Asks About Non-Golf Features for Fee Course Use

Editor, GOLFDOM:

We plan to install at our semi-public course various activities other than golf for the 1935 season and are writing for information. Our first start has been an installation of archery golf equipment; it is proving very popular.

In addition, we wish to put in a tennis court unit of some 4 or 5 courts. This, of course, must pay for itself, as all departments do on the course. Being a semi-public course means that we can have little accommodation activities and that all branches must be profit making.

We also wish to put in bowling-on-the-green, or some such similar sport. Trap-shooting will be possibly the next idea.

What do you think of our plans, and what other activities can you suggest?

S. R. T. (Ohio).

Reply—

Bowling-on-the-green should work out very well for you. The cost of maintaining the bowling surface and the cost of the original equipment is not prohibitive; and on the other side of the picture, bowling green enthusiasts will turn out for a session of the sport as frequently if not more frequently than golfers do for a round on the course.

For complete information on bowling equipment and instructions on the construction of the turf area, apply to A. C. Spalding & Bros., 105 Nassau St., New York City and Brunswick Balke Collender Co., 623 So. Wabash Avenue, Chicago. There are other sources of information on lawn bowling, but these two should be sufficient to give you the information you will need.

A sport that has its greatest popularity in Florida and which would stand a good chance of proving profitable to you is shuffleboard. There are numerous manufacturers of cues, discs and score boards. We refer you to the Brunswick-Balke-Collender Company of Chicago, Daytona Beach Shuffleboard Co., Philmont, N. Y., The Shuffleboard Equipment Company of Nappanee, Indiana and Alex. Taylor Co., 22 E. 42nd St., New York City.

If you feel that your course can attract sportsmen willing to spend a little more money it is quite possible that a trap-shooting layout would prove profitable. I would suggest that you consider the installation of a skeet layout rather than straight traps inasmuch as this newest form of trapshooting seems to be gaining rapidly in popularity; it reproduces most accurately the surprises of open field shooting. If you are not familiar with skeet and the sort of layout required for it, write the Western Cartridge Co., East Alton, Ill., who have issued a very interesting book on this subject.

The official handbook of skeet can be obtained from the National Skeet Shooting Association, 108 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, for 25c. E. I. duPont de Nemours & Co., Sporting Powder Division, Wilmington, Del., has also issued a book on skeet and trapshooting.

In the matter of tennis, properly constructed tennis courts cost considerable money. Suggest before you commit yourselves to an installation of a tennis court that you investigate pretty thoroughly the probable patronage these courts would have and the income that would result. Naturally, the number of courts available in your immediate area would have considerable bearing on your decision.

Oakmont Cup Seeks Best Golfer Through Nassau Tourney

A tournament that “is different” is the way golf writers are characterizing the Oakmont Club Cup event, to be played at Glendale, Calif., Jan. 31 to Feb. 5 for a $6,500 minimum purse. It is different in that the event will be partly match play and partly medal play. The tourney will start with the customary 72 holes of medal competition. The low nine of the 120 qualifiers will go into Nassau or round robin play, four rounds of 18 holes each. Each man of the nine will eventually meet every other man. Play will be in threesomes, and scoring will be by points, 2 for the first nine holes, 2 for the second, and 2 for the 18. Thus a maximum of 12 points can be won by a competitor each day.

An interesting feature of this sort of competition is that a player can have a bad round and still not be frozen out of all chances to win. Of course the nine men who will enter the round robin must make good during the 72-hole medal play, but once they have a place assured, poor play on any one of the four days of competition remaining will not necessarily put them out of the running.

Oakmont officials claim that form of tourney is the only one that will reveal the best golfer in a field, since a player must excel in both medal and match play to come out on top.