matthews

**College Field**  
Okemos  
Designed by David Savic and Tom Mead

**2005**

**Greywalls GC**  
Marquette  
Designed by Mike DeVries

**The Mines GC**  
Grand Rapids  
Designed by Mike DeVries

**Macatawa Legends**  
Holland  
Designed by Ray Hearn

**True North GC**  
Harbor Springs  
Designed by Jim Engh *MG*

Photo by Art McCafferty



The 18th hole at True North