



# DESERT HIGHLANDS

## The Standard for Exceptional Desert Living

*The same year Cabbage Patch dolls took the world by storm, and a first-class U.S. postage stamp was \$0.20, Nicklaus made his mark on the desert landscape.*

SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA: Desert Highlands, celebrating its 40th anniversary, has long held its place in golf history as host of the inaugural PGA Skins Game in 1983. The format became one of the most successful made-for-television franchises in all of sports, with four of golf's biggest names (Gary Player, Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, and Tom Watson) competing in a go-for-broke format over two days during Thanksgiving weekend when golf traditionally was dark, college football was limited, and even the NFL had two fewer games to compete against.

Player won the event with seven skins worth \$170,000. Palmer finished second with eight skins worth \$140,000.

Nicklaus and Watson finished third and fourth, respectively. Player's skin win on the 17th hole (worth \$150,000) represented more money at the time than he had won in a single year on the PGA TOUR.

"By the third year of the PGA Skins Game, every homesite was spoken for," explained Joan Sykora, director of sales at Desert Highlands. "The competition quickly placed our community on the map."

### NICKLAUS IN THE GRAND CANYON STATE

Carved out of the Sonoran Desert, the Signature Jack Nicklaus design is naturalistic golf at its finest. Turf is used judiciously, emphasizing the stark landscape and the impressive rock outcroppings of Pinnacle Peak.

"Desert Highlands is special in my heart. My course is known for its wildlife, spectacular views of the Valley floor, and colorful desert surroundings," expressed Nicklaus. "The routing begins with a great and dense variety of desert foliage. I accomplished my goal of harmonizing the course and vegetation in a format not used to this extreme before." ■



"Perhaps the greatest impact Jack Nicklaus made on golf course architecture occurred with the opening of Desert Highlands."

— GEOFF CORNISH AND RON WHITTEN IN THE ARCHITECTS OF GOLF

*For membership information, please visit [DesertHighlandsScottsdale.com](http://DesertHighlandsScottsdale.com).*