



Contact information:
Dave McMillan, Marketing Manager
dave.mcmillan@ruttgers.com
Ph: (218) 678-4632
Cell: (218) 429-1661

MEDIA RELEASE

Ruttger's renames golf course after Jack Ruttger

Deerwood, Minn. – April 2, 2018 – In keeping with the tradition of naming amenities after significant figures in resort history, Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge will rename its 18-hole championship golf course Jack's 18 in honor of Ruttger's beloved Chairman of the Board Jack Ruttger.

Jack, 88, became the third generation Ruttger to operate the resort after his return from serving during the Korean War and last year celebrated his 65th year of resort leadership. He was instrumental in the building of the golf course which opened in 1986 as a nine-hole course and expanded to 18 holes in 1992 when it was named The Lakes Course.

"With the resort celebrating its 120th anniversary this summer, we felt it was fitting to rename the course after my dad Jack," Ruttger's President Chris Ruttger said. "He is an important figure in the resort industry and our history. The course's name will stand as a monument to all the lives he has touched."

The idea to rename the course has been in the works for a number of years, but Jack always said no because he prefers to direct credit for his contribution to Ruttger's to others – especially the many employees who have worked at the resort through the years.

"It's quite an honor. I'm humbled," Jack Ruttger said.

The course will be officially renamed at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 3 in a ceremony at the golf course. There will be an open house with cake, Jack will sign limited-edition embroidered golf flags, and, following the ceremony, golf will be discounted to \$18 that day only in honor of the new name.

Other parts of the resort that are named in honor of influential people in the resort's history are Ruby's Dining Room - named after long-time hostess Ruby Treloar, Auntie M's - named after Jack's sister Mae Heglund, Zig's Restaurant and Bar - named after long-time guest and golf course designer Haas Ziegler, and Alec's 9, the original nine-hole resort course, named after Jack's father Alec Ruttger.

"I think it's great that all parts of Ruttger's golf operation are now named after their founders...Alec's 9, Jack's 18 and Zig's," Ruttger's Golf Professional Dave Sadlowsky said. "Nobody deserves the recognition more than Jack."

In addition to renaming the 18-hole championship course, the resort also rebranded Alec's 9 with a new logo to match Jack's 18.

A history of golf at Ruttger's

Ruttger's original nine-hole golf course was designed by Haas (Zig) Ziegler and developed by Alec Ruttger, second generation Ruttger's owner. The course opened in 1921, becoming the first resort golf course in Minnesota. Known at the time as the "Golf Links," it later became known as the "Yellow Course" and "Lodge Course." Jack Ruttger doubled down on the golf operation by adding an additional nine holes in 1986. The newly coined "Bay Lake Golf Club" incorporated the new "Green Course" and the old "Yellow (Lodge) Course." In 1992 another 9-holes was added to the "Green Course" and the newly created championship "Lakes Course" was formed. The "Lodge Course" was eventually named "Alec's Nine" after its founder. In 1994, the new clubhouse restaurant was named "Zig's" after (Zig) Ziegler.

###

About Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge... Ruttgers' Bay Lake Lodge is a premier golf and fishing resort on the shores of Bay Lake in Deerwood, Minn. The Ruttger family has owned and operated the resort since its opening in 1898, making it among the oldest resorts in Minnesota. Priding itself on treating all guests like family, Ruttger's features 27 holes of golf, full marina service, fine dining, retail establishments, meeting and convention space, a spa and more.