

TEE SHOTS



by the Editor

Greenkeepers will approve a rule at the new Dyrham Park Golf Club in Hertfordshire

"Players without official handicap are not allowed to play on the course other than on the practice ground until the professional has advised the Green Committee of their competence."

But delay on the course is one thing—delay of essential greenkeeping operations is getting more serious still. A third of some ground staffs' working time is now spent dodging golf balls and not always successfully. Many players have the idea that an experienced hand on the golf course is invulnerable. Certainly he knows the members who need watching, but visiting societies often look like a swarm of lethal locusts.

Earlier starts in the morning give some additional peace to get on with the job, but the cut on the greens may not be so clean. The real solution is the continental one—close the club one day a week. This would give the indoor staff their rest day and the ground staff a chance to repair the ravages of the other six days play.

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From Dublin another aid to upkeep—this time with the co-operation of the members. You will have seen rakes provided at some courses alongside popular bunkers. Now the Bunkerake Company proposes to introduce a folding rake weighing 15 oz. which can be slipped into the golf bag or hung on the trolley. Moulded in PVC with stainless steel tines it will retail at £3, but production will only be undertaken if replies from clubs are favourable.

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Congratulations and best wishes to A. Crane, of Broadstone, who next month retires after fifty years with the same club.

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The cost of playing on public courses has come into the news again at Bournemouth. The Council have decided to stop season tickets being available on Sundays. Estimates of how much the regular golfer will pay a year vary from £35 to £50. It is cheaper to play on some of the more exclusive clubs — and quicker too. Just when more public courses are needed Maidstone have rejected a plan for a new course in Mote Park. Nearly 6,000 nearby residents objected!