

CORRESPONDENCE

7 Houghton Road,
Shifnal,
Shropshire.
TF11 8DD.
24th April 1971

Dear Sir,

Once again our tees have come through the winter looking even more pathetic than they did last year when we had a comparatively harsher winter. I hate to think what they might be like after next winter.

For some time now I've campaigned for larger tees on our course which is built on very heavy clay soil with poor natural drainage. At the moment the gents' tees measure one hundred square yards for the actual playing area. I maintain that the tees should be very much larger on our type of course; a playing area of *not less than two hundred square yards* for the gents' tees.

I certainly think that if our tees are to come through the winter in a far healthier condition it is essential to enlarge them.

What do other members of the Greenkeepers' Association, especially those who work on courses like this, consider a reasonable size for tees?

Yours faithfully,

R. J. Lane.

Current specifications for new golf courses call for 350 sq.yards teeing area at par-4 and par-5 and 450 sq. yards at par-3 holes. Where contours are suitable, one single tee 35 or 45 yards by 10 yards provides maximum use and minimum upkeep but a formation of this type may not be suitable at a 525 yards par-5 hole, for example, where ladies would still be playing the hole at around 500 yards: nor where the tee is on a severe slope so that one single tee would involve massive earth works.

One difficulty is that tees cost about £1 per sq. yard to construct if the soil is properly ameliorated. Thus 18 holes at 100 sq. yards cost £1,800 for tees; 18 holes at 350 sq. yards to 450 sq. yards cost £6,700. There is naturally a tendency to postpone the additional teeing area if money is short; but this takes up valuable maintenance time and cannot be done quickly.

To show how small single tees waste useful space calculate the loss of 1 foot round the edges of a tee 10 yards by 10 yards. It amounts to 13 per cent. Lose 2 feet all round and it amounts to 25 per cent.

EDITOR.

SITUATIONS VACANT

ROTHLEY PARK GOLF CLUB

HEAD GREENKEEPER REQUIRED

Applicants must be fully experienced in all branches of Greenkeeping and able to control and organise staff.

Excellent salary for first-class man with rent-free modern house (three bedrooms) in residential area within easy reach of the course.

Full details as to age, experience, with two references, to the Secretary, Rothley Park Golf Club, Nr. Leicester,