Chicago District Clubs Give Operating Figures and Facts

FEW, if any, national or regional golf organizations have issued information on member club operations as comprehensive and helpful as the 1956 edition of the Chicago District Golf Assn. "Directory of Information."

Although the compilation of statistics is limited by the customary lack of cooperation of clubs and may be somewhat distorted by variations in accounting methods and operating conditions and standards at various clubs, the information nevertheless is invaluable as a guide for club officials.

Clubs are identified by numbers and locations in the north, south or west sections of the Chicago district or elsewhere in Illinois, rather than by name.

On each of the CDGA member clubs directory data includes:
- Mail address, telephones, CDGA course rating; names, addresses and telephone numbers of club officers, directors and committee chairmen; names of manager, asst. mgr., course supt., professional, bookkeeper, caddiemaster, locker manager;
- Activities at the club, dates of board meetings, fiscal year, date of annual meeting, period when course and clubhouse are open;
- Types of membership, number of members in various classifications of memberships, dues, transfer fees, amount refundable;
- Locker charges, swimming pool fees, green fees.
- Names and telephone numbers of CDGA officers and committee chairmen also are given in the book.

Statistical information is extensively given.

Restaurant Average $99,150

High spots of data from clubs reporting on dining room operation:
- Average of food sales in 1955 was $99,150. Food cost average was 50 per cent, wages cost averaged 13 per cent and profit averaged 3 per cent. Five clubs reported minimum house account regulations. Majority of the clubs do not permit outside banquets. Data on service charges and number of months of year chef is employed also is given.
- Of the 57 clubs reporting on bar operations:
  - Average annual volume was reported at $60,200. Highest annual bar business reported was $137,885. Bar profit reported as 8 per cent. Data also is given on number of bartenders employed per club during weekdays and weekends and holidays.

Figures on course maintenance show superintendents’ salaries ranging from $3900 to $10,200, with latter figure being paid by five of the clubs reporting on this inquiry. Salaries of course labor averaged, in the north section, $32,000; in the south section, $26,000; in the west section, $25,120; out of Chicago and suburban area, $23,320.

Maintenance costs, per section, averaged: north-$59,000; south-$53,730; west-$45,500; out-of-area average was $37,340. The costs included rebuilding expenses which ranged from $5335 to $1450 in the four sections.

The report on assessments showed that 19 of 57 reporting clubs assessed members amounts ranging from $30 to $775 last year.

Managers’ salaries were reported from $6000 to $16,000.

Swimming pool detailed income and operating costs were reported with income averages by sections varying from $2150 to $6265. Expenses averaged from $5375 to $6545.

Information was reported on caddie fees, caddiemaster and asst. salaries, and meals, caddiemaster concession arrangement, and caddie welfare funds.

Professional department data showed that pro salaries varied from $900 to $5000, plus shop profits, club storage and cleaning, and lessons.

Salaries paid by clubs to assistants varied from $1200 to $3300.

Information also was reported on lodging for pro and asst., meals for pro and asst., lesson and club storage and cleaning charges, and whether pro bills through club or direct.

Eight clubs reported they had golf nets at clubhouse for use in winter.