

Front Cover: Silent beacons that herald the approach of sunny days and a great year of golf.

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Successful Winter At Pro's Dunedin Course

PGA National Golf Club at Dunedin, Fla., has had its most successful winter season during the 1947-48 period. Despite adverse weather conditions in the fall and early winter Alex Cunningham has brought the course along so greens, fairways and tees reached excellent condition early in February.

Considerable work remains to be done on the grounds and some remodeling will be done by Cunningham at the direction of the committee in charge of the course. The committee is headed by John Watson and includes Gene Sarazen, Hugh Bancroft and Willie Ogg.

Rye greens were left a bit longer than some of the players desired for a week or so at Cunningham's insistence. The procedure paid off in fine condition after rye really had got established. One of the marvels of the Dunedin layout is that PGA members who visit the course all don't want to boss the club but let Cunningham do the course and clubhouse management job for which he is responsible.

Clubhouse improvements made so far this year include a major revision of the locker-room which now is about a model for small club locker-rooms. All improvements this winter were made at a cost of about \$15,000 and are remarkable in showing such conspicuous results for the money.

At the top of the season there are about 80 pros a day visiting the place. There are informal pro clinics on teaching, merchandising, shop practice and club operating Mondays and Fridays. There are two 2-ball foursome events each week. There are two bingo sessions weekly and an open house Saturday night. Mrs. Cunningham runs the clubhouse at which sandwiches and beverages are served.

Pros have reason to boast of the work that has been done by all concerned with management of the Dunedin course since the PGA took over its operation. There still remains a considerable extent of rehabilitation work to be done in the clubhouse and on the course but need of most of it only would be seen by expert eyes. Among other work that is contemplated is that of constructing and stocking a model pro shop.

Cunningham's staff is competent and diligent and, like many club operating staffs, sees more work than can be handled with the speed and completeness that Alex and his helpers can bring into a long hour job that must focus on doing the most important things first.

Publicity is one angle that Cunningham plans to get into stronger. A series of picture postcards of the course now is available and next year Cunningham plans to see that the course and people playing it get picture and type coverage in Florida newspapers and in spots north.