SAFETY BY DESIGN
Continued from previous page

lines and play patterns, but we will not dictate it. Either the engineers or management will have final approval on roadway location.

But all is not gloom and doom, if one recognizes the potential problem and takes adequate precautions. First, golf course roadways should not exceed local engineering and safety standards for automobile roadways, particularly for slopes, sight lines and turning radius.

Second, place the pathways along the right side of a hole if possible, but never in a position that subjects the golf car to a face-on ball strike. Make sure roadways are adequately wide (8' or more is preferred) and/or the edges have either a curb or run-out room.

Provide traffic controls and warnings—you will never be sued for providing too many. Pay particular attention to bridge approaches and steep grades. Make sure roadways are inspected daily for safety, especially after storms. Properly texture roadway surfaces for maximum tire grip.

Provide golf cars that have been certified by the manufacturer as being able to safely negotiate all roadways or expected travel areas. Include all possible safety devices on golf cars to include warning signs, hand holds, windshields, all weather tires, warning signals, etc. Inspect and maintain golf cars daily, keeping records of repairs particularly dealing with tires, brakes, steering and safety devices.

Only rent to drivers with a valid automobile driver's license. Ask if the driver has ever driven a golf car before, and if not give them a safety orientation. Enforce all rules. Discourage alcoholic consummation by golf car drivers. Have good insurance and use lots of common sense.

I can't over emphasize the importance of the golf car running surfaces and tires. Old or worn tires may not provide suitable grip for wet surfaces, turf, or fallen leaves.

Similar horror stories can be told about many other such incidents, even deaths, mainly because people see these conveniences as cars not cars, and treat them like motorized toys not serious power vehicles. Sadly, now they are so woven into the fabric of North American golf that nothing short of a major crises will reduce their use.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

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Rapidly expanding company is seeking motivated individual for golf course pumping system sales, service and installation. Experience in irrigation and/or electrical service a plus. Will train qualified applicant. Send resume to: Golf Course Irrigation Services, ATT: Operations Manager, P.O. Box 156, Olive Branch, MS 38654-0156.

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