

Ken Lapp -N- Cog Hill

Dan Anderson

Ken Lapp, the Jemsek Corporation, Cog Hill and the Western Open. When the Western Open became the newest member to this impressive group around 5 years ago, the top-flight public golf course boon continued at an impressive rate. It has long been Joe Jemsek's philosophy to supply the golfing public with country club-type conditions for the price of a greens fee. Joe has done that time and time again; and at Cog, his right-hand man that maintains all four 18-hole courses is Ken Lapp.

Ken is entering into his 23rd season at Cog; and actually, the club now has 75 holes. The No. 2 course has a par 3, 19th hole. Ken says it is usually open and people

almost always play it. Last year, Ken and his staff constructed two new holes that are situated between the No. 2 course and No. 4 course (Dubsdred). During my visit with Ken, he showed me both of the new holes; and they are spectacular. The club can now close two holes on either course and still play a full 18 with the new holes. They are now thinking about doing the same for courses 1 and 3.

Ken's golf course experience started at St. Andrews: he caddied, worked in the clubhouse and did other odd jobs such as parking cars. His first superintendent's position came at the tender age of 19 at Fresh Meadows. After 18 years at one of Chicagoland's busiest courses, he took over the reigns at Cog Hill from George Dalman. Between George and Ken (the only

two supers to work at Cog), they have a combined total of 70 years of service. Ken shows no sign of slowing down, and he said his greatest reward is the profession and waking up every morning at the course and going to work.

Upcoming renovation includes rebuilding and enlarging greens and tees, replacing sand in some traps and bunkers and constructing more holes. The changes that have taken place from the time when courses 1 and 2 were built with horses to now when Ken uses his own bulldozer have been frequent but impressive nonetheless. Cog is constantly evolving like all other golf courses but with a much greater magnitude. I feel that Ken has one of the most demanding and interesting jobs in all of Chicago. ■

From tee to tee . . .

Nothing Greens a Course Like Sod.



Look who's been using Central Sod to improve their courses . . .

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Ruffled Feathers | Blackberry Oaks | Fox Bend |
| Cog Hill | Naperbrook GC | Seven Bridges |
| Wynstone | Cantigny | Carillon GC |
| Stonebridge | Naperville CC | Highland Park |
| White Eagle | Illinois Center | Sunset Valley |
| Tamarack | Broken Arrow | Lake Point GC |
| Riverside Golf | Mill Creek | Downers Grove |
| Heritage Bluffs | Hidden Valley | Meadow Lake |
| Orchard Valley | Oak Brook GC | Waveland GC |
| Skokie CC | Rockford CC | Harborside Links |

See the impact Central Sod can have on your course.

Complete consultation, delivery & installation available.

CENTRAL
SOD FARMS, INC.
1-800-310-0402