

News

PUBLIC COURSES

Government golf group promoted by OPRA

Following up on an idea initiated by Cincinnati Supervisor of Golf Gene Burress (see GB, June 1978, p. 6), Ohio Parks and Recreation Association Executive Director David Chuha has mailed a proposal to approximately 50 people connected with municipal and other government-operated golf courses in the state, inviting them to join the OPRA and create a new chapter devoted solely to their needs and problems.

Chuha told GOLF BUSINESS that the government golf section would be one of several "special interest" groups within the 600-member OPRA, which now has "very few" golf course members. The mailing sent out by Chuha explains the idea for the government golf section and offers a 50 percent discount on dues for

the remainder of 1978. It also proposes a meeting of government golf people at the OPRA annual convention to be held at the Columbus Sheraton Hotel November 5-8.

Burress, a member of the GOLF BUSINESS Advisory Board, said that if the Ohio group was well-received, "It could even grow into a national organization under the National Recreation and Park Association." The OPRA is affiliated with the NPRA, according to Chuha.

Government golf course managers, superintendents, professionals, and others in Ohio should contact David Chuha for further information. Write to OPRA, 33 South James Rd., Columbus, OH 43213 or call 614/231-0781.

OSHA

Court says inspectors must get warrants

In a recent five-to-three decision, the United States Supreme Court ruled that federal inspectors from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration must obtain search warrants to inspect workplaces — but also made warrants easy to get.

In actuality, OSHA inspectors must obtain warrants only if employers refuse to allow an inspection — and OSHA chief Eula Bingham has stated that federal inspectors would continue to make surprise visits to check workplaces for safety and health violations. She was quoted in the Wall Street Journal as saying that inspectors denied access "have been instructed to deal with such refusals in a courteous and responsible manner, leave the premises promptly, contact Labor Department attorneys and obtain a warrant."

Under the Supreme Court ruling, to obtain a warrant, OSHA need only show a court that a specific business had been chosen for a spot check on the basis of a general enforcement plan and wasn't being singled out for arbitrary reasons.

OSHA officials have said that the federal agency was not recommending any particular course of action for state health and safety agencies, but it is expected that most will follow the federal example.

officials, reviews of case files, and workplace visitations made with OSHA inspectors.

GOLF DEVELOPMENT

Objectives revealed at NGF meeting

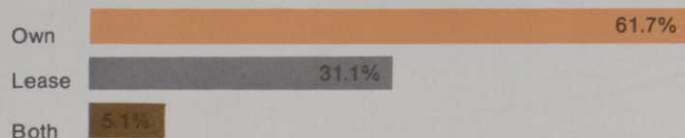
Future emphasis of National Golf Foundation programs will continue to be on player development and on development of public courses, it was reported at the NGF semiannual board meeting in May.

Dunlop's Dean Cassell, elected to a second term as president at the meeting, listed the main objectives as 1) to increase the number of golfers by 500,000, 2) to increase rounds of play at an annual rate of 5 percent, 3) to emphasize public course development and assist private clubs on request, 4) to seek a broader base of financial support in order to accomplish the first three objectives, and 5) to do as many operational studies as possible to keep a course from closing or to improve its operation.

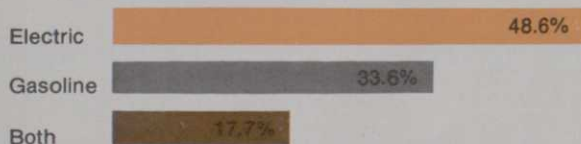
It was announced that each of the eight NGF regional directors is developing a Community Golf Profile on every city of 50,000 or more in his area, which should identify specifically where the Foundation's services and efforts should be concentrated.

GOLF CAR OPERATIONS

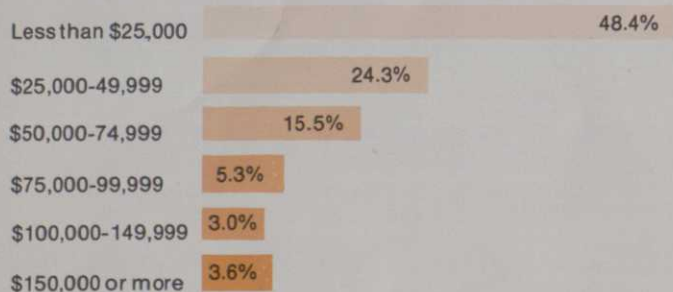
Do you own or lease your golf cars?



What type of golf cars do you have?



What is your gross rental from golf cars?



From a 1978 GOLF BUSINESS survey.

GAO says inspectors overlook hazards

Congress' investigative agency, the General Accounting Office, recently contended in a report that inspectors from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration often overlook serious safety hazards and don't do enough to be sure others are corrected. The GAO also said that the 25 state-operated, OSHA-approved health and safety programs are doing an inadequate job.

