The Phoenician is finishing up its yearlong transformation from a 27-hole facility to an 18-hole course, as part of a major enhancement to the Scottsdale resort. Phil Smith is the course architect on the job. The redesign will create one new, cohesive 18-hole course with a natural rhythm and flow in the routing. Existing fairway corridors were used in the rerouting, and every hole is getting attention. The redesigned, par-71 course will play to 6,501 yards from the championship tees, and offer consistent bunker styling, new greens, recontoured fairways and elevation changes. It’s all expected to open for resort guests and daily-fee play in November.

Nearby, Troon North Golf Club’s award-winning Pinnacle Course is just completing a four-month course enhancement project that includes returning green complexes to their original shape, size and contours, along with bunker renovations. The Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale at Troon North also just completed a $13 million renovation that included contemporary new casitas, suites and public spaces. It also added 60-inch televisions to the patios of roughly 100 casitas and suites, and updated the hotel lobby, pools and spa.

El Conquistador Golf & Tennis in Oro Valley will begin a multi-milion improvement project in May on its community center. Improvements will focus on a new restaurant, a new and expanded fitness facility, and locker room renovations. Papago Golf Course in Phoenix just built a new state-of-the-art clubhouse, while We-Ko-Pa Golf Club closed its Saguaro course for two months while its bunkers went through renovation. The resort is also building a new casino that will open in spring of 2020.
New luxury vacation rentals have been added at Timbers Kauai, including access to the Ocean Course at Hokuala, known for having the longest stretch of oceanfront holes in Hawaii. Four Seasons Resort Lanai began an exclusive flight into its small island. Via Lanai Air, guests can pay $500/couple each way for private daily air charter service from Honolulu. It’s a premium alternative to taking the boat from Maui or flying in on one of the larger airlines. The resort’s scenic course, the Nicklaus-designed Manele Golf Course, has added Mini Manele, a five-hole routing on the practice range that is free to play for Four Seasons resort guests in late afternoon. Eight miles away, Four Seasons Resort is completing its renovation of the Lanai at Koele hotel (formerly The Lodge at Koele) that will have reinvented amenities and services. The stellar Greg Norman-designed golf course there will not return – the land will be used for other resort amenities. And on the Big Island, Mauna Lani Bay Hotel & Bungalows will undergo a resort-wide renovation.

2019 Donald Ross Pro-Am at Royal Dornoch

Want a lifelong bond with golfers at your course? Consider taking them to this four-day tournament that includes 16 teams each made up of one PGA Professional and three amateur golfers, starting Sept. 24, 2019. Accommodations are within the town of Dornoch. The four rounds are played at Brora Golf Club and Castle Stuart (one round apiece) and Royal Dornoch (two rounds). PGA Professionals compete for a $20,000 prize fund, while there are additional prizes for amateurs, too. PGA Professional tournament entrance is free, and professionals can enjoy single room occupancy throughout. There will be drinks receptions, dinners and entertainment, plus tournament sponsor gift packs. If interested, please contact Carr Golf toll-free at 855-617-5701.