

Veterans Benefit from Annual Long Island Tournament

By JOHN M. BRENNAN

At the annual meeting of the Long Island Golf Association at the Garden City Hotel, Frank Strafacci handed over to Al (Red) Brosch of Cherry Valley Club, representing the Metropolitan PGA, a



War hero Frank Strafacci, representing the Long Island GA, turns over proceeds of annual Rehabilitation Fund matches (\$3,452.72 check) held at Fresh Meadow CC to Al Brosch, vp of Metropolitan PGA, at annual LIGA meetings at Garden City.

check for \$3,452.72 to be added to the Rehabilitation Fund that now exceeds \$14,000.

"We have enough money now to construct a pitch-and-putt course at St. Albans Naval Hospital and a larger course at Northport Hospital, another Long Island retreat for wounded servicemen," Al Ciuci, president of the LIPGA told the delegates at the LIGA meeting.

The 1948 tournament, sponsored by the LIPGA, the LIGA, and Women's LIGA, was staged over the handsome links of Ciuci's home club, Fresh Meadow, formerly known as Lakeville in Great Neck. Twenty-five of the leading pros, amateurs and feminine players of the district compete on a handicap basis.

Originally started back during the war in 1943 at Cherry Valley, the tournament

was staged to collect balls, bags and clubs for servicemen, but later when it was almost impossible to purchase balls and the war ended, the committees representing the three Long Island associations agreed to continue the matches under a different setup, with the players contributing entry fees and the LIGA sponsoring a Calcutta pool and auction. These have averaged \$12,000, attesting to the enthusiasm and spirit manifest in these worthwhile tournaments, which have become a highlight of the Long Island golfing season.

Dr. Oke V. Wibell, president of the LIGA, was lavish in his praise of the players and spectators who braved inclement weather at Fresh Meadow last August 1st to make the event almost as successful financially as its predecessor at Inwood CC the year before when a committee headed by Joe Feldman realized \$3,831.35.

"There is no reason why associations in other parts of the country can't emulate the Long Island groups," said LIGA Secretary J. Eldridge Scheffmeyer. "We intend holding these events annually to raise money for the heroes at our rehabilitation centers. The tremendous success of the Long Island events is due to much hard work and fine cooperation between the three golfing groups. We are mighty proud of the work done and the boys, I know, appreciate our efforts."

Funds Provide Course and Equipment

The pitch-and-putt course at the Hal-loran Hospital, Staten Island, in the Metropolitan area, was constructed through funds realized at Seawane Harbor Club in 1946 and at Inwood in 1945. The first two events, held at Cherry Valley in 1943 and 1944, provided the necessary golfing equipment for the boys. Long Islanders by the hundred attended the matches and gave either balls, clubs or bags as the price of admission. Even the players and officials contributed some kind of equipment.

Mrs. J. Barney Balding, wife of the famous polo ace, has been influential in putting over these annual events. The

charming player from the swank Creek Club in Glen Cove, has assembled the women's teams, sold tickets, collected money and done about everything else but run the scoreboard. Another helpful person has been Mrs. Reinert M. Torgerson of Cherry Valley, holder of the New York State championship for the past two seasons.

Wesley M. Cotterell of Cherry Valley, who was president of the LIGA back in 1943 when the three associations agreed to stage the matches in spite of gasoline restrictions and other unfavorable factors, said "We started something really worth while." Dr. Charles J. Robinson of Wheatley Hills, who served as LIGA head through the trying years of 1944 and 1945 nodded his assent.

Frederick A. Marsh of the Garden City CC, LIGA prexy during 1944 and 1945, has been responsible in a large way for the financial success of the events inasmuch as he has been the auctioneer at most of the Calcutta auctions.

At Inwood in 1947, the Calcutta tickets sold, aggregated \$4,425 and the teams sold for \$8,175. The club contributed \$165 and the entry fees of players grossed \$390.

Among the disbursements were \$2,447 to Calcutta ticket holders, \$5,320 to Calcutta winners and \$1,556.65 for miscellaneous expenses.

Last year, at Fresh Meadow, an even \$4,000 was realized through Calcutta ticket sales and \$6,480.69 was spent on Calcutta teams. Other contributions, including nine dollars from two caddies, grossed \$64. The ticket holders received \$1,376.40 and the winners \$5,316.52. Other expenses were \$399.05.

Pros, Amateurs and Women Play

The players participating in these matches represent all phases of golf. The outstanding amateurs are drawn from the swankier clubs, including Meadow Brook, the po'o capital of the world; Piping Rock, the less affluent private clubs and the municipal links of New York City. The pro and women's teams are equally diversified, with representation from the Gold Coast clubs to the thickly populated fairways of Dyker Beach on the fringe of Brooklyn.

The pros, ironically, have been taking so much of a beating in these annual events that they have been given handicaps during the past several years. As a result, the matches have made for a thrilling show with players coming into the

final round all even — most matches being decided on the last green — or beyond.

The pros who participated in the 1948 matches included Joe Sylvester of North Hempstead, Jack Sheridan of Brentwood, Walter Scheiber of Willow Brook, Henry Rogan of Glen Head, Stanley Remsen of North Hills, Lennie Peters of Huntington-Crescent, Gus Norwich of Hempstead, Jack Mallon of Cold Spring, Tony Longo of Inwood, Ralph Leaf of North Hills, Walter Kozak of Pomonok, William Klein of Wheatley Hills, Mike Izzo of Engineers, Andy Fabrizio of Garden City CC, Alex Ednie of Oakland, Tom Clancy of Bayside, Floyd and Henry Ciuci of Fresh Meadow, Pat Cici of Nassau County Parks, Ferdie Catropa of Peninsula, Ernie Catropa of Willow Brook, Pete Cassella of Island Hills, Pete Burke of Glen Oaks, Don Brown of Piping Rock and Mike Belifore of Nassau CC.

