

# THRU THE GREEN

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

NOVEMBER 1994

## THE MEETING PLACE

### December 5, 1994 Christmas Tournament

**Meadow Club  
Host Superintendent:  
David Sexton, CGCS**

**T**he Course: The Meadow Club, originally the Meadow Club of Mt. Tamalpais, was designed in 1925 by Dr. Alistair MacKenzie and constructed by Robert Hunter. The course was laid out on 150 acres of hills and meadows that were incorporated into the design of the Meadow Club giving it a very natural feel as it flowed through the valleys

and crested on the hills. The natural seasonal creeks were used to their full potential as the greens and fairways were strategically placed in areas that would get full shot value from their location. The course has but one small lake, but a full ten holes have water hazards along or across that must be considered when playing a ball to the narrow fairways.

Playing to a par 71, this course seems to stretch its 6,600 yards well beyond what a quick glance at the score card would suggest. Sixty bunkers protecting the small greens and challenging tree-lined roughs offer most golfers a chance to use every club in their bag, for better or

worse.

The goal of the 350 members has always been to keep their club and course in top condition, but the job was difficult in the 60s and 70s with an inadequate irrigation system and a drainage nightmare from winters that averaged over 50 inches of rain.

In 1984, a Toro VT3 irrigation system, designed by Roger Gordon and installed by Robert McCallum of Phoenix, signaled the beginning of a new standard of maintenance for the Meadow Club. When the members saw the tremendous improvement in the quality of the turf with an adequate and uniform application of

irrigation, they began to fully appreciate the potential of their club.

Since 1984, the course improvement program has been continuous and many of the goals have been met. Accomplished over the last ten years have been: a complete rebuild of all sixty bunkers; the installation of several miles of drain lines; fifteen of the tees have been leveled, realigned and lengthened; two-thirds of the cart paths have been replaced with concrete paths; and the entire Driving Range area has been reconstructed.

The Meadow Club is currently in the middle of replacing the Pro Shop, cart

*Continued on page 6*

### IN THIS ISSUE

FYI .....	P6
The Meeting Place .....	P1
Tips from the USGA .....	P4
Naumann's NorCal News ..	P6
NorCalendar .....	Back
President's Message .....	P2
Supporter Listing .....	P7

## SIERRA NEVADA TAKES INAUGURAL "CUP"

The joint meeting with SNGCSA was held at Edgewood G.C. in Stateline, Nevada. Steve Seibel was the host superintendent. Over 150 people attended, mostly superintendents, with both associations being equally represented. Armen Suny, a golf course consultant and former golf course superintendent, was the speaker. The topic was "Major Tournament Preparations." Mr. Suny has been the superintendent at Cherry Hills, where he hosted the PGA, and at Castle Pines, where he hosted the skins game. Mr. Suny was very descriptive relating his many experiences involving golf course preparation for the game's "elite."

The staff at Edgewood presented a delicious brunch and then it was out to the golf course, which was in superb condition. A "tip of the hat" to Steve Seibel for his excellent work. This year's event featured the inaugural "Ryder Cup Match" between 12 selected players from each Association. There were 12 singles matches and 6 Better Ball matches, each worth 2 points. A handsome perpetual trophy was donated by Sierra Pacific Turf Supply to be passed on from year to year to the winning team. It was a wonderful experience to intermingle with "supers" from another association.

The Sierra Nevada Association proved to be very gracious hosts, except for the fact they

*Continued on page 7*

**JOINT MEETING**

*Continued from page 1*  
slaughtered the "Nor Cals" in the Ryder Cup Matches 23 to 13. The only highlight from Nor-Cal was Jeff Roberts winning low gross with a very good 74 over the difficult course. Dave Davies took low net.

**He Par'd Indiana**

*Floyd S. Rood tackled the biggest course on record when he played the entire United States, coast to coast, in 1963 and '64. He teed off in the Pacific surf and finished at the Atlantic shore more than a year later. No one knows what par was, but Rood took 114,737 strokes to cover nearly 3,400 miles.*

**USGA**

*Continued from page 4*  
superintendent's job. Mother Nature rarely makes life too easy for the superintendent and problems can always be anticipated somewhere on the golf course. Threatening the golf course superintendent with his job will not change this situation.

For superintendents, it is important to keep things in perspective and realize that the majority of golfers appreciate the condition of the golf course, even though they may not say it often enough. Hopefully, more golfers will come to realize that golf is not only a GAME -- it's also the superintendent's livelihood.

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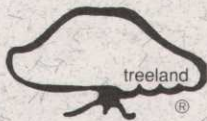
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