OSHA replied that many of the instances cited in the GAO report have already been addressed by new OSHA programs and policies, and that other cases were extreme examples caused by such things as "an overload of employee complaints in one area office."

The GAO based its report on interviews with OSHA and state

TURF MAINTENANCE

Winter overseeding subject of meeting

The current "state of the art" of winter overseeding in the South was the featured topic of discussion at a roundtable meeting recently sponsored in Boca Raton, Fla., by the Seed Production and Introduction Corp. (S.P.I.C.), an organization which produces and markets Pennfine perennial ryegrass nationwide. The meeting was held in cooperation with Pennsylvania State University, where Pennfine was developed. Several leading turf professionals in the Boca Raton area also attended.

"Overseeding is definitely an art," said Turfgrass consultant Dr. Max Brown. "Seed selection is probably the most vital key. Good seed must germinate quickly, resist diseases, stand up under heavy traffic, and make a smooth



Participants in the overseeding roundtable included (from left) Dr. Guy McKee, professor of agronomy; Dr. Henry Fortmann, professor and assistant director of agriculture administration; Dr. James Starling, professor and head of agronomy; Dr. Joseph Duich, professor of turfgrass science; Swede Townsend, Whitney-Dickinson Seeds; and Dr. Walter Thomas, association dean and associate director of agriculture administration. All but Townsend are from Penn State University.

transition to bermudagrass in the spring."

The group discussed the important steps in a successful overseeding program, including planting rates, dates, seedbed preparation, and fungicide use. Brown noted, "Lack of knowledge of these factors is generally the main resistance factor in overseeding. Most superintendents know overseeding is beneficial, but they have to learn more about the

procedures. We'll see more successful overseeding when more superintendents master the art."

Participants in the discussion agreed that overseeding efforts should be concentrated on greens.

They also pointed out that overseeding not only helps maintain attractive green playing surfaces, but it protects dormant bermudagrass from injury due to cold weather and heavy winter traffic and also helps control weeds and undesirable winter grasses.



Sprinkler tests are conducted indoors under no-wind conditions to insure proper and concise recording of performance data. Digital counters record the amount of water in the catchments.

IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

Test facility gives computerized design

A computerized test facility that provides the precise data needed for designing an efficient, reliable irrigation system has been installed by Johns-Manville at the Fresno, Calif., headquarters of its Ag-Turf Department. The computer-generated system analysis eliminates many of the rule of thumb practices commonly used in irrigation system layout.

According to a company spokesman, "In addition to allowing a comprehensive sprinkler spacing analysis, the facility tailors the system to the job rather than the job to the system."

Since one of the major purposes of the test facility is to assure accurate sprinkler precipitation uniformity at any spacing, it could play a major role in water conservation by removing the need to over-irrigate a turf area to insure an adequate watering of dry spots.

Further information is available from Johns-Manville, 909 W. Nielson, Fresno, CA 93708.

Golf organizations' survey asks data on use of recycled water for irrigation

Second to energy conservation, probably no other single element of conservation is as important as the wisely managed use of water — especially on golf courses, where water is used in great quantities for irrigation. Recycling or reuse of water will become increasingly important in the near future. A central data bank of information regarding turf

areas now being irrigated with recycled water is badly needed.

For that reason, the American Society of Golf Course Architects Foundation, the National Golf Foundation, and the United States Golf Association are jointly conducting a survey to determine the status of the use of recycled water (effluent and other wastewater)

on golf courses.

Would you please help by taking a minute to fill out and mail the questionnaire below? The data will only be used in combination with that of others; replies of individual golf courses will be kept completely confidential.

PLEASE RETURN QUESTIONNAIRE TO:

Mr. Al Radko
National Director
USGA Green Section
P.O. Box 1237
Highland Park, NJ 08904

- 1) Do you presently use recycled water on your turfgrass?
Yes No
- 2) Are you considering recycled water as a possibility?
Near future Distant future No
- 3) What is your source of recycled water? Industrial
Military installation Municipal Housing
development Other (specify) _____
- 4) Number of acres irrigated with recycled water:
Greens _____ Tees _____ Fairways _____ Rough _____
Other _____

- 5) Type of facility: Private Daily fee _____
Municipal Military Other (specify) _____

Size: Regulation Executive Par 3

- 6) Do you know of any other golf facility using recycled water? No Yes Type of course _____
Location _____
(If more than one facility, please attach list.)
- 7) If you use well, city, or pond water for irrigation, how many gallons do you use annually? _____

Form filled out by: (optional)

Name _____

Title _____

Golf course _____

City and state _____