show a gain of 18,000 rounds for 1959 over 1958 ... Gross receipts were up $20,000 ... In 1958, total play at courses was 210,000 rounds ... Three years previously it had been 161,000 rounds ... Fees are $1.25 on weekdays and $1.50 on weekends and holidays ... For ranges and miniatures courses, Philadelphia leases land to concessionaires for six years with additional four-year options ... These must be built according to city specifications and operations must be in accordance with regulations drawn up by the city ... Concessionaires have built golf centers ranging up to $80,000 even though they revert to the city after 10 years — so they must be profitable.

Waterbury, Conn., building a second muny 18-hole course ... It is being built to the plans of Bill and Dave Gordon and will be ready in 1960 ... Greenwich, Conn., hopes to build 18-hole city course next year ... More than 60,000 rounds were played at 18-hole municipal course in Schenectady, N. Y., last year ... Play there brings a net of from $6,000 to $10,000 annually ... City has fine Junior program going ... 10,000 sq. ft. practice green usually is crowded with kid players ... At Ponkapog GC, 36-hole layout in Canton, Mass., more than 100,000 rounds were played in 1958 ... Fees are $1.50, weekdays, $2.50 on weekends.

USGA to Ease Penalty Rules on One-Year Trial Basis

Beginning Jan. 1, 1960, penalties for balls lost, out of bounds and unplayable lies will be reduced by the USGA. Rules covering these contingencies will be given a one-year trial. This was decided at a rules meeting in Scotland in May where USGA and British officials agreed to the trial in the U. S. only.

The 1960 U. S. rules for balls lost or out of bounds call for a loss of distance only. In an unplayable lie situation, the player may either choose a stroke and distance or drop directly behind the unplayable position for a one-stroke penalty. Penalties for a ball hit into a water hazard do not change.

Full text of the 1960 USGA rules will not be available until this fall.

Changes in the rules for next year are the outgrowth of agitation by the Southern California GA early in 1958 to abolish what is called unfair penalty strokes (Golfdom, Feb., p. 49.)