

## Midland Hills' Women Members Keep Club Humming With Activities

By **WALTER MUND, Pro**  
Midland Hills CC, St. Paul, Minn.

**T**HIS year more than ever there is emphasis on women's golf at the foresighted golf club. Men members of the private clubs are going to have added business duties connected with defense work, in many cases, and before they learn that golf's recreation is essential to their physical and mental well-being, the women will have an opportunity to advance in club activities.

In our club we can brag about what women's interest has done in promoting the progress of the organization and in giving the club the sort of publicity that does much in making memberships desirable.

The male membership of Midland Hills numbers about 175. This will give you an idea of the relative activity of the women.

About four or five years ago a feeling existed at the club that the women were unwanted. This was not done intentionally. At that time there was very little play among the women. We did not have enough women to compete in the Twin City ladies' league.

An effort was made by the officers of the club, ladies' chairman, and myself to encourage play among the women. This has been so successful that they have put Midland Hills on the map.

Two years ago our women won the Twin City league championship. Last year they lost by half a point and won the B league. This was due to the fact it was run on a handicap basis.

### Best Minnesota Team

Perry Dotson of the St. Paul Pioneer Press went so far as to say ours was the greatest team that ever represented a club in Minnesota. After a challenge by a Minneapolis paper it was proved he was right.

To stimulate women's golf I have encouraged group classes, free junior classes, and have gone so far as to set up a plan in the fall where I played every lady in the club a match; that is I played three at a time and the one in A class and the one in B class that did best against me received trophies.

Mrs. Hayes Dansingburg, of our club,



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Horton Smith has joined the staff of Pinehurst, Inc., in a promotional capacity. He will retain his Spalding capacity but will register from Pinehurst tournaments.

Horton and Mrs. Smith will live at Pinehurst during autumn, winter and spring, barring his absences for tournament play. He will not be a member of the teaching or managerial staff of the Pinehurst CC.

has won every major event in the state for the last two years; as a matter of fact she has won every event she entered. This is against such competition as Bea Barrett, Jane Goodwill, former Western Junior champion, and others in a state where women's competition is supposed to be the toughest in the country. Mrs. John Noble of our club is former city and Twin City champion.

### Women Run Activities

W. A. King, president of Midland Hills, realizing the value of the women to our club, has given them a much more active part in the running of all activities. He named two women to the golf committee. This broke all precedent. Mrs. J. F. Noble and Mrs. Hayes Dansingburg were appointed.

In the past a man has always been the chairman of the entertainment committee. This has been changed by Mr. King in the appointment of Mrs. J. N. Welscher as its chairman. In the month of May alone she has had more activity than normally is held in the entire year. She has gone so far as to organize the juniors for parties and dances. She has taken care of organizing my junior golf classes and has made arrangements to sponsor junior tournaments throughout the year.

Mr. King, feeling that the women have been doing the better job of selling the club, invited them to attend a membership drive meeting with the men. Their ideas on getting new members were fully as good as those of the men.

This year Midland Hills will be host to both the St. Paul city championship and the state women's championship at which time Mrs. Dansingburg will be defending both titles. She has developed her golf as a sideline to raising two very fine children.

Ruth Seeger is this year's captain and is looking forward to having her team in there stronger than ever. Ruth, who has played about three years, was able to break 90 the first year that she played, after a hard winter of work with me in the golf school.

One of the stimulants to women's golf at our club and to all clubs in the state of Minnesota has been the annual pro-ladies' event preceding the St. Paul Open. This encourages them to work hard and lower their handicap, making them eligible to play. I have been chairman of it the past four years.

The women's golf team that represents the Midland Hills Country Club in the Twin Cities league may not be the strongest sextette of women players representing any golf club in the country, but until some club nominates a six-woman team with a lower average handicap, I will keep right on claiming the honors for my club.

Handicaps of the six players range from scratch to eight, and the team average is four and five-sixths. Members of the team and handicaps established by the Minnesota Women's Golf association are Mrs. Hayes Dansingburg, seven times state champion, scratch; Mrs. Harold M. Sims, 4; Mrs. J. F. Noble, 5; Miss Muriel Larraabee, 6; Miss Eddice Dochtermann, 6; and Miss Ruth Seeger, 8. All of the players are from St. Paul.

Mrs. Dansingburg won the state title five times as Gertrude Boothby before she retired in favor of matrimony. She was out of competitive golf for 4 years, during which time Bea Barrett and Patty Berg dominated women's golf in Minnesota. Taking up the tournament trail once more, Mrs. Dansingburg's comeback was immediately successful, and this summer she will be trying for her eighth state title.

## Letter Reminds Members

### When Spikes Are Worn

WARREN ORLICK, pro at the Monroe (Mich.) G&CC, has received excellent returns from a letter he's had the club's lockerman distribute in the lockers of members whose spikes were badly worn.

It's a good safety idea as a pro-shop service, and good merchandising, too. Here's Warren's letter:

Dear Member:

The spikes in your golf shoes are badly worn. There are numerous disadvantages in playing with such shoes. First, badly worn spikes make it difficult to obtain a stance that will not slip all over the course. In playing almost any shot a fraction of a slip will result in a spoiled shot.