



The par 3 second can play anything from a short iron to a wood



The short par 4 fourth is a cracking risk-reward hole

THE DIGEST

LOCAL SCENE



The natural reeds found on The Track, like here on the par 4 seventh, lend it a mature feel



The dramatic par 5 ninth hole features a lay-up area to the right of its imposing lake

MEYDAN: THE TRACK

# TROON ON THE RIGHT TRACK AT MEYDAN

Troon Golf's brand new facility, The Track at Meydan, is set to offer golfers in the UAE an exciting opportunity that combines flexibility with accessibility, explains GM Paul Dennis

Most of us are familiar with the Troon Golf model out here in the Middle East: Great service, top courses in superb condition and price points that tend to reflect those facilities. But the company's new venture, The Track, at Meydan (which is open for preview play) adds versatility to this tried and trusted formula. The nine-hole Peter Harradine designed course ticks all the boxes when it comes to well maintained, manicured playing surfaces and a mixture of fun and challenging holes - but the club, complete with a sports bar that will soon rival any in the UAE - will not have a single member.

"Troon Golf was founded on the concept of offering a 'member experience for a day', and daily fee is the backbone of our business in the US," explains Paul Dennis, the new general manager at The Track and a PGA professional with a wealth of experience at the company. "I am convinced that we're going to offer great value here without compromising on the high quality of the experience."

This will be achieved, principally, by utilising an online booking system (at [meydangolf.com](http://meydangolf.com)) that allows golfers to choose tee times across a versatile spectrum of price points, depending on when it is they are looking to play. Dennis hopes that the club will take 'up to 80 per cent' of bookings through online, and a smartphone application that will make the process even more user-friendly is already under development.

And what of the course itself, built on the same land formerly occupied by the cherished Nad Al Sheba course? "Peter [Harradine] has completely redesigned the course. It feels like a course that has been shaped by its surroundings," says Dennis. "It feels very natural. The lakes have been out here for 20 years. There are reeds and wadis, which are fantastic for the wildlife. It's a

more traditional, European-style course and I think golfers will really enjoy it."

One thing they are certain to enjoy is Qube, the club's superb new sports bar.

Armed with an enormous, cubed 360 degree central screen, two American-style pool tables, dartboards, table football and even a shuffleboard, the venue is destined to become a staple for major sporting events. "We're going to base a lot of our golf activity around those showpiece events and really make this a club for the entire family," Dennis adds. "During the European Championships and the Ryder Cup, the atmosphere will be fantastic."

Operational from June and currently open for preview play, The Track is an exciting addition to the UAE's golfing landscape. And it will appeal to golfers of all levels.



Paul Dennis is the new GM at The Track