

## Scalzo, Graves Baskin Were 'Up' for Big Tournaments

In the judgment of members and practically all of the players who were the clubs' guests, the three major championships of the year were played on golf courses in perfect condition.

The National Open at Oakmont CC in suburban Pittsburgh, the Masters at the Augusta (Ga.) National GC and the PGA at Aronimink GC, in suburban Philadelphia, represented victories for course supts. as skillfully accomplished (and maybe as lucky) as the triumphs of Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer and Gary Player.

But who, outside of club members and their colleagues in golf course business, knows Lou Scalzo, supt. of Oakmont, John Graves, supt. of Augusta National, and George Baskin, supt. of Aronimink? Probably not even Nicklaus, Palmer and Player ever met any of the three.

The supts. are on the job working while the players are taking bows before cameras and acknowledging the prize money for four rounds of work. The money amounts to a great deal more than any of the supts. get for 365 days and nights of work and ulcers.

The USGA shows appreciation of this situation. At a dinner prior to the Open's first round, USGA Pres. John M. Winters, Jr., referred to the work of Oakmont's supt., Lou Scalzo, and introduced GCSA pres., Sherwood Moore, who presented Scalzo with the supts' association plaque. The USGA says it to the Open course supt. with a cash bonus and cash always speaks reassuring words.

### Guards Oakmont Prestige

Scalzo succeeded to the job of the late "Dutch" Loeffler who was regarded by his colleagues as one of the greatest in their ranks. Lou enjoys the same high rating. Oakmont practices haven't been changed much.

Scalzo had the greens cut at 1/8 inch for the Open. The greens (and tees) were fertilized every three weeks with Milorganite. The watering program is not on any fixed schedule. Lou and his experienced staff water whenever they

think the greens need watering. The greens are kept on the firm side.

The putting surfaces are rolled with a 75 lb. roller each morning after cutting so the greens will be fast. They certainly are — and as true as a billiard table. Acti-Dione Ferrated is used on the greens once a week, sprayed as a preventive fungicide.

George Baskin helped build the Aronimink course in 1927. Donald Ross was the architect. George stayed with Alec Braca, Aronimink's supt., until 1930. Then he went to Hampton (Va.) GC as supt. In 1934 he returned to Aronimink to manage that course.

Joe Capello, Aronimink's pro, has been

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### Modernized Label

The USGA executive committee has queried members of the green section staff and committee regarding proposals that the section's name be changed to one more descriptive of its function. There have been suggestions that the green section's name should be as direct and meaningful as names of the Rules of Golf, Implements and Ball, Championship, Handicap and other committees. Course committee is a new title that has been most frequently suggested.

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there since the club opened. Joe also had worked for Ross at Pinehurst. In Capello and his green chairman, James (Jumbo) Elliott, Baskin has a couple of partners and press agents of the sort to gladden a supt's. heart.

Elliott, internationally famous track coach of Villanova university, heads another fine team in the Baskin-green committee line-up at Aronimink. There are five on the committee. Their handicaps range from 18 to scratch. Elliott maintains that a course and grounds committee should have all classes of golfers represented. A great deal of consideration is given to women's play in the Aronimink committee's planning.

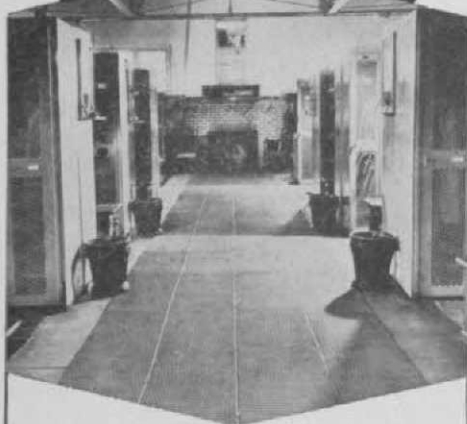
### Members Benefited

With the safeguard of a well balanced committee and a smart supt., Aronimink got broad benefits from the approximately \$25,000 spent on course alterations in preparation for the PGA championship. In some respects the course was made easier for most of the men

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## Superintendents Did Fine

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and women members while being toughened for the long hitters.

The Aronimink budget is "\$50,000 plus," Elliott says, pointing out that the budget has to be elastic because it is difficult to determine exactly what is a course expense and what is a ground expense.

### 44 Traps Knocked Out

In getting ready for the PGA championship Aronimink eliminated 44 traps, a few others were lengthened, several tees changed and borders of a lake altered. There was no interruption of play during construction work. Elliott says Baskin planned and accomplished the reconstruction so well that inconvenience and unsightliness of this sort of work were minimized.

In the autumn of 1961, Baskin put Agrico at the rate of 500 lbs. per acre on Aronimink's fairways and tees. In the spring he applied 400 lbs. per acre of Milorganite.

Aronimink's fairways usually are cut at 1/2 in. For the PGA championship the fairways were cut a trifle higher than 1/4 inch.

Baskin applied about 100 lbs. Milorganite to each of his greens early in April and repeated the fertilizing a month later in mid-June. He gives his greens a combination of Tersan and Calo-Clor once a week; maybe twice a week in August or in other hot, humid periods.

His greens normally are cut at 3/16 in. For the PGA tournament the cut was 1/8 in.

### Looks Like A Boom

So much golf course building is in prospect that some prominent architects are telling eager potential clients they'll have to wait. City of Westbrook, Me., for example, asked Geoffrey S. Cornish to inspect and report on site for municipal course but Cornish declined. "Too busy," he said. Addition of nine holes to existing nine or 18-hole courses is a feature of the current course construction activity. Many of these additions being built by supts. who already are working long hours in course management. Some of the additional nines are being built for less money per hole than the original courses.