

# GOLF COURSE ARCHITECT'S GUIDE

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## Future Golf Course Design Is Predicted by Architects

In the future members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects see generally shorter courses, courses designed for versatile maintenance equipment and courses created for the average golfer. The long, monster courses which have been so prevalent will give way to shorter courses measuring anywhere from 5,000 to 6,600 yards. With less length to challenge brute strength, golfers will need to devote more concentration to accuracy and strategy.

Among the architects forecasting shorter courses is William W. Amick of Daytona Beach, Fla. He predicts "the trend to shorter courses to save land, cut costs, reduce playing time and to better fit the average player's game. These same forces will increase the percentage of executive courses built."

Land availability is an obvious factor in the anticipated reduction of course acreage. Yet, in this survey, the most frequently cited reason for shorter courses was the average golfer's ability. "Forget trying to toughen courses for the pro," says William H. Johnson of Rialto, Calif. "Less emphasis on big courses; more attention to comfort-

able play for normal golfers," stresses William H. Diddel of Carmel, Ind.

## Certified Superintendents Number 13% of Eligibles

About 13 percent of eligible certification candidates have passed the test of the certification program of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

The program was initiated in 1971, and 32 candidates became certified the first year. The second year saw a jump in certified superintendents with 65 more taking and passing the test. There were 60 more in 1973, but only 31 in 1974. In 1975 a total of 65 more superintendents became certified, bringing the total to 250.

## Florida Superintendents Learn EPA Restrictions

Florida golf course superintendents got the latest word on new pesticides and water controls at the recent Florida Turfgrass Conference held at the Sheraton Towers in Orlando.

Superintendents learned at the session that the Environmental Protection Agency has recently

ruled that golf courses will be classified as commercial control applicators and must get a new kind of permit. Palmer Maples, president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, said enforcement of the ruling has been left up to states to enforce and that the states are now trying to determine how to implement it.

Dr. John Strayer, professor at the University of Florida and pesticide program coordinator for the state of Florida, said county agents will notify superintendents as programs are developed for the new pesticide application permits. He said the old "restricted pesticide permits" will not be transferable. He said one person at each course must be certified and be available whenever pesticides are being applied. He said the state will develop classes which superintendents or their representatives must attend to qualify for the permit and then will set a time for testing before issuing the permits.

New water permits are also in the offing in Florida. Water management districts are now registering all who use more than 10,000 gallons per day, the superintendents were told by Rod Cherry, of the Southwest Florida Water Management District.