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SANDPINES GOLF LINKS CELEBRATES DESIGNER'S RECENT AWARD

Sandpines Golf Links of Florence was designed by Rees Jones and right away won recognition as the "Best New Public Course in America." As one of the premier courses in the Northwest, Sandpines has also received a four-and-a-half star rating from Golf Digest's list of "Places to Play in the USA."

This year, Jones received the prestigious Don A. Rossi Award given by the Golf Course Builders Association of America.

"This further positions Sandpines as one of the premier courses in the West; a consistent favorite of beginners and pros from around the world," says Michael Pearson, Sandpines' general manager.

"Rees Jones is known as the Open Doctor for his many renovations of U.S. Open Championship courses," adds Pearson. "He is so knowledgeable and talented that he is sought out by the courses that host the biggest tournaments in the world, and Sandpines is part of the Rees Jones family tree."

Jones has also redesigned or upgraded courses for seven PGA Championship courses, four Ryder Cup courses, and one President's Cup site as well as many other well-known remodels around the world.

Jones designed Sandpines Golf Links with the philosophy that courses don't have to be long to be challenging or overly difficult to be fun.

Links Magazine recognizes the 7,190-yard Sandpines as one of Rees Jones' premier works, applauding his use of the site's main assets—elevation changes, the surrounding pine forest, and its graceful open space in the middle.

"People who play Sandpines know why Rees Jones won this award," says Pearson. "Golfers appreciate that the front nine mostly keeps to the outside, winding in and out of the trees around the perimeter, and that the back nine dramatically zigzags within the open interior, making for much more interesting play. This diversity, in this setting, makes Sandpines one of the gems in Jones' crown."

The course is so favored by the international golfing community that the USGA commissioned a coffee-table book to commemorate its 100th anniversary, and chose Sandpines for its cover shot.

For tee times or more information about Sandpines Golf Links, visit their website, Sandpines.com, or call 541-997-1940 or 800-917-GOLF (4653).