

public play. Sand needs to be used to define appropriate lines of play while not unduly penalizing those who stray from the preferred paths.

At Coral Oaks, for instance, players can run the ball up to every green. When golf courses are designed merely to accommodate the high "target" style of the professional's game, there are too many forced carries over sand and water. When courses are built for all-or-nothing heroic play, there is little tolerance for slack in the maintenance program. Should certain areas not be kept cut down to specifications, the golf course can quickly become unplayable.

Hills knows how to design for maintenance without sacrificing playability. At Coral Oaks this meant working with the superintendent at the outset on issues of greens speed, bunker edging and the contour mowing of landing areas and approaches to the greens.

Municipal golfers have long suffered neglect in this country when it comes to providing quality facilities. The lure of big money tempts many an architect into building glitzy, high-profile resort courses that only the richest private clubs and resorts can afford to maintain. A growing number of PGA Tour players who put their names on the blueprints of new golf courses have little interest in promoting the game from the ground up — for the entry-level and public player.

In this sense, the quite understated approach of Arthur Hills is a welcome relief from the high pressure salesmanship and hype that have come to mark the game today.

Whether at Bonita Bay or Coral Oaks, Hills knows how to work with what is already there. His fee structure and design principles are flexible enough to meet the needs of very different clients. He does not force his design upon the land, and he does not impose his own distinctive style upon an unwilling owner or superintendent.

An attention to detail and to environmental sensitivity, a willingness to work hard and to create quality golf grounds that can be maintained over the long run — these are the trademarks of Arthur Hills.

Maintenance costs threaten industry, says Maples

Golf course architects must focus on controlling construction and maintenance costs so the cost of play will not become prohibitive, says Dan Maples of Pinehurst, N.C., newly elected president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects.

"The game of golf has experienced a strong surge of interest in the past five years," he said, "and everyone associated with the design, construction and maintenance of golf courses must work to keep the cost of play within reach of the general public.

"We cannot slip back into the image of an elitist sport."

A third-generation member of the Maples family that has played an important role in golf development in the Southeast, the new ASGCA leader has excellent credentials for discussing construction and maintenance

costs.

His grandfather, Frank, was superintendent of construction for Donald Ross at Pinehurst, supervising more than 150 men



Dan Maples

who used mules to work the Carolina sandhills into Pinehurst's first four golf courses.

"My grandfather designed much of the early equipment and was very aware of how the design could be coordinated with maintenance. He taught my father (Ellis), who soon recognized that severe slopes and deep bunkers required hand maintenance, which can escalate costs in today's environment."

Ellis Maples, who was president of the ASGCA in 1974, was a life member of the PGA of America and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. He designed and built Pinehurst's fifth golf course.

Ellis' brother, Henson, was superintendent at Pinehurst for 30 years. Other members of the Maples clan include professional golfer Willie and superintendents Joe, Gene, Wayne and Palmer, Jr.

"Donald Ross told my father that he (Ross) probably made a mistake by designing so many courses without the opportunity to review the construction," Dan Maples said. "He told my father that, if he had it to do over again, he would only design courses that he actually could oversee. That's something that all of us should consider in this booming era of golf course development."

Dan worked with his father on about 25 of the 65 courses with which the senior Maples was credited before he died.

"We are well aware of environmental concerns and are taking every precaution to make sure that our golf courses blend in with the environment," said the new ASGCA president. "If wetlands are used for a golf course, other wetland areas are developed so the natural habitat will not be disturbed."

2 Palm Beach architects join ASGCA

Two Floridians were among eight golf course architects elected to associate membership in the American Society of Golf Course Architects at the association's annual meeting in Pebble Beach, Calif., this past March.

Jan Beljan of Fazio Golf Course Designers Inc., who also became the second woman elected to membership, and Tom Pearson of Golden Bear International were among the group of new associates who brought the society's total membership to 108. Both firms are located in North Palm Beach.

Alice Dye of Delray Beach, the first female architect so honored, was elected in 1983.

In order to qualify for election, an architect must establish a record of individual work that meets with the approval of his or her peers, who also must deem the candidate "qualified to execute and oversee the imple-

mentation on the ground of his plans and specifications to create an enjoyable layout that challenges golfers of all abilities and exemplifies the highest standards and traditions of golf. He will counsel in all phases of the work to protect the best interest of his client."

The other associates elected this spring were Nai Chung "Lee" Chang, Atlanta; Robert Cupp, Atlanta; Keith R. Foster, Tempe, Ariz.; Tom Marzolf, Greenville, S.C.; W. Bruce Matthews III, Okemos, Mich.; and Mark A. Mungeam, Whitinsville, Mass.

Beljan's courses include Pelican's Nest in Bonita Springs, Windstar on Naples Bay in Naples, Bluewater Bay in Niceville and Gateway in Fort Myers. She also remodeled The Bayou Club at Bardmoor in Largo.

Pearson served as inspector of construction for Bear Lakes in West Palm Beach and Boca Pointe GC in Boca Raton and is credited as co-designer of Ibis-Seminole in Palm Beach Gardens.

Dan Maples of Pinehurst, N.C., was elected president; Thomas Clark of



Jan
Beljan



Tom
Pearson

Wheaton, Md., vice president; Arthur Hills, Toledo, Ohio, secretary; and Gerald Matthews, Lansing, Mich., treasurer. Other members of the board of governors include Pete Dye, Jeff Brauer, Keith Evans, Tom Fazio, Bob Graves, Denis Griffiths, Gary Kern and Ed Seay.



Members of the executive committee of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, from left: Tom Clark, Wheaton, Md., vice president; Gerald Matthews, Lansing, Mich., treasurer; Robert Trent Jones Jr., Palo Alto, Calif., immediate past president; Dan Maples, Pinehurst, N.C., president; Arthur Hills, Toledo, Ohio, secretary.