



DAYTON'S NEW COMMUNITY COUNTRY CLUB CLUBHOUSE

This is the east elevation of the new Community Country Club clubhouse in Dayton, Ohio. The central part, in red brick, houses the main lounge, women's lounge and dining room. White sections at either end are locker room facilities with the men's at the left and the women's at right. Brick portion at far left houses the business office, manager's office, pro shop, and club storage.

Clubhouse is surrounded by two fine 18-hole layouts.

of peat, be sure the material is thoroughly mixed with the sandy soil.

Topdressing with straight peat, thus creating a layer of pure peat, is one of the worst things we can do. When a peat layer is saturated with water the grass roots tend to grow to that layer and no further because there is no air below the layer.

The best way to mix the peat, without removing the sod, is to apply peat to the surface of the green and then aerify four to six times in different directions. Vertical mowing followed by dragging will help to mix the sand and peat.

Q — Players use the regular greens for practice as well as play and the concentrated traffic is just too much. Do you think it is possible to keep grass on the greens under these circumstances? (Minn.)

A — I agree with you that there is a point where traffic becomes so heavy it is impossible to maintain good grass, especially on a close-cut area like a putting area.

If your club could provide a practice green this certainly would help to reduce the overload on the regular greens. Plenty of aeration, abundant feeding and keeping the greens on the dry side will help to reduce compaction and to keep good grass growing. A strong vigorous creeping grass will help the situation.

Q — Every year our greens become infested with clover. We treat the greens to overcome the clover, but isn't there some way to keep clover out entirely? (Ky.)

A — Yes, it would be better to prevent the clover infestation, rather than try to overcome it every year. The clover comes in because the grass is weakened in some way. Maybe you have a poor strain of grass in the first place. If this is the case you would do well to start a nursery of one of the improved strains, such as Pennlu or Cohansey, for example.

Disease may have been the factor that weakened the grass. Removal of surface trash, minimum use of water and chemical preventives all aid in controlling disease.

Insect damage often thins turf and allows clover and other weeds to come in. Modern insecticides do an excellent job of controlling pests. There may be injury by mechanical means — improper mowing or excessive traffic.

Each of these factors should be evaluated and checked.

Clover does not invade perfectly healthy, dense, vigorous turf of adapted strains of grasses. Good grasses, properly managed, to prevent clover infestation are a better answer than constantly trying to get rid of clover.

Q — We were very successful using old sawdust and sand to topdress greens. I tried the mixture with new sawdust and the results certainly were not at all the same. What might be the trouble? (N.C.)

A — Quite probably you did not use enough nitrogen along with the new sawdust to help the soil microorganisms break down the sawdust.

It might be better for you to incorporate this new sawdust into a compost heap with a little rich loam soil and calcium cyanamid in order to make old sawdust out of new in a matter of a couple of months. I believe this will enable you to get the same results that you had with the old sawdust.

Q — How thick should sod be cut when moving it from the nursery to a tee? (Ks.)

A — As thin as possible. With modern sod-cutting equipment it is possible to cut sod as thin as $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Thin-cut sod will knit more quickly than thick sod. We have seen bent and bluegrass sod (thin-cut) send roots down into the seedbed in 24 hours. Thick sod sometimes takes a week or more before it strikes root.

In the nursery you will find that thin-cut sod leaves more rhizomes in the soil which more quickly will re-establish a new sod even without reseeding or replanting. This is particularly true with bluegrass and Bermuda.

Also, you can haul much more thin-cut sod on a load and the men like to handle it better.

Q — Some of my members have been asking me about Emerald zoysia. Would you comment on this grass (1) for lawns in this area and (2) for my fairways? (N.J.)

A — A solid turf of Emerald zoysia has the appearance of a Manilagrass (*Zoysia matrella*) sod. The texture is about the same but the color tends to be slightly darker. It can be described as "slow-spreading" as compared to Meyer zoysia, for example. It is a hybrid between *Z. japonica* (coarse) and *Z. tenuifolia* (very fine). Its winter hardness comes from the coarse parent but its northern limit has not been determined. It should cover about the same territory as Manilagrass.

The short stiff leaves tend to be prickly, especially when growth is slow, which appears to discourage any direct bodily contact with the mowed turf. This may possibly limit its use to lawns that are made for looks. In my opinion it is likely to produce a fairway turf that could become rather cushiony which players describe as tiring. This occurs with Bermuda that is not properly managed.

Further practical research on management may indicate that it can produce a desirable fairway turf but tests thus far are very limited.

Q — Have had a lot of trouble with pythium this season. Do you think that the soil has to be extremely wet to have the disease? It seems to me that hand-water-

ing during the days seems to bring on the trouble. (Ia.)

A — The usual experience is that the use of set sprinklers is more likely to encourage pythium than hand watering.

It is necessary to hand water to stop wilt, even when soil is soaking wet (wet wilt), also when the soil is bone dry (dry wilt). When soil is too wet the grass plants cannot get enough water because there is not enough oxygen in the root zone.

There is a direct relationship between wet soil and pythium but high temperatures are needed too.

If we can get the root systems good and deep early in the season we can keep the greens drier and avoid some of the disease troubles. By having a porous soil the water applied on the surface will quickly filter down into the soil leaving the surface drier. Dusting hydrated lime (2 lbs. to 1000 sq. ft.) is a good simple home remedy for sick grass. Spraying chemicals keeps the green wet when what we want is less water. Lime dries the grass and checks most diseases.

Tournament Pros Plan To Hire Manager

A PGA Tournament Bureau manager with full authority over PGA tournaments and the responsibility of scheduling tournaments, increasing prize money, handling publicity and administering discipline, is contemplated by the playing professionals.

Approximately 50 PGA tournament circuit players at a meeting during the Sponsors' tournament at Charles River CC (Boston dist.) agreed to begin the hunt for a qualified man. A salary of \$20,000 a year and annual expenses of \$10,000 is to be paid by deduction of three per cent from tournament purses.

Jerry Barber, chmn., PGA Tournament committee, says the PGA Tournament Bureau costs now run about \$75,000 a year. The PGA now is having expense headaches and at its forthcoming meeting will consider a change in location of the association's headquarters in an effort to reduce expenses.

A Division of expenses between home club pro and tournament pro requirements has long been a subject of PGA controversy. The matter of taking a percentage off the top of tournament purses to finance the Tournament Bureau has come up several times but previously has been voted down by tournament players.

The proposed arrangement would continue the services of Ray O'Brien, Tournament director.