

DOUG JABAAY, SUPERINTENDENT CRESS CREEK COUNTRY CLUB NEW COURSES IN CHICAGO

This is the third course to be presented in the article. The first two courses were the new nine holes at Silver Lake and the new 18 holes at the Preswick Country Club near Frankfort, Illinois.

This month we are going to cover the new Cress Creek Country Club. Doug Jabaay is the Superintendent. He has been present on the job throughout most of the design and construction.

Cress Creek is located near Naperville. It is the first course built within corporate limits of a city in Northern Illinois for over 40 years.

The Architect is David Gill from St. Charles, Illinois and the builder was John Hodek from Glen Ellyn. The initial construction began on January 2nd, 1962. The first nine were opened for play on Memorial Day 1963, and the 2nd on July 4th, 1963.

The greens average in size about 6200 sq. ft. and the turf on these greens is Toronto Bent or (C-15). The tees are not much smaller. They average around 5,000 sq. ft. The turf used on the tees is a mixture of Seaside, Astoria and Highland bent grasses.

There are 59 acres of fairway and 61 acres of Rough. The grass used in the fairways is predominately Bluegrass (60%). The remainder consists of fescue and Poa trivialis.

The tees, greens and approaches are watered. The fairways are not presently irrigated. There are five man-made lakes on the course. There is a 61/2 million gallon reservoir in several of the lakes for irrigation.

The pH of the water is 8.5. These ponds are spring fed.

There is one unique thing about this course and this is that all the holes have an out of bounds on the left side of the fairway.

The yardage of the short course is 6,467 yards and the regular course is 6,700 yards in length. The Championship course is 6,980 yards long. A generous supply of traps will eventually line the fairways and greens. Doug has a big tree-planting program that he is in the middle of. Eventually this will be one of the finest courses in the area. All the property surrounding the course is being sold for a subdivision.

The nucleus of the Club house is now in operation with plans to enlarge as soon as funds are available.

Doug is happy that there will be very little hand mowing to be done on this course. The only mowing that will require hand mowing will be the greens themselves and the tees as well as around the trees.

Next month we will cover facts about the new Signal Point Country Club.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FROM "OUR COLLABORATOR"

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I have a feeling that some of us, who have been in the profession for the past 20, 25 or 30 years or longer, have a resentment toward the youth, now in, or entering the field of turf grass management. I believe that the resentment, in many instances, derives from a presence of cockiness in their demeanor which is an attribute lacking in many of us old timers. A mistake or two and a few battles with Mother Nature will dissipate some of the cockiness but not all, I hope. We must remember that these youths are for better prepared than were most of us, at their age or some 20 or more years ago. Education in turf grass management was practically non-existant in our earlier days.

Chemicals and fertilizers now in use were unknown to us, and the mowers and machinery of the old days were crude and only an adaptation of something else, surely not meant for golf course maintenance. With all the aids previously mentioned and a fair amount of theory the only thing missing is maturity which may take them a few years to acquire. Without the younger men, there would soon be no need for

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What I like about the younger men is that they never knew what a dollar was worth at one time but they do know its present value. They are not afraid to ask for a salary commensurate with their responsibility and in most instances they are getting it. The result is that their demands are creating higher salaries for older superintendents, including you and me

Lawrence G. Mattei, President

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