

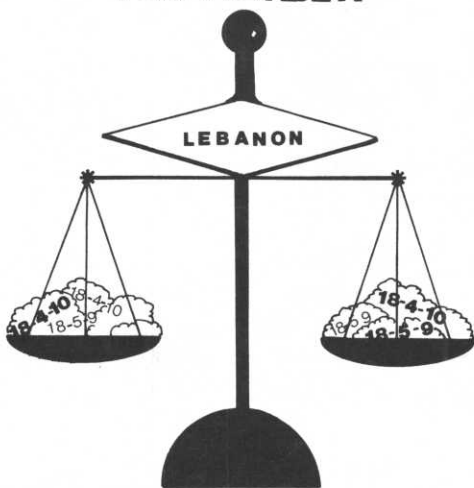
The course will be much the same as when Jack Nicklaus set the U.S. Open scoring record of 275 in Baltusrol in 1967. His closing 65 is considered one of the great rounds in Open history. Several championship tees have been enlarged, but players will not notice any great difference. "About the only change golfers will notice will be the practice area. We have made significant improvements there and have a new 30-foot x 180-foot, two level practice tee," says Flaherty.

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America is another tradition important to Flaherty. His father was a long-time member of the Association. Ed Casey, a former national director, has been a G.C.S.A.A. member for nearly 40 years. Baltusrol's Superintendent himself joined G.C.S.A.A. in 1965, achieved Class A status in 1971 after serving as Golf Course Superintendent the required three years, and became a Certified Golf Course Superintendent in 1975.

In order to become certified, Flaherty had to pass a rigorous six-hour exam testing his knowledge of the rules of golf, practical turf management, and the history, purposes and procedures of G.C.S.A.A. and his profession. He is one of more than 500 members of G.C.S.A.A. who are entitled to use the letters "CGCS" after their names.

G.C.S.A.A. is a professional association of Golf Course Superintendents, founded in 1926 to promote the art and science of golf course management. Its 4,700 members are located in the United States, Canada, Mexico and 17 other countries. Headquarters for the Association is in Lawrence, Kansas.

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### HOW TO REPAIR BALL MARKS

**THE TROUBLE WITH BALL MARKS:** The ball landed with a thud. The green was soft and as the ball bounced forward it left a deep little crater in the turf exposing brown earth at the back and grass blades pushed together at the front. Ignoring the little crater, the golfer walked up to his ball, cleaned it, holed his putt and glowed with self-satisfaction. Some hours later after the exposed earth in the ball mark had dried out, another golfer found the damaged area in his line of putt. He attempted repairs, but the result was not very satisfactory. An unflattened bit of turf twisted his putt off line. Next morning an inexperienced greenkeeper mowed the putting surface without repairing ball marks. The result was a putting surface pocked-marked, untrue and covered with bare spots where the mower scalped the grass from the turf.

**WHAT HAPPENS:** What actually happens when a ball mark is not promptly and properly repaired? 1) Soil is exposed and so the area immediately surrounding the ball dries up faster than it would if the ball marks were repaired; and thus a blemish is left on the green. 2) There is a chance that the raised turf caused by the ball will dry quickly and may die out. 3) The open soil invites weed invasion, such as crabgrass, silver crabgrass, POA ANNUA, dandelion, plantain or Pearlwort..seed of which could be brought in on the shoes of golfers, caddies or workers or on mowing equipment. 4) The improperly repaired or neglected ball marks leaves a bumpy spot in the green. If not corrected before cutting the next day, then the spot is scalped by the mower and the bruise mark remains for several days.