Johnny Humm of Rockville, Long Island champion, led the simon-pure team that embraced George Biard Jr. of Rockville, Bob Baxter of South Bay, Dick Ciuci of Fresh Meadow, Dr. Mike DiLeo of North Hempstead, Joe Feldman of Inwood, Monroe Froelich of Woodmere, Mal Galletta of North Hills, Stanley J. Harte of Inwood, Bill Holloway of Meadow



Officers of LIGA are: (L to R) J. E. Schaffmeyer, sec'y., Dr. Oke V. Wibell, pres., O. M. (Pete) Lamberon, vp, Bob Johnke, member and Campbell B. Carmichel, treas.

Brook, Bob Johnke of Hempstead, Fred Lazard of Cold Spring, Jack Lyons of Garden City Golf, Wilson Madden of Huntington-Crescent, Matty Nardoza of Garden City CC, Eddie Neu of Rockville, Jim Oleska of Dyker Beach, Frank Paley of Woodmere, Andy Peck of Piping Rock,

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executive sec'y. notified of sectional nominations for national PGA offices 30 days in advance of the PGA annual meeting, the executive sec'y. in turn to notify all sections of all candidates so delegates can go to the annual meeting instructed by section members. Purpose of the latter resolution, as brought out in comment at Central NY PGA meeting, is to allow the association's annual meeting to concentrate on business matters advancing pro golf rather than devote undue amount of time to politics.

Old Orchard Bent Award To Greenkeeper Assns.

Each year Ralph Bond, Old Orchard Turf Nurseries, donates 5,000 sq. ft. of Old Orchard C52 to Minn. Greenkeepers Assn., to the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation sponsored by Midwest Greenkeepers Assn., and to the Iowa Greenkeepers Assn. to be auctioned off to highest bidder, among members. The proceeds go to the associations. This year Art Jensen, Fargo (N.D.) CC bid in Minnesota's bent: Midwest bid in their own allotment while Iowa will ask for bids on their 5,000 sq. ft. by letter later in the season.

VETERAN'S BENEFIT

(Continued from page 61)

Frank Strafaci of Pomonok, Tom Strafaci of Plandome, Ralph Strafaci of Hempstead, Ray Torgerson of Cherry Valley, Phil Weinsier of Fresh Meadow and Dr. Wibell of Cherry Valley.

In addition to Mrs. Balding, the women players at Fresh Meadow included Mrs. Stephen Wise of Piping Rock, Mrs. Saul Weinsier of Fresh Meadow, Mrs. Leon Weill of Inwood, Mrs. Torgerson, Mrs. F. K. Thayer of Piping Rock, Mrs. Rudolph Stutzmann of Oakland, Miss Roslyn Swift of Glen Oaks, Mrs. Carl Sayre of Creek, Miss Isabelle Robertson of Meadow Brook, Mrs. Edward G. Richmond of Cherry Valley, Mrs. Thomas Morgan of Garden City CC, Mrs. Fred Meissner of Pomonok, Mrs. Harry McNaughton of North Hempstead, Mrs. Ruth May of Inwood, Miss Peggy Mackie of Wheatley Hills, Mrs. William R. Kirkland of Piping Rock, Mrs. L. V. O. Hommel of North Hempstead, Mrs. Longstreet Hinton of Piping Rock, Mrs. Bernard Freeman of Inwood, Mrs. Charles Carbone of

Hempstead, Mrs. George H. Bostwick of Meadow Brook, Mrs. Al Baar of Fresh Meadow, Mrs. Arthur K. Atkinson of Green and Mrs. Lucy Armstrong of Creek.

While strolling out of Garden City Hotel, Frank Strafacci, five-time Metropolitan amateur champion and one of the great shot-makers of the country, remarked, "Golf is doing something really worth while in these parts and I would like to see golfers in other parts of the country take time out to remember a lot of kids were wounded and would like to putt or pitch at rehabilitation centers as they strive to regain health."

That was the sentiment of a lad who did a lot of island hopping in the Pacific with General Douglas Mac Arthur during the late war. A lot of his buddies were wounded and as Frank says "we can't do too much for them."

HOW SOIL STRUCTURE HELPS

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ing down the plasticity of a soil. But if there is too high a percentage of organic matter the soil will be spongy and it will

be impossible to maintain a true firm putting surface. Also, although peats will take a lot of water, they will likewise hold water in the cells which the grass roots can't get, in which case even though the peaty soil seems moist the grass may wilt for lack of moisture. Too much organic matter in our putting green soils, therefore, is not good.

Test Soils and Mixtures

Here is a good way to test soils and soil mixtures, both for building the surface on a green and as a mixture for top dressing. Use the soil that you have available as the base or bulk of all mixtures you will make. Possibly you have a bed you're cultivating to get rid of weeds. Sift this soil and then set aside one sample of the pure soil. Then to another sifted sample add about 1/8 by volume of good sedge, reed, or woody peat. German moss peat isn't fine enough unless you can grind it up some way. To another sample of soil add 1/8 of peat and 1/8 of coarse, clean sand. To another one add 1/8 peat and 1/4 of sand and to another one 1/4 of peat and 1/4 of sand. That's five samples. If you need any further, leave the peat at 1/4 and increase the sand.

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