Course accessory niche growing fast

This month’s issue features an equipment update on golf course accessories. This niche of the golf course marketplace is growing with more intensity than the industry itself, with many new ideas in signage, yardage markers and distance measuring methods.

With all that is available for making play more pleasurable, it still happens that players still do not heed the warnings of signage protecting the golf course.

You’ll find an up-to-date listing of the major accessory manufacturers on pages 20 and 21 of this issue. While our editorial staff tried to include as many products as possible, there are just too many to list.

Recently, while playing a foursome late in the afternoon, one of our group actually ran over a “No Carts” sign — while we laughed. I quickly pointed out to the person that he would most likely be mentioned in my next column. There is no excuse for this blatant inattentiveness on the golf course. We all must continually pay attention to course rules and regulations.

This year’s U.S. Open was especially exciting. Medinah Country Club Course #3 was spectacular. The weather, cooperating for the most part, allowed perfect greens and different playing conditions all four days.

Mike Donald is a very well-respected player among his peers. He has served on the tournament policy board of the PGA Tour and is known as “Iron Mike” due to his schedule of tournaments. I’ve had the pleasure of having a beer with Mike through my association with the JC Penney Classic, which Mike won with Vicki Alvarez in 1984.

Hale Irwin is the classic Tour veteran, from my hometown of St. Louis. His hand-slapping romp around the 18th green after making that 45-foot on Sunday will be seen over and over again.

Congratulations to both players and the crew at Medinah for a spectacular event.

Golf Course News has a new sister publication. United Publications has acquired Gourmet Today, the latest addition to our growing family.

Sincerely,
Charles E. von Brecht
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