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PGA Champions Nicklaus and Thomas pair up to design Florida's Panther National

Jack Nicklaus and Justin Thomas are coming together to do what no other major champion duo has ever done: design a golf course.

The two PGA Champions will be collaborating on an 18-hole Jack Nicklaus Signature course layout for Panther National in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, a new housing community marking the first golf development to be constructed in Palm Beach County in over two decades. Plans also include a nine-hole, par-3 course, short game area and indoor training facility supported by world-class technology.

It's Thomas' first foray into golf architecture, and he's doing it at age 28 in similar fashion to Nicklaus – the 18-time major champion who helped Pete Dye design South Carolina's Harbour Town Golf Links in the late 1960s when he was the same age.

"To begin my golf course design endeavors with someone like Jack Nicklaus is a dream come true," says Thomas. "It's an absolute honor to work with one of the icons of the sport, not only as a player but as a designer. I started drawing golf holes on napkins as a kid, so this is something I have wanted to do for a long time."

Added Nicklaus: "I am thrilled Justin has decided to take on this rewarding challenge and I'm confident this venture will serve him well, both on and off the course." ■

PGA Magazine launches new General Managers Program

PGA Magazine is announcing the General Managers Program, a new initiative aimed at building collaboration and connection between the 2,000-plus PGA Professionals in the PGA of America's A-9 (Golf Executive) and A-13 (General Manager) membership classifications.



GENERAL MANAGERS

"The golf industry is realizing how valuable PGA Members can be as PGA General Managers of all facility types," says *PGA Magazine* President Brian Folino. "The *PGA Magazine* General Managers Program will create an exclusive network for these individuals to connect, learn and share ideas with each other on topics relevant to golf facility operations. We're excited to launch this program and bring them together."

The mission of the *PGA Magazine* General Managers Program is to facilitate environments where PGA General Managers can connect, collaborate and share ideas with their peers. This will be accomplished through a variety of programming and content platforms, including in-person events around the country, a monthly e-publication and more.

To guide this new effort, a *PGA Magazine* General Managers Program Advisory Team has been created. This diverse group of 15 PGA Professionals will share their expertise and help provide insights, ideas and content on industry trends for PGA General Managers at all facility types. ■