

Detroit Report Tells Status of Caddie Fund, Membership

Annual report of the Detroit Dist. Golf Assn., which is observing its 40th year of operation in 1959, shows that there is a record total of 90 caddies attending college on scholarships made available through the Standish-Evans program. One-third of these are newly appointed scholars. Caddie students at both the University of Michigan and Michigan State University are housed in properties wholly owned by the Assn.

DDGA's membership is composed of 41 clubs in the urban area and 19 out-state clubs. Five clubs were added in 1958. Increased interest by all clubs in green section meetings, use of handicap cards, caddie welfare and in tournaments sponsored by the District was particularly noticeable during the past season.

Detroit did not join with the Chicago or Southern California associations in breaking with the USGA on handicapping procedures. Several reasons were given for not adopting the Equitable Stroke Control system championed by the two dissident groups. Among them is the belief that ESC is too difficult to administer. DDGA also feels that establishment of a uniform system of handicapping is the prerogative of the national body.

Seventy-four tournaments were sponsored or promoted by Detroit in 1958. Three of these were national events. The report shows that play at six Detroit Municipal courses increased by more than 44,000 rounds between 1957 and 1958 and that play at Detroit and outstate private clubs was up considerably in 1958 over 1957.

Ten Golfers Get Awards from Metropolitan Writers

Several well known golfers were honored at the national award dinner of the Metropolitan Golf Writers Assn. held at the Hotel Plaza, New York, in January. They included Charley Coe, 1958 amateur, Tommy Bolt, winner of the 1958 USGA Open title and Dow Finsterwald, professional golfer of 1958. Charley Boswell was given the Ben Hogan trophy, presented annually to the person who overcomes handicaps and continues to play golf. National senior awards went to Tom Robbins and Mrs. Harrison Flippen and local awards were given to Robert Gardner, Mrs. Judy Frank Jablow, Sam Petrone and Edward Smith.

Supts. Tell Preferences in USGA Research Survey

Results of a survey made by the USGA Green Section under the direction of Marvin H. Ferguson shows that supts. feel that turf research, for the most part, should be concentrated on six different projects. They are: Physical studies of soils; Variety improvement; Nutritional studies (both fundamental and field); *Poa annua* control; Disease control; and Weed control (not including *poa* and crabgrass).

Altogether, 32 research preferences were listed by the 37 supts. who took part in the survey. Other suggestions for research that were mentioned frequently are (in this order): Nematode studies; Thatch control; Irrigation studies; Rooting characteristics of grasses; Cutting methods and equipment; Salinity tolerance; Crabgrass control; and Combination warm season-cool season turf.

Orlick Extended Season with Unique Tournament

In order to extend the playing season last fall, Warren Orlick, pro at Tam O'Shanter CC, Orchard Lake, Mich., held an interesting tournament at his club. He invited any golfer who had played from 1953 on with him or his assistants in any Pro-Am, Pro-Ladies or Pro-Junior event to participate. Also invited to compete were all persons who had played in a pro-member event. Orlick donated two draw prizes, a set of woods and a set of irons in addition to more than a dozen gross and net prizes. No entry fees were charged because as Orlick expresses it, sometimes you have to give a little to get some back.

Although the tournament was played as late as Oct. 26th, the turnout was larger than anticipated.

Limit Women's Am Field to 128

USGA has established a limit of 128 contestants for the Women's Amateur championship which will be played at Congressional CC, Washington, D. C., in August. This will reduce the match play event from eight to seven rounds. The 1959 field will consist of the 128 entrants who have the lowest USGA handicaps to the limit of six strokes. If there are not enough places for applicants in the highest handicap bracket, selection will be by a blind draw. A list of alternates also will be established by draw.