

# Hi-Ball

## NEW RANGE GAME CLICKS IN CALIFORNIA

A new driving range game embodying three essentials of sports popularity, skill, scoring, and competition, has met with outstanding success down in Orange County, Calif. Named Hi-Ball Golf by its inventor, Ray Bales, the new game has grossed \$3000 per month since its opening last June. Its location is a two-highway intersection one mile from the city limits of Santa Ana, a town of 15,000.

The patented Hi-Ball game involves the use of every club in the bag except the putter. It provides for the player a zestful, competitive sport that measures his golfing skill while approaching the actual conditions of regular course play.

Hi-Ball tournaments have already been held and they drew some well known golfers. A club membership deal has been arranged and is selling fast. More Hi-Ball fairways will be built soon.

The Hi-Ball fairway looks like any other driving range with the addition of an immense walled grid super-imposed on its broad fairway. The lighting system is an innovation.

Scoring in Hi-Ball is based on the player's ability to hit his ball into the correct one of 24 marked fairway grid squares of varying sizes. The grid walls, called barriers, are of differing heights so that the nine lateral barriers, 25 yards apart, appear to rise in stairway fashion away from the

tee. The nearest barrier is 42 yards from the tee, 165 ft. in length, and 19 in. in height. The farthest barrier is 225 yards from the tee, 338 ft. long, and 11 ft., 9 in. high.

Four walls radiate from the first barrier out to the last, intersect the lateral barriers, and form three wide "alleys," one "fairway" and two "roughs," visible from the tee. Distances from the tee marked on each grid square are padded about 11% to compensate for the lack of ball roll.

In front of the first barrier are three "greens" or "Birdie Targets," 6 yards in diameter and 35 yards from the tee.

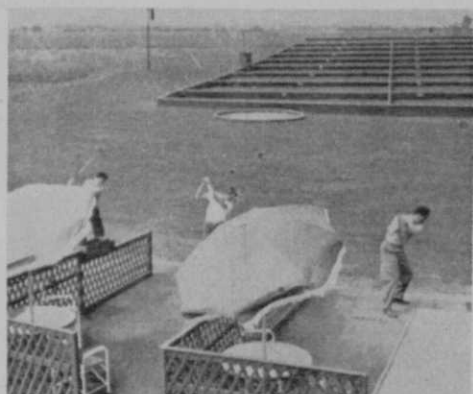
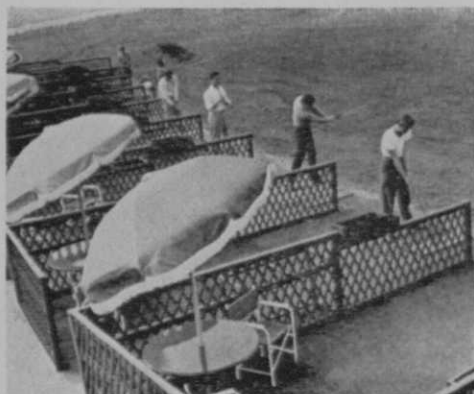
The Hi-Ball card is like any golf course card. Distance for each of the eighteen "holes" is given in multiples of 25 yards. The "course" is 6025 yards with a par of 71. Every player hits the same number of balls during the Hi-Ball game. Shots for the grids are called Fairway Balls and are the equivalent of those needed to reach the green in conventional golf. Penalties are chalked up for missing the exact grid square called for by the yardage of the "hole."

Shots for "Birdie Targets" are equivalent to those ordinarily played to the green. Total Fairway Balls, Birdie Balls, and penalties is total score of a "hole."

Cards from any club may be used as the basis for a game of Hi-Ball merely by playing the distance of each hole to the nearest 25 yard multiple. Bales says that experience has shown that a player shooting his own club card on the Hi-Ball fairway will invariably be within 2 or 3 points of his regular handicap score.

As accurate scoring at night depends upon the player being able to see the exact grid into which his ball plunged, regardless of distance, much more ball illumination is

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Tee compartments are attractive, comfortable, neat at the Hi-Ball range. Compartments on the range which provide scoring targets shown in view on right.

**JIMMY MILLAR DIES**—James Millar, 54, for 24 years at Klinger Lake (Mich.) CC and veteran of the Scotch Black Watch in World War 1, died of a heart attack, March 24, at Sturgis (Mich.) Memorial hospital. He is survived by his widow, who was Janet Robinson Clark and came from Scotland in 1925 to be married to Jimmy, and their son, William, who was in the U. S. Navy during World War II. Jimmy rebuilt the Klinger Lake course. He was the beloved friend and helper of thousands of golfers, amateur and pro, and one of the cheeriest, finest and most competent men in the game.

**HOSE REPAIR** — The Clamp-Master Kit, which uses the well known Punch-Lok clamping and banding method of industry, now makes available to golf clubs the easy repair of split hoses, posts, ladder rails and tool handles. The kit is also useful for splicing cables, tying conduit to pipe lines, and performing maintenance work on tools, machinery, fences, and buildings. Clamp-Master Kits are mfg. by the Punch-Lok Co., Chicago.

**METAL LAWN CHAIRS**—Lawn chairs are now produced combining the brightness of chrome with the lightness and corrosion-resisting qualities of aluminum. Made by the Troy Sunshade Co., Troy, O., in two styles, chairs and chaise lounge, the furniture incorporates backs and seats of nylon strapping in bright colors. Both the chairs and chaise lounges can be stacked (nested) in groups of 4. Their lightness makes it possible for a child to stack them.

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necessary than at the ordinary driving range. This illumination must be made to increase in intensity as the ball gets farther from the tee, a situation calling for a special lighting system.

Clusters of great floods totaling 90,000 watts and costing \$12,000 were placed behind the lateral barriers at ground level. The lights are progressively more powerful as the distance increases from the tee until illumination on the ball is strongest at 200 yards. At that point the light begins to decrease.

The lateral barriers serve as protection for the lights behind them. They are constructed of 20 gauge rabbit wire stretched on a wooden frame of two by fours, and covered with painted burlap.

The first three barriers will be lower on subsequent Hi-Ball Fairways to allow "grass cutters" to score. Fairway lights will be taken out of their bunches and spread evenly across the fairway. Two stories of concrete tee stalls and full set club-rentals are expected to double the "take" of the next Hi-Ball Fairways.

April, 1947

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