

BUSINESS

grand opening



ESSEX INDOOR GOLF CENTER

n June 17, 2020, Essex Indoor Golf Center opened its doors to the public for the first time.

For owners Cheryl and Scott Harger, opening in the summer was not their preference. But neither was opening during a global pandemic. Business was slow at first, but by the spring of 2021 months at a time were totally booked.

Essex Indoor Golf is home to six bays designed for playing golf virtually, whether on one of 70 simulated courses from around the world, one of three fanciful mini-golf courses, or simply

a driving range. Up to four people can play together in a bay (up to five for mini-golf), each of which is rented by the hour (and not by the player, meaning the group plays for one fee).

The Hargers and their staff are happy to introduce new players to the virtual system, answer questions, and provide some tips. The golf simulators can be adjusted for each player, making it possible for an experienced golfer and a novice — or a family with children — to play the same course together.

An assortment of domestic and imported beers are served in the bar area, and the food menu will be expanded beyond the current snack offerings. The Hargers hope Essex Indoor Golf will become a destination for local golf enthusiasts to watch a tournament over a drink.

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