playing season a challenging and interesting golf program with all events arranged and conducted in strict conformity with the rules of golf.

Almost before we know the difference between a 5-iron and a putter we are playing in competition and learning the rules and etiquette of the game and a respect for the course on which we play.

It is at this time we become aware of handicapping, a very important factor in women’s golf, and learn that scores to truly reflect our scoring abilities must have been made in accordance with the rules.

Nearly all courses in Minnesota have a women’s group and set aside at least one day a week (some as many as three) for Ladies’ Day. The groups may range in size from as small as 15 on up to well over 300 but their golf programs are almost identical. One of the highlights of our season is Guest Day. If we ever want our course manicured and polished this is the day for it is under the closest scrutiny.

Course for Women’s Competition

For the large majority, competition ends at the state level but the more outstanding players do enter the regional and national tournaments. Just last year, Darlene Anderson, winner of the Minnesota Junior tournament was sent by the Women’s Public Links Golf Assn. to the National Junior tournament.

To prepare a course for competition every area must be clearly defined so the player may know the status of her ball at all times. Local rules established for abnormal conditions should conform to the rules of golf and signs authorizing play at variance with the rules should never be permitted.

Ladies’ tee markers should be identical on all holes. The tees should be clearly numbered.

Water hazards and lateral water hazards should be clearly defined and their margins carefully delineated. USGA recommends stakes for this purpose but when this is not practical the players should be informed by other means, perhaps on the back of the scorecard or a permanent notice in the golf shop. If stakes are used, they should be small enough for easy removal because a player is permitted to lift them to play the ball. Use yellow stakes for regular water hazards and red stakes for lateral water hazards.

Out of bounds should be clearly defined, if by stakes they should be of a permanent nature, firmly fixed and protruding 2 to 3 feet from the ground and should be placed close enough together to enable drawing a sight from one to the next. A player is not permitted to lift an out of bounds stake to execute a shot.

Ground under repair should be clearly marked and its limits delineated and you might like to include turf nurseries as permanent ground under repair.

Trees are normally a part of the course and a player should not be allowed relief from them. To protect saplings certain ex-

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