Al Robbins' Tips from the Bottom

For Men and Women

Golf shoes should be compact, neither tight nor loose, not only for better footwork, but because they will appear lighter on your feet. Do not have golf shoes fitted any larger than street shoes. Wear them for a round or two with lightweight soft wool sox. You will then have ample room for medium or heavy-weight cushioned foot regulation golf sox. Golf shoes are available in three weights so get walk-weight that is proper for you.

Kangaroo makes splendid golf shoes (or sensitive feet, especially in hot weather since this leather expands with heat. To improve footwork, add two or three small spikes (depending on shoe size) to the inner edge of both shoes. Keep mud and grass off spikes while playing.

Every golfer should have one pair of shoes with rubber traction soles and heels. They are more comfortable than spikes on hard golf courses.

Fit Over Spikes

Rubbers are available that fit over spiked shoes when you get caught in the rain. They also are convenient for starting a round over wet fairways. Rubber golf shoes with spikes also are available for use on wet courses.

Do not put trees in shoes that are wet unless you want them to stretch. Instead, use a Turkish towel to absorb moisture. When the shoes are almost dry, insert trees and rub castile soap over the shoes.

To eliminate scuffing tips of shoes, use flat-top spikes on inside corner of heels. For severe cases, wear rubber-traction heels.

Have your shoes creased, especially plain toe models.

Many ask "What are shawl tongues for?" They add style by covering the least attractive part of the shoe. Also, they help keep sand out. They are detachable and interchangeable.

For the Ladies

Shorts influence new footwear styling in women's golf shoes. The trend this year is more on the feminine side.

Your heel height should conform to your arch height. Also be sure soles are flexed. This eliminates heel rubbing.

Counters can be customized to insure more comfort for the aristocratic hard-to-fit heels. Wedge type heel pads (higher on one side) also are helpful.

N. E. GCSA Suggests Ways of Speeding Up Play

A recent issue of the New England GCSA Newsletter carried a reminder of what supt.s can do to help speed up play at their courses during the busy summer months. Here are some suggestions:

• Put tee markers near front of the tees on weekends.
• Use sufficient ball washers, properly equipped.
• Have all out-of-bounds clearly defined. Use signs to clarify rules in questionable areas and use white (lime) lines in special spots for free lifts.

Roughs Reasonably Short

• Keep rough areas cut reasonably short.
• Clean up areas where lost balls slow down play.
• On congested tees look to players' comfort by providing enough benches, plenty of shade.
• Maintain plenty of fountains and try to keep the water reasonably cool.
• Make provisions for charging and storing golf cars. Have signs ready to keep them off greens – some golfers aren't educated yet.
• Don't start major maintenance projects during the busy season.
• Try to arrange routine maintenance work so it doesn't interfere with play.

May Solve Caddie Problem

If your club has trouble rounding up enough caddies, here's a tip from Tam O'Shanter CC, Orchard Lake, Mich. Send a bus around when school is dismissed in the afternoon and pick them up. This idea might even be extended to picking up the boys at their homes or at pre-arranged meeting places during the summer months.