

(A Diamond in the Rough cont'd.)

chitectural design retains the 1920s feeling, carried through to the interior decor.

The Schaumburg Park District operates on a committee structure which uses appointed citizens from the community to serve on an advisory committee. The decisions of this committee are not binding at the board level, but are seriously considered. Members of the park board sit on each advisory committee.

The district had already established a Golf Advisory Committee when an executive par 3 golf course was built in 1986. The committee is made up to two commissioners, interested citizens and two professionals from the golf industry. One is a PGA professional who lives in Schaumburg and runs a neighboring public golf course, another is a certified golf course superintendent at a local private club. All of the committee members love the game and want a fine golf facility in Schaumburg. All rules and regulations and master plans for the course go through the advisory committee to the park board. The park board has been an important and integral part of the decision-making process throughout the renovation.

Mr. Pepi Irwin, the club professional, says "One of the strongest features of the layout of the course is the generous fairways which lend the course to all levels of play. They are wide enough for the high handicap player to keep the ball in play and offer a challenge to the lower handicap player with grading differentials and proper bunker placement."

To encourage golfers to protect the new turf, the park district introduced the "dollar off" incentive program. Each golfer who witnessed replacing or repairing a divot or ball mark by rangers or grounds crew is presented a "dollar off" coupon for their next round. The program has been enthusiastically received.

I have to tell you, I'm feeling like a "million bucks!" I'm so proud of my new nine's lush fairways that are actually green. My rolling greens can be forgiving, but don't turn your back on them or you'll regret it. They're planting the prettiest flowers, fancy new grasses, and my trees are tapping their roots and reaching for the sun. There's nothing like a nice cool drink of water when you need it. With the Schaumburg Park District's help, I'm finally on my way to becoming what I was meant to be.

Credit: Park and Recreation, May '92

Kentucky Bluegrass may be key to herbicide

Dead Kentucky bluegrass could be the key to a more natural, environmentally friendly herbicide. That's because the killed grass exudes natural compounds that can hinder other plant growth. Researchers say these compounds kill dandelions and other broadleaf weeds, and might be reproduced artificially for weed control. The compounds are similar to those seeping from dead quackgrass; at least one of the quackgrass compounds will kill slugs. The bluegrass compounds were discovered after farmers in a New York pasture renovation project had trouble getting a forage legume called birdsfoot trefoil to grow on patches of killed grass later identified as Kentucky bluegrass.

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