



Beauty of Par 3, 12th hole, shows environment of golf course.

jupiter island club

Jupiter Island Club, Hobe Sound, Florida. Even the name wears the correct address. Probably the states' most private and secluded island hideaway, is the seasonal winter home for a truly select few. All the island social activities revolve around the club of which the golf course has a rich heritage.

Nathaniel Reed, greens committee chairman, explains some of the past. "Some of our old timers believe a golf course had been cleared from the island jungle as early as the 1890's, but all documentation has been lost in time. Our records indicate that the Jupiter Island Golf Course had been constructed by 1912. Visitors to the Mainland Inn, owned and operated by a British holding company, took a ferry across to Jupiter Island and played an interesting compact course of 9 holes which featured 3 holes that have actually disappeared into the sea. In 1922 the then financially revitalized Olympia Beach Company had sufficient funds to expand the course. The jungle was cleared for the sweep of holes 4, 5, 6. The greens were

modified and improved. New fairway and greenside bunkers were constructed and irrigation water was brought to each of the 9 greens. The fairways remained sandy. If you could find a lie, it was made of a mixture of rough bermuda and sand spurs. The sand spurs were so prolific that they were raked by a mule-pulled drag to the side of the fairways and burned."

Today this short yardage course is one of the states' most enjoyable to play because of its natural tropical beauty. Because of his longtime interest in botany Nathaniel Reed says, "I decided that our course would become a tropical garden sanctuary with a collection of palms, tropical trees, and now citrus, avocados, mangoes, flowering trees and vines, hibiscus, and a water lily pond. Our membership has supported my concept with zeal."

Bob Hurst, golf course superintendent, is the force behind these ideas. He has held his current position for over 23 years. Bob came to Jupiter Island in

1936, as a lad of 16, looking for work at the height of the Florida depression. He was trained as a landscape nursery man and adapted to the course perfectly. Nathaniel Reed said about Bob Hurst, "I have had the privilege of working with Bob for 23 years; our friendship has never waivered and I hold him in high respect."

Ray Goodman is the assistant golf course superintnedent.

The course was expanded to 18 holes under Bob Hurst's time with several course architects adding their influence. Earnest Smith did the early work. Pete Dye rebuilt 9 greens including the 12th hole which is one of the first southern golf holes built with railroad cross ties; the year was 1966. This issues' cover-hole, the 14th, was rebuilt last summer with the Fazios. Nathaniel Reed says, "I wanted the green to be "in" the Indian River." When you stand on the tee you know the goal was achieved. ■



Bob Hurst inspects greens overseeded with bent and saber on Tifgreen 328.



Natural harmony of wildlife, tropical vegetation, and man.

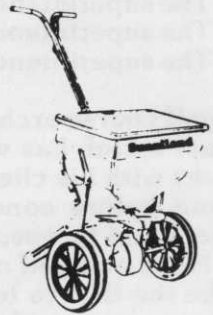
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