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County Courses Offer New Rates for Disabled Golfers

MIDDLESEX COUNTY – Staff at all four of Middlesex County's public golf courses are introducing new, reduced rates to disabled players.

At a Feb. 13 meeting, board members of the Middlesex County Improvement Authority, the entity that oversees these course operations, unanimously approved lower rates for disabled residents on both greens and cart rental fees.

"We are the only public course in the area giving our disabled players a break on the price," said MCIA Executive Director Richard Pucci. "That's in addition to the student and senior discounts that have been in place for years. Considering there hasn't been increases of any kind for our other golf rates in 2013, all of our residents should have an incentive to come out and play on some of the most affordable and best kept courses in the state."

Raritan Landing in Piscataway, The Meadows at Middlesex in Plainsboro and the two Tamarack golf courses in East Brunswick are currently extending these new prices to any patron who provides proof of disability.

These qualifying items include either a disabled identification card from the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission or a standard driver's license with an accompanying Medicare Card.

"As we've seen in the past, the accessibility of public golf courses encourages a diverse make-up of players," said Leonard J. Roseman, MCIA Chairman. "In the County's case, Raritan's shorter executive-style course attracts novice golfers, while our partnership with the First Tee program has introduced the sport to participants as young as 5 years old. Conversely, every County course regularly sees advanced players and seniors, not to mention a variety of golf leagues. This is proof that golf is a highly adaptable game for all abilities; instead of drawing boundaries, it broadens the possibilities."

In addition to the adjusted fees, the County courses also offer their disabled patrons the option of making advanced reservations for single-rider golf carts, which are intended for golfers, who must play from a sitting stance. This type of specialized cart equips its rider with mobility and a swivel chair, allowing for seated golf swings.

With spring officially underway, premier golf season is soon to follow. Those increasing daylight hours mean that County courses are open for all golf and any in-person registration from sunrise to sunset.

For more information on the Middlesex County Improvement Authority's golf course fees and programs log onto www.mciauth.com or call:

- The Meadows at Middlesex at 609-799-4000
- Raritan Landing at 732-885-9600
- Tamarack at 732-821-8881

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