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Michigan's 43rd Report Tells of Increased Golf Activity

In its 43rd annual report, released in January, the Golf Assn. of Michigan points out that there was an increase in playing activity in 1961 over the previous year at most of its 66 member club. A total of 41 metropolitan Detroit and 25 upstate clubs are affiliated with the organization which, until about a year ago, was known as the Detroit District GA.

The report covers the GAM's caddie welfare setup, handicap system, green section activity and tournament results in addition to giving a breakdown on the dues status, assessments, green fees, locker, swimming and guest fees and membership costs at the various clubs in the association.

Here are some of the highlights of the report:

Recommended caddie rates range from \$2.00 to \$2.50 for 18 holes (single) and \$3.50 to \$4.50 (double) for A, B and Captain class caddies. Caddies who accompany golf cars — \$2.00, 18-holes single and \$3.50, 18-holes double.

Year-Around Caddiemaster

Hiring of a year-around caddiemaster to supervise the caddie program. Adequate caddie houses, reasonably priced food and beverage facilities, well organized sports programs and incentive programs are recommended for the club carriers;

The association has wholly owned Standish caddie scholarship houses at the U. of Michigan and Michigan State. Persons who donate \$100 to the scholar-



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ship fund are enrolled in the newly established "Par Club". GAM has 110 boys attending school at four Midwestern universities;

The handicap committee has completed plans to include members at outlying clubs in handicap computations. The district's rating team revised figures on several courses in 1961.

More than 200 youngsters were active in GAM's Junior program. The 1961 girls' champion was Cindy Liddell and Bill Newton won the boys title. Of the 141 entrants in the state qualifying for the U.S.G.A. Junior Championship, 92 were from GAM clubs. Lochmoor in Detroit will be host to the national Junior Championship in 1962.

The green section report contains ex-

tensive information on the kind of turf at member clubs and gives a rundown on cutting heights, mowing frequency, watering, fungicide treatment and fertilization. A maintenance report compiled from figures supplied by 40 clubs is included in the green section survey for each of eight months and shows that 17 per cent of the maintenance depts' man-hours is diverted to non-golf activity. GAM again contributed \$1,000 in 1961 to the Michigan Turf Foundation;

The tournament bureau for the 25th year served as a clearinghouse for state golf events. It also sponsored or had a hand in conducting 110 tournaments last year and this year will assist in four national events as well as run its regular schedule.