

Audi Course in Rohrenfeld: tailor made for the Ryder Cup

Germany is applying to host the Ryder Cup with the Audi Course belonging to the Wittelsbacher Ausgleichsfonds Golfplatz Verwaltungs GmbH in Neuburg an der Donau. This decision was taken in Frankfurt on Tuesday.

The selection of the project in Neuburg an der Donau is also a success for Himmel Golf Design in Gauting, which was responsible for the previous plan of the Audi Course. This course will be redesigned if Germany is selected as the venue for the Ryder Cup. "Here we had the opportunity to organise a course to meet the requirements of a large international event for the first time," explained Thomas Himmel. Thus the special requirements of a Ryder Cup, such as the match play format, spectator overcrowding, security aspects and setting up numerous VIP tents were taken into account.

The Audi Course is currently 7000 metres long with a par of 71. The highpoints of the course round are holes 14 to 17 at which many Ryder Cup matches have been decided in the past. Here the green of Hole 14 can be reached in two strokes by long hitters, provided they cut across the diagonally laid fairway. The following Hole 15 is one of the longest 4 par holes on the course at about 475 metres. The 16th Hole has been planned to be the highlight hole for the Ryder Cup. At 295 metres in length this par 4 can be reached in four strokes by world class golfers but the whole area is protected by a pond. At the last two holes the Ryder Cup players will come up against a relatively short but very punishing par 3 hole (17) as well as the longest par 4 on the course (Hole 18).

When planning the Audi Course on a total area of 140 hectares particular emphasis was also placed on integrating the course into the natural meadow landscape. Numerous larger and smaller water areas create not only visual attractions but above all offer habitats for indigenous animals and plants. With a 95 hectare compensation area the claim to be building an outstanding tournament course in harmony with nature is being further documented.