



“Links 2004”

Title:	“Links® 2004”
Publisher:	Microsoft® Game Studios
Developer:	Microsoft Game Studios
Brand:	XSN Sports
Format:	DVD for the Xbox® video game system, Xbox Live™-enabled
Availability:	Christmas 2003

Product

Overview:

“Links,” the best-selling* golf franchise for the personal computer, has been rebuilt from the ground up exclusively for the Xbox video game system to deliver one of the most realistic and competitive golf experiences available. Utilizing revolutionary new Web-based technology exclusive to XSN Sports titles, gamers and golf fans worldwide will have the ability to organize and compete in online matches. Players can enjoy friendly rounds online with old golf buddies or intensely competitive tournaments with some of the best players in the world on Xbox Live. Tournaments will be organized through a centralized Web site, XSNsports.com, which will also provide tons of stats and scouting capabilities. “Links 2004” features top championship courses and top professionals, including cover athletes Sergio Garcia, Annika Sorenstam, and Mike Weir.

Key Features:

- **XSN Sports.** XSN Sports games let you compete in the first truly virtual sports league for your Xbox. Now you can easily set up a league on XSNsports.com, take out your rival over Xbox Live, and track up-to-date stats on your PC throughout the season. All XSN Sports games bring the power of the Xbox and PC together for the first time through XSNsports.com, so you are always plugged into the competition.
- **XSNsports.com.** XSNsports.com is the Web-based service that links a gamer’s Xbox console, Xbox Live, PC and cell phone together for the first time ever. “Links 2004” fans will now be able to organize their own tours and tournaments from a centralized Website and Xbox Live will automatically broadcast up-to-date scores, standings and statistics to XSNsports.com.



- **Playing like the pros.** “Links 2004” makes players feel like real pros as they compete in tournaments broadcast in remarkably realistic TV-style presentation. Players are put in the centre of intense action with commentary from TV legends. Players will truly experience the pressure and exhilaration of competition at golf’s highest level.
- **Tour of duty.** Players can start a career with virtually nothing but desire, some talent, and average equipment. They can work hard, win, and become the world’s No. 1 player by winning coveted golf championships on the world’s best courses. Players can even earn sponsorships from some of the greatest golf-equipment manufacturers for additional income and better gear.
- **Championship courses.** “Links 2004” features some of the most luxurious and challenging golf courses in the world, including Greywolf (Alberta, Canada), New South Wales (Australia), Loch Lomond (U.K.), and Superstition Mountain (Arizona). If you want even more variety, courses, and challenge, new downloadable content will be periodically available via Xbox *Live*.
- **Detailed golf environments.** Players can hit the sweet spot for a 300-yard drive and roll in a 20-foot putt for a birdie, while experiencing the dew-covered fairways and crosscut greens. “Links 2004” offers gamers the ultimate golf experience. The top courses from around the world come to life with animated water, ocean surf, 3-D trees, wildlife, divots, galleries of golf fans that react to players’ shots and sun-cast shadows that change depending on the time of day.
- **Control over each and every shot.** Real-Time Swing gives gamers total command of every shot, providing advanced players the opportunity to draw, fade, punch, chip or flop to win a hole. The left thumb stick offers complete club control, with ball physics factoring in speed, tempo, direction and course conditions in real time.
- **The golfers.** Golf fans can compete as superstars, choosing among Sergio Garcia, Mike Weir and other golf pros, in their quest for victory. Alternatively, gamers can create a character with unique physical traits, skills and gear. Players can be aggressive and take risks or be conservative and lay up. “Links 2004” lets gamers choose their players’ motions and celebrations to reflect their own unique style.

**Developer
Information:**

“Links 2004” is being developed by Microsoft Game Studios. Microsoft Game Studios is a leading worldwide games company with two core businesses: games development and publishing (<http://www.microsoft.com/games/>) and Zone.com. Zone.com (<http://www.zone.com/>) is the Internet’s largest game site.

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* NPD TechWorld, August 1992–May 2002 (based on retail sales)

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The Xbox logo is displayed in a stylized, green, blocky font. The letters are interconnected, with the 'X' and 'O's having a unique, geometric design. The logo is centered at the bottom of the page, set against a black background that transitions into a green bar at the very bottom.