

Here is a drawing of the Luke Morris designed "Speed Links" at the Augusta, (Ga.) Golferama. Par is 36; yardage, 3100.

Put Final Touches on Miami's Revolutionary "Speed Links"

Under construction at Miami Springs public course, owned and operated by the City of Miami, Fla., is a unique "Speed Links" designed to reduce the frustration that walking and waiting impose on golfers. The new links are expected to open this fall.

Time tests indicate the average 80-shooter takes about four hours and 20 minutes to play an 18-hole match — but only 20 minutes of it are involved in actually addressing and swinging at the ball.

Luke Morris' Idea

A patented idea to improve on this situation, the Speed Links is the brainchild of Luke Morris of Decatur, Ga., a veteran

golf pro.

As designed by Architect Dick Wilson of Delray Beach, Fla., the Miami Springs Speed Links will provide 9 holes with a total par of 36 and a distance of 3,070 yards — but only three tees and three wide fairways.

Built on the site of portions of four former fairways on the regular back nine, the new links will have plenty of character with dog-legs, trees, water and sand hazards. Grading, landscaping and seeding on all nine greens and the fairways already is completed.

From each of three tees on the course,

players will drive three balls — one to a short par 3, another to a medium length par 4 and a third to a lengthy par 5. Playing the closest ball first, whether it is a second shot at one of the long holes or putting on a shorter one, the 80-shooter, theoretically, will be able to complete one nine in an hour and four minutes.

Just in case the new design doesn't catch on the addition of a few tees can easily convert the course into an excellent

Par 3 layout.

Several Changes Made

To make room for the experimental course, revamping of several regular fairways was necessary. The 13th and 14th were built on virgin land northwest of the course. The 15th, a stiff par 5 dog-leg, was straightened out slightly and lengthened by 10 yds. New number 12 slants across the old 14th fairway. The new 11th hole occupies much of the former 13th and 12 is now 10.

Par on the back nine remains at 35 but 55-yards have been added, lengthening its distance to 3,220 yds. and a total of 6,320

for the 18.

Total cost for the Springs' projects will be \$125,000.

Midwest Field Days

Fall field days of the Midwest Turf Foundation will be held at Purdue University, Sept. 15-16. The first day's program, to be held on Thursday, will be repeated on Friday.