



Ambassador Golf Club, Windsor, Ontario, Hole No. 15

# Windsor's Ambassador GC Raises the Bar!

By Thad Gutowski

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Top 10 Best New Course - *Sports Illustrated*

Michigan's Best Golf Resort - *Detroit News*

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"The Tribute gets overshadowed but it's one of Michigan's "OH WOW" courses. It's as nice a course as you'll find in the State."

*Don VanDerveen*

*Michigan Golf Senior Writer*

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presents an exceptional experience. And, the Coco family has done just that. Their all-new Ambassador Golf Club located on the outskirts of Windsor is setting a new standard for daily-fee facilities in Southwest Ontario.

Designed by Canada's premier golf course architect Thomas McBroom, the Ambassador is an upscale golf facility that offers everything one would find in the finest private clubs on both sides of the border. The links style course is a real test. And when the wind blows as it almost always does here, the Ambassador is truly an exceptional challenge.

Though McBroom may not have the name recognition in Michigan of Jerry Mathews or Arthur Hills, in Canada he is something of an icon. Over the past twenty years he has designed more than 60 courses and almost all of them have received countless accolades. In Canada's top golf publication, *Score* magazine, McBroom has more courses noted than any other architect.

And he has kept the ball rolling with the Ambassador, nominated in two categories for 2006: Best New Course in Ontario and better yet, Best New Course in Canada.

The Ambassador opened for limited play late in the 2005 golf season but it waited until this April to raise the curtain for the media. The heather and fescue were still in early spring development but the greens and fairways were exceptional. Hitting the huge greens is a manageable assignment, but getting a long putt even close to the cup is incredibly tough because of severe undulation. And the fairways are reminiscent of a Scottish links-style course; in style, routing and firmness – the ball really runs. The huge growth - covered earthen mounds adjacent to most of the fairways, places a true premium on keeping the ball in play.



Photo by Clive Barber

Ambassador Golf Club, Windsor, Ontario, Hole No. 12

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Championship tees at 7,000 yards in length seem to be the number most golfers seek, but few are qualified to tee it up that far back, and this is especially true at the Ambassador. Unless you have a driving accuracy average of Fred Funk, the forward tees will deliver all the golf you are looking for.

Most courses have a few standout holes, the kind you long remember, with the balance quite easily forgotten. But not the Ambassador. All the holes are memorable, with some just more so. Certainly one of the best risk-reward holes is the fourth. With water and bunkers along the right side ready to gobble up a slightly errant drive, the second shot also requires near faultless execution. The green is elevated, and anything short will roll back into a large collection area. Too long and it's no-man's land.

A string of holes, 13 to 15 play around a large lake with outstanding views and are a true test. Thirteen is a heart-pounding 543 yards from the middle tees. Hole no. 14 is a par three with 211 yards of carry to a green guarded by, you guessed it, water. The fifteenth is the Ambassador's signature hole: 321-yard dogleg right, over sand and water.

The king-size clubhouse with all first class accoutrements is almost as exciting as the course, with gourmet dining accompanied by exceptional golf course views. The stadium style practice facility is a full thirty thousand square feet of perfectly manicured bent grass.

Okay, so what's the tariff to enjoy all of this? Well, you heard it before. You get what you pay for! Weekday 18 holes are \$77 and weekend a bit more, \$85 – cart included. Canadian funds.

Ready to go for it? Cross into Canada via the Ambassador Bridge (of course!). Follow Huron Church Road to E.C. Row Expressway West. Follow the signs to Windsor Raceway & Slots. Turn left on Sprucewood Avenue. The Ambassador is on the right.

Phone: 519.966.2425 or on the web at [www.ambassadorgolfclub.com](http://www.ambassadorgolfclub.com) **MG**