

## 17 MILLION AMERICANS ARE GOLFERS

There are more than 17 million golfers in America, according to the annual statistical summary of the National Golf Foundation, **Golf Facilities in the United States**.

There are an estimated 13,650,000 golfers in the U.S. who play 15 or more rounds annually. An additional 3.4 million play 1-4 rounds a year.

All the figures listed in the 12-page study are current as of Jan. 1, 1982, said NGF Research Director Sandra H. Eriksson.

"This year's report depicts golf as growing in 1981," said Eriksson. "With continued and combined efforts by course operators/owners and the industry, golf will quite possibly further expand its recreational market through this decade."

Three major sections of **Golf Facilities in the United States** analyze in depth the number of golf courses, number of golfers and the number of rounds played.

According to the NGF report, there are 12,894 golf courses in the U.S. Golfers played some 395 million rounds on these courses last year, an increase of 10 percent in play from 1980.

"Those figures represent record levels of participation by Americans," noted NGF Executive Director Don A. Rossi. "We saw earlier that there was a 13 percent growth in the number of new golf courses opened in America during 1981. What the numbers are saying, when we see growth in a year of high interest and general business recession, is that golf is the biggest sports business in the United States."

**Golf Facilities in the United States (ST-1)** is available from NGF headquarters for \$15 plus shipping and handling costs.

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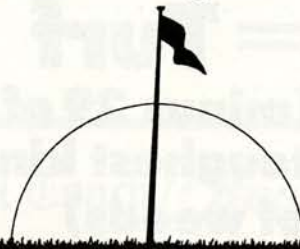
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