



Editor

Why have there been many changes in golf course superintendents in the Chicago area at the end of the 1973 season? Most all of the changes are at private clubs. I wonder if the members of these clubs realize the value of the man they are losing. Many of these superintendents have been with them for many years. These clubs are losing superintendents that have become acquainted with the operation of the many departments, the soil on the golf course, type of grass, drainage, irrigation, what areas require more fertilizer or less, disease, and where to look for it in the early stages.

The water pipe lines and tile lines are not always on the records. It will require considerable time for a new man to find them. Not being acquainted with the items mentioned could be costly to the club because no two clubs are the same.

If the Green Committee got together with the superintendent and had a heart to heart talk with the man who is responsible for the golf course and club grounds, maybe some of these changes could have been avoided. Country club board members should realize that working with nature is different than the operation of other departments at the club. For instance, bacon and eggs is prepared the same at one eating place as another, or preparing a steak is generally the same procedure. Liquor is served in the same manner throughout the country. The swimming pools are the same. The pro end of the team is usually the same — but the superintendent's responsibility is somewhat different. No two golf courses are the same; soil conditions vary within a mile or two and many times less.

Again, I ask why?

Pinecrest Country Club has an opening for a Superintendent. During the day call 312-669-3111 and ask for Jack Hanson. Evenings call Hanson home 815-459-1672.

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Midwest Breezes

Mr. and Mrs. Art Clesen of Wheeling, Ill., have returned home from Las Vegas after enjoying several days at the many places of chance. Also visited the new M.G.M. hotel. Next trip to Mexico. Hope you have a good time and hurry home.

Lenny Berg, Superintendent at Village Greens of Woodridge Country Club, reports he is in the process of reconstructing a lake on the 4th hole. The rains came so construction had to be halted due to muddy conditions. A new tee is being built on this hole so that you will be shooting over the lake. The lake is basically being built to improve the drainage in this area.

Tony Meyer, Superintendent at Woodridge Golf Club, reports a new eight-foot tile is being installed across the golf course. Each tile has a weight of 6 tons. A good place to hide when the going gets tough.

Rodney Voykin, Superintendent, has changed positions. He is leaving the Deerfield Park District to take the superintendent's job at Green Acres Country Club at Northbrook, Ill. This is an old outstanding private club. We wish Rod the best of luck.

Paul Voykin of Briarwood Country Club just spent ten days in the Highland Park Hospital undergoing therapy and traction for an injured back and neck. Paul also did something very unusual while he was in the hospital. He fasted for seven straight days and lost fifteen whole pounds. During those seven days of fast he took nothing but straight tea and coffee—and terrific will power. Paul tells us that is the hardest thing he has ever done in his life. According to him it's even harder to do than keeping poa annua in the Chicago summers.

The editor hopes all of you have the water pipes on the golf course drained and that you will not encounter the same problems as some of you had a couple of years ago.

I also hope everyone has applied their snow mold treatment this fall. This is money well spent.

Jack Hanson is leaving Pinecrest Country Club and will assume the Superintendent's responsibility at Crystal Lake Country Club in 1974.

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