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"'Round the Town" Match Lively Feature at Hartford

THIS SEASON there will be a number of new and revamped municipal courses opening with fitting ceremonies. Men with the responsibility of putting on these opening shows usually wonder what makes an interesting, unique affair and when they have that puzzle before them they might consider what was done when Hartford, Conn., opened its Keney Park clubhouse.

Robert "Jack" Ross and Rupert Rothwell, assistant city treasurer, both of whom have been identified with Hartford muny golf for more than 20 years, doped up the idea and followed it through to a successful conclusion.

Permission was obtained from nine clubs to use two holes adjacent to the clubhouse. Each club entered a team of eight men, provided eight prizes and contributed a small fee to cover the cost of the lunch and dinner.

Clubs cooperating were Hartford Golf Club, Wampanoag, West Hartford, Rockledge, Stanley, Indian Hill, Wethersfield, Goodwin Park, and Keney Park. As these clubs were located geographically in an irregular circle, four of the clubs started at Goodwin Park and went clockwise, and five commenced at the Hartford GC and went counter-clockwise, meeting at Rockledge, halfway around the circle where lunch was served on arrival. Play continued on to Keney Park where scores were handed in.

The yardage of the course played was approximately 7000 yards, par 74, and the mileage covered by auto was over 40 miles making what might be termed a record length golf match.

As the event was played late in the season, winter rules applied on all courses. No attempt was made to provide caddies.

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JUNE, 1936

Caddie use was optional. Some players took caddies with them throughout the trip. Among regulations for the match:

Players arrange for own transportation and playing companions. "No cards" will not be permitted. The club pro may be a member of the team. All teams must report according to schedule and play courses strictly in the order indicated. Players will be given right of way on holes to be used, so far as reasonable and possible. No green fees. Maps will be furnished to facilitate travel beteewn courses.

The match itself was played through all kinds of New England weather, the players meeting with wind, hail, sleet, snow, and finally real warm sunshine, but all carried on famously.

Bobby Grant, former state amateur champion, had the low medal score with 81 and the Wethersfield team, which he captained, had low total 704. All contestants played from scratch.

The proceedings after the match consisted of a dinner served by the personnel of the park board, at which ex-mayor Walter E. Batterson, an ardent golfer, presided. Awarding of prizes and toasts to the winners followed the dinner.

The premier prize was a loving cup donated by Mayor Joseph W. Beach, on which the Wethersfield Club now have the first leg. All the team members received a donated prize, choice of which was rated by their standing in the list.

It is intended that the "Round the Town" golf match be an annual affair.

FRED BERGERON, manager Beverly CC, engineered a bowling league dinner of unique character recently. Officials of the league were railroad men so the Beverly dining room was decorated with observation car illuminated drums bearing the names and insignia of famous trains.

Track signs marked the tables, which were illuminated with railroad lanterns. Signs were placed around the clubhouse reading "to street", "to trains", "waiting room", "baggage room", etc. Two league officials attired as an engineer and a conductor greeted the guests. Each guest was supplied with a ticket which was punched for dinner and beverages. A schedule on the order of a railroad timetable sent the affair along without delay.

Club lounge was decorated with an operating model of a famous train. An entertainment feature was the Pullman porters' quartette.



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