

Zoysia Matrella Ideal Facing for Traps at Indian Creek

By O. J. NOER

R. F. (Red) Lawrence at Indian Creek CC, Miami Beach, Fla., and the members of that club have never liked the Bermuda turf on the face of traps adjacent to the greens.

Bermuda grass is an aggressive grower. It creeps down into the trap and defeats the intended purpose of the trap. Players play the ball exactly as they do from the apron. They roll the ball onto the green with a putter. Exploding out of the trap is unnecessary.

The aggressiveness of Bermuda grass is a drawback from the maintenance standpoint. Workmen spend much time weeding it out of the traps.

Some years ago, Lawrence decided to do something about turf on the face of these traps. He noticed the slow spread of Zoysia Matrella in the nursery and thought it might be the best answer. As a starter, he put a narrow strip of Zoysia Matrella sod along the edge of the double trap beside the sixth green. Zoysia proved to be ideal and the solution to the problem in every respect. The overhang was ideal and growth down into the trap no longer a problem.

The plan at Indian Creek is to face all traps around the greens with Zoysia Matrella sod. Present practice is to imbed one layer of nondescript sod in an upside down position. Zoysia Matrella sprigs or stolons are planted between it and the top strips of Zoysia Matrella sod. Planting Zoysia stolons between the two sod layers hastens development of the overhang.

The narrow strip of Zoysia Matrella sod for the top layer comes from a Zoysia Matrella nursery which is solid turf cut exactly like the aprons. Alternate strips are lifted from the nursery, soil is replaced to level the surface and Zoysia is allowed to spread and re-cover the area.

A part of the nursery is allowed to grow without cutting to produce additional growth. Sod from it is shredded to provide sprigs or stolons for planting between the two sod layers. Lawrence

thinks the use of shredded stolons desirable but not absolutely necessary.

There is no reason why Zoysia Matrella should not do equally well as a greens trap facing on other courses where fairway turf is Bermuda grass.

The accompanying pictures show the original Zoysia facing established several years ago, another which is a year old, and a green's newly planted one.

Six Different Courses in New 27-Hole Fee Course

Morey's G&CC, Milford, Mich., will have in play next month a new 27-hole fee course establishment that is the first new course built in the Detroit area since the '20s.

Ed Morey, owner of the course, has spent about \$50,000 on the construction which was made to his design and which was built by Harold Beagle and Sons under Morey's supervision.

Work started on the new course Nov. 1, 1954.

The course is laid out in three 9s:

Red nine - Par 35 2840 yds.

Blue nine - Par 39 3790 yds.

White nine - Par 34 3125 yds.

Nine of the 27 holes are water holes. Fairways are divided by large trees approximately 30 ft. in height. The course was cut out of virgin woods, with a 16 ft. wide, 6 ft. deep creek winding through the layout.

The combination of 9s will enable golfers to play 6 different pars: 68, 70, 78, 73, 74, and 69.

The 27 hole layout will permit leagues and tournaments the exclusive use of 18 holes.

Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays one set of 9 holes will be reserved for ladies only.

The rates will be based on a 9 hole rate, thereby eliminating the usual complaint of paying an 18 hole rate with only enough time for a 9 hole play.