

## The Wright stuff

George Wright Golf Course in Hyde Park, one of two City of Boston-owned courses, is collecting its own share of accolades. On the comeback trail since the city stopped leasing out the maintenance operation, the Donald Ross classic, built in the mid 1930s as a WPA project, was named best Massachusetts municipal course for 2009 by Golf Digest and 14th-best municipal course in the country by Golfweek.

A major renovation of the par-4 13th hole is nearing completion and head pro Scott Allen said it will further beautify the layout when the grow-in is complete and the hole, temporarily being played as a par 3, is opened.

"It had always been marshy, with a wet area on the left side. The fairway kept shrinking. What started out to be a drainage project turned into re-doing the entire hole from tee to green," Allen said. "It's going to be a gorgeous hole."

Allen reports that superintendent Len Curtin has the course in wonderful condition. After totaling more than 36,000 rounds last year, Allen said the pace is ahead of that this spring. Last year, the course netted a cash surplus of about \$125,000. The city pays off debt service annually for an irrigation system, and 2009 marked the first time the course still made money after the debt payoff.

"The course is in tremendous shape. We've got people coming from all over. With the bad weather in the early spring Dedham was closed and a lot of members from there were coming here," Allen said. "Some members from The Country Club come over here and play regularly. We get a ton of the old Spring Valley members."

The City of Boston established a new website ([cityofbostongolf.com](http://cityofbostongolf.com)) to inform golfers about George Wright and its other course - William J. Devine in Franklin Park.

**Article URL:** <http://www.bostonherald.com/sports/golf/view.bg?articleid=1259656>