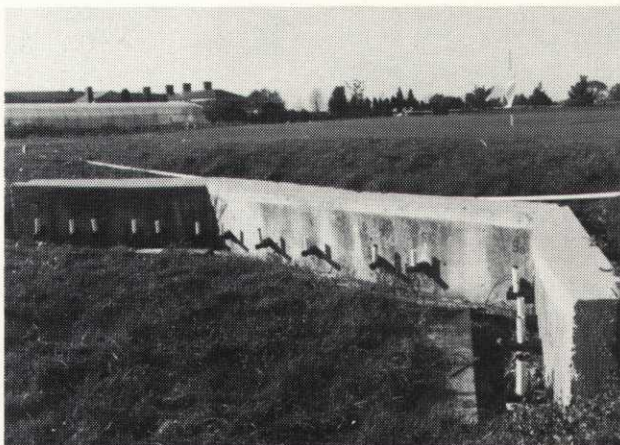




Student golfers at the University of Delaware practice-putting on a golf course built by the Delaware Agricultural Experiment Station scientists. Though the course looks normal, the ground beneath is a maze of wires, pipes, tubes and soil types.



The course is really an outdoor laboratory that happens to look like a golf course. Drains set into slope of greens let scientists study pollution potential of chemicals used for fertilizer and weed control.

Royal Oak's Pro Don Soper Tops Michigan PGA Section

Michigan PGA Section president Tom Talkington has announced Don Soper of Royal Oak Golf Club has been elected as the 1975 Michigan Golf Professional of the Year.

Soper won the same award in 1965 and is a former president of the section. He also has been national PGA vice president and a national PGA Seniors' president. Soper has been active for many years in tournaments and the PGA activities in which he finished second in the nation in contributions raised for National Golf Day Charities for six previous years, led the nation in 1975 with a record contribution of almost \$10,000.

Golf Course Architects Examine Slow Play Problem

What can the golf course architect do in his design to speed up play? Reduce hazards and size of greens was the most frequent response of members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects in a recent survey. Other answers ranged from fairway adjustments to building more golf courses.

"Puttering" around on monstrous greens and flailing away in sand traps are time-consuming, frustrating experiences for golfers as well as those waiting in the fairway. The obvious solution? "Create fewer hazards," according to ASGCA vice president Edwin B. Seay of Ponte Verde Beach, Fla. "Design medium-

sized greens," said Albert Zikorus of Bethany, Conn., and ASGCA president Geoffrey Cornish, Amherst, Mass.

Hazards and excessively large greens alone are not to blame for the slow play problem. The professionals who design golf courses are well aware that golfers' abilities determine the degree of ease with which they conquer challenges.

Is Curling Winter Answer To Keeping Members Active?

Curling may be the answer to keeping country club members active in the winter, according to a director of the American Curling Foundation.

"The game of curling is especially adapted to a country club because you have ready-made teams with men and women, and mixed curling is also becoming increasingly popular on weekends," said Laurie E. Carlson. "For what members pay for winter or off-season assessments, you could build a curling rink. I have seen some improvements at the club house that have cost more than the price of a curling rink."

For financing a curling rink, Carlson said most country clubs are paid for and the land has appreciated in value. "Ask your membership to buy debentures to be redeemed in 10 years at a reasonable rate. If the members could raise 50 percent or more, the club could easily borrow the remaining funds.

If you are the first curling rink in city, you could invite members of other clubs to take out winter curling memberships."

What kind of a rink to build? "It would be well to have the curling rink adjacent to the club house as you could use all of your existing building," he said. "If you are on a hill, you build the rink partly underground — with the viewing lounge on the club house end. You would not need as long a building as your viewing area will not have to be as long."



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