



There's no monotonous waiting at Bellefonte CC with plenty of sports to keep kids occupied.

Fringe Benefit

Bellefonte Has Recreation Program for Caddies

MORE than a decade of undreamed of prosperity in the U. S. has resulted in almost critical scarcity of kids who are willing and able to come out and breathe pure unadulterated countryside air and carry golf clubs for their elders. Probably too many club officials have taken a ho-hum "We'll have to get along without 'em" attitude over the caddie shortage, but not those at Bellefonte CC in Ashland, Ky.

There, they have gone out and recruited kids to carry clubs by promising not only good pay but fringe benefits in the form of fun for all. This latter means plenty of recreational facilities.

To start with, Bellefonte's caddie room is air conditioned and it is equipped with shower stalls where the boys, after sweating through 18 holes in the muggy weather that sometimes settles on Ashland, quickly refresh themselves by basking under the taps.

But more important in the estimation of Ernie Hoggarth, the club pro, and the boys themselves, are the many diversions the kids can find in the fenced-in caddie yard. There are to be found basketball and volley ball courts and horseshoe pits while only a short distance removed is an area where the boys play baseball or softball or can pass or kick a football around. There's activity going on in these two locations practically from sunup to sundown with the result that waiting "to

get out" is no longer a monotonous and wearisome ordeal.

Recruited Through Schools

When Hoggarth and Bellefonte club officials set up their caddie program in 1954, they went about it in thorough fashion. First they decided upon a desirable list of qualities they wanted in their caddies and then approached nearby high school authorities and asked their help in recruiting the kind of boys they sought. In the meantime, the caddie clubhouse and play yard were being put in shape. When a sufficient number of boys signed up to carry clubs at Bellefonte, the officials lined up Dan Cheatham, a retired local power company employee, to take charge of the program.

Dan, an affable, sprightly fellow who has no inclination whatever to bow to age, quickly became a favorite with the 140 kids who work at Bellefonte and his word although usually soft spoken, is law. To give an idea of just what kind of influence Cheatham exerts on his young charges, there hasn't been a stick of caddie room furniture broken in the three years he has been there. Dan ordinarily runs things from behind the snack bar (where all items are sold practically at cost) but occasionally he moves outside to referee some of the various contests that are going on.

"Here," says the Bellefonte caddiemaster,



Caddiemaster Dan Cheatham dispenses a lot of valuable advice along with soft drinks.



Adolph Rupp, Kentucky U basketball coach, may do well to keep eye on caddie crop in Ashland. There's promising material here.

"we have the kind of a youth program going on that other clubs and communities would do well to copy. I take my hat off to our members for getting behind it." Dan concludes his observations on the program by saying it will be a complete first flight success the day a local caddie is chosen for an Evans scholarship.

Bellefonte members, though, don't take as much credit for setting up the program as Dan would like to give them. They remind you that they got behind the idea because, first and foremost, it relieved them of the burden of lugging equipment around the course. They're happy that plenty of boys are available to do that. But, at the same time, they're pleased and just a little proud of the fact that they have helped make it possible for 140 boys to make money and have a lot of fun while doing it.

Everything's Listed in
BUYERS' SERVICE
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Expect 1500 to Attend GCSA Conference in Washington

Superintendents and other turfmen will gather in Washington, D. C., during the week of Feb. 2-7, 1958, for the 29th national Turfgrass Conference and Show of the GCSA. Attendance of over 1500 from U. S., Canada and Mexico is expected. All activities will be in The Shoreham Hotel.

An educational program covering all phases of course management will highlight the week's activities. Special emphasis will be placed on development of techniques for this specialized field. Henson Maples, Supt. at Pinehurst (N. C.) CC, is chmn. of the education committee.

The Equipment Show, always an outstanding feature of the annual meeting, will provide visitors an opportunity to inspect and discuss equipment with manufacturers' reps. Many firms use the GCSA show to introduce new and improved products.

Local hosts for the meeting will be Mid-Atlantic GCSA which has plans for extensive entertainment of the ladies and the many children who are expected to come to Washington.

Program details and information on available space at the show can be had from the GCSA, Agar M. Brown, secy. P.O. Box 106, St. Charles, Ill.

GCSA Places Two Scholarships at Penn State Winter School

GCSA has placed two \$100 scholarships with Pennsylvania State University for the Turfgrass Management winter school of the College of Agriculture. The course consists of two eight week terms in both 1957-58 and 1958-59 with employment in a specialized turfgrass field from April 14 through October 18, 1958. Recipients of the scholarships shall be chosen by Penn State University and meet requirements set up by the school's scholarship committee.

Besides the Penn State scholarship, the GCSA Scholarship and Research fund has set up a \$400 scholarship at Purdue University and a \$500 research grant at UCLA.

1958 Western Amateur

The 56th Western Amateur will be played Apr. 10-16 at the CC of Florida, Delray Beach, immediately following the 1958 Masters, according to Carleton Blunt, WGA pres. Dr. Ed Updegraff of Tuscon is defending champion.