



H. A. C. RaCHFuss, pres., Charles E. LaRoche, golf chmn., and James A. Nolen, Jr. architect (l to r) survey progress that is being made at Philadelphia CC where clubhouse and course are being rebuilt or renovated.

Recreation for All

Stress Family Fun in Rebuilding Philadelphia CC

A problem peculiar to most country clubs these days — what to do to provide maximum enjoyment for all members of the family — is being solved at the Philadelphia CC.

There, a \$1,500,000 improvement program will transform the Spring Mill layout not only into one of the most modern golf clubs in the area but into one of the country's outstanding family recreation centers.

The program involves construction of an air-conditioned new clubhouse and extensive redesigning of the course. It is the largest country club project to be undertaken in the Philadelphia area since the early '30s. Philadelphia Country Club is the third oldest organized club in the United States and was the second club to receive a PGA charter.

James A. Nolen, Jr. and Herbert H. Swinburne, the young architects in charge of the project, say the new buildings are designed to "solve the major problem confronting practically every country club in the country — the handling of all family members conveniently, economically and in such a manner to give them maximum enjoyment."

Nolen, who shoots in the low 80's and is himself a member of the club, points out

that in the beginning most country clubs centered largely around golf — golf only for the men of the family. But today the trend is to make every club a real family center.

At Saucon Valley, Bethlehem, Pa., for example, a separate building has been erected for youngsters. Philadelphia CC has not gone quite that far, but it is doing a great deal to give the club maximum usefulness for all members of the family. Here, the youngsters will have their own rumpus room, called a "Carnival Room," their own lockers, soft-drink and snack bar, a juke box — and in general have their own private teen-age area.

The contemporary-style clubhouse, located on Spring Mill Road, commands a breathtaking view of the Schuylkill Valley. Construction is on schedule and the building and other facilities will be ready in the late spring.

The project includes, besides the main clubhouse, four tennis courts, an Olympic-size swimming pool plus a separate wading pool for youngsters, a 300-car parking area, gun room, card and billiard room.

The main dining room can be divided, through use of doors and drapes, into various rooms so that a number of groups can be accommodated simultaneously. The kitchen is centrally located and accessible to all dining areas.

Other rooms will include:

The Polo Room is the front section of the dining room which accommodates about 140 persons. It can be opened into and made a part of the rest of the main dining room which will then accommodate more than 300 members, but can also be closed off so that in days of minimum



Architect's conception of "Carnival Room" where youngsters will have lockers, snack bar and other facilities.

use the Polo Room alone will be operated and a feeling of vastness will be avoided. A magnificent view commands the entire golf course from inside and outside.

The Mill Room and Corner, "a meeting place of real character," will be finished in stone and panelled oak. This bar and grille can easily handle groups of 50 to 75 persons either as a separate room for men only on occasions, or for week-end use by mixed groups. The 20-foot long bar faces a huge fireplace.

The Rosewood Room, a quiet area, is a flexible space for card playing and private dining. A wall pushes back and an unseen bar emerges ready for use. All wood trim, doors and the bar are of rosewood.

The Print Gallery is a light-flooded corridor connecting social activities area with golfing activities. Famous prints of sporting events will be displayed here. One special wall is reserved for a changing exhibition of outstanding works of art.

As far as the course itself is concerned, the 18th green will be located in front of the clubhouse where vast windows will overlook it. The present 5th hole will become the new 18th, and the present 6th is being modified to become the 10th. The old 18th, remembered as the place where Sam Snead went to his downfall in the 1939 Open, becomes the 3rd hole. The 5th green will be retained for practice.



This is how men's locker room will look upon completion.

Devises Adjusted Callaway System of Handicapping

John Frederick, member of the Woodholme CC, Pikesville, Md., where C. T. (Mac) MacMaster is pro, devised an adjusted Callaway handicapping system which worked out extremely well last year in tournaments where established handicaps weren't available.

Rather than make deductions on the basis of one or more of the highest hole scores turned in by the player, Frederick bases his handicap system on only a single highest hole score. A progressive series of multiples of players' gross scores then determine their handicaps. Based on Par 72, the Frederick system works like this:

Gross Score	Deduct	
73	1/3 of 1/2 of highest hole score	100 3.0
74	2/3 of 1/2	101 3.1
75	1/2	110 4.0
76	.6	111 4.1
77	.7	120 5.0
78	.8	121 5.1
79	.9	130 6.0
80	1.0	131 6.1
81	1.1	140 7.0
82	1.2	141 7.1
90	2.0	150 8.0
91	2.1	151 8.1 etc.

Although the above table doesn't show handicap multipliers in their entirety, it is a simple matter to interpolate between the gross scores shown and arrive at the proper deductions. For example, an 82 gives the player a 1.2 deduction of his highest hole score, and an 89, a 1.9 deduction.

Golf Writers' Tournament

Fourth annual Golf Writers' championship will be played Apr. 1 at the Dunes G and Beach club, Myrtle Beach, S. C. Des Sullivan of the Newark (N.J.) Evening News is defending champion.

Ellinor Village Seniors

The first annual Ellinor Village CC Seniors tournament will be held in Ormond Beach, Fla., Apr. 12-14. All entries must have regular home club or association handicap card or a letter from their pro certifying handicaps.