Crist on liability

apparatus, the facility's due care responsibility becomes greater.

The judge in the Maussner case put it this way: "All golf courses have a duty to post a sign that details what, if any, safety procedures are being utilized by the golf course to protect its patrons from lightning....If, however, a golf course chooses to utilize a particular safety feature, it owes a duty of reasonable care to its patrons to use it correctly."

Similar complexities are involved in the decision to make defibrillators available to assist in cardiac incidents on the golf course. On the one hand, it certainly seems like the enlightened and progressive thing to do. On the other hand, such well-intended, humanitarian efforts, if implemented incorrectly or inadequately, could increase liability exposure rather

than reduce it.

COMMON SENSE

Perhaps the best mix in fulfilling the duty of due care is a combination of concern, common sense and a good liability insurance program. Paramount should be concern for the customer's welfare and desire on the owner/ operator's part to anticipate foreseeable risks and take reasonable preventive measures

Avoiding liability claims is impossible, but a concern for safety, a good liability insurance program and the implementation of risk management policies will go a long way toward keeping things under

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Noted projects that contributed to the certification include: allowing non-play areas to grow naturally; adding several bluebird and wood duck houses; incorporating native prairie plants into the landscape; and decreasing pesticide usage.

"We have an integrated pest management scheme here now where we monitor turf conditions heavily," Bossert said. "We don't spray anything on a preventive basis."

A new irrigation system was installed in 1998 to water the layout more efficiently and a \$25,000 equipment wash pad was put in place the following year.

The superintendent credits his former assistant, Dan Augdahl and his assistant for the past two years, Bryan Widmer. "They really deserve a lot of the credit," he said. 'They did all of the documentation work."

This fall, the facility will complete the final

Architects

Continued from page 3

golfers more distance, it will be impossible for us to design courses that will be a challenge for more than a decade."

Research shows that many players drop out because they become discouraged, and Pascuzzo believes that the percentage would rise if courses had to be longer and more difficult to challenge the better players.

"It's becoming increasingly difficult to design a course that all levels of players find interesting," he said.■

stage of a four-year renovation plan. "The project is mostly new tees and bunkers," said Bossert. Architect Richard Jacobson, based in Libertyville, Ill., provided the design work for the renovation project.



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