

Nebraska supers help junior golf course

LINCOLN, Neb. — Thanks to the efforts of local golf course superintendents and their corporate partners, the Jim Ager Memorial Junior Golf Course here has undergone a muchneeded facelift. The Nebraska Golf Course Superintendents Association (NGCSA), its professional, commercial and corporate members, and other concerned parties donated time, talent and materials to build a new practice green at the 33-year-old course the week of Aug. 24.

Opened in 1965 and built solely from private donations, Ager Golf Course is a "junior" course. Located in the center of Lincoln, the par-27, nine-hole layout hosts nearly 35,000 rounds per year — mostly children 7 to 15.

The new green, which tripled the area for lessons and warmup, was designed by Grant Wencel and construction was supervised by a crew from Lincoln-based golf course builder Landscapes Unlimited, Inc. Construction labor for the project

Topdress large areas from 15 to 40 feet wide in

minutes using sand, lime, gypsum or compost, without

was provided by the Nebraska Student Chapter of the GCSAA, and Lincoln-area superintendents and their crews.

From preferred starting times and special "Juniors Only" tournaments to an extensive golf lesson program, Ager Golf Course is almost totally focused on the needs of junior golfers. Though adults may play the course, they usually need to be accompanied by a junior.

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of stories is one of an ongoing series covering initiatives and projects developed to bring new golfers into the game, particularly youths and minorities. People wishing to submit projects should contact the editorial department of *Golf Course News* at 106 Lafayette St., P.O. Box 997, Yarmouth, Maine 04096.

Hidden Creek GC targets beginners

SELLERSBURG, Ind. — Hidden Creek Golf Club has announced plans to build Hidden Creek Golf Academy, a \$500,000 practice center for juniors and adult beginners, at its 18-hole course just north of Louisville.

"We want to be the facility that juniors and adult beginners think of when they decide they want to learn the game of golf," said Todd Cunningham, Hidden Creek's operations manager and a partner in Kirchdorfer & Cunningham, Inc., Golf Course Management, which owns the facility.

Cunningham said the facility will also enable Hidden Creek to expand and enhance its already active youth program. The club participates in the national Sticks for Kids program, which is sponsored by the Golf Course Builders Association of America.

Work to develop the academy will nearly triple Hidden Creek's number of practice tees to 50 or more, including all-weather tees with mats. The existing lighted practice area will be enhanced with more target greens and practice areas for sand shots and chipping. More putting greens will also be installed.

David Pfaff is designing the academy, and Cunningham said work on the facilities will begin construction this fall. It is expected to be ready by next spring. Cunningham emphasized that the work will not interfere with Hidden Creek's regular golf course and driving range operations.

Construction will be handled by Golf Development Construction, Inc., which is headed by Cunningham's partner, Jim Kirchdorfer.

Cunningham said the new facilities will enable Hidden Creek's staff of PGA golf pros to conduct a continual program of instruction for beginners to advanced players.

"There will always be something going on," he said, "with specific clinics for every aspect of the game, from driving and putting, to iron shots and sand shots."

Hidden Creek, a public course with optional memberships, was developed by Kirchdorfer & Cunningham and opened in the spring of 1992.



disrupting play.

Backfill ditchlines, build cart paths, or place wood chips and compost around trees, plants and in flower beds. The cross conveyor can move in any direction.