

Maryland—Washington, D. C. Hurry to Catch up on Courses

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The Maryland-National Capital park and planning commission is taking action to alleviate the shortage of golf courses in greater Washington, D. C. and Maryland. Construction has begun on an 18-hole county layout in the northwest section of Montgomery County. The course will be known as the Northwest Branch Park GC. An additional nine is also in planning at this location, according to John P. Hewitt, director of parks for the park and planning commission.

The MNCPP Commission also plans to begin construction of two 9-hole executive (par 30) courses in Prince Georges County in the near future. One will be in the Oxon Hill area, the other near College Park. The commission now operates a 9-hole course in Oxon Run Park in Prince Georges County and another in Sligo Creek Park in Montgomery County, Md.

Montgomery County, Md., also opened

Architects Meet in Florida

The annual meeting of the American Society of Golf Course Architects will be held Feb. 11-14 in the Bellevue Biltmore Hotel in Clearwater, Fla.

a new 18-hole public course (Falls Road) in June, 1961. This facility, operated by the Montgomery County revenue authority, had 36,000 rounds of golf played on it during its first year of operation. Income after expenses and encumbrances (including debt service in the amount of \$17,763.00) was \$1,197.92.

State Has 91 Courses

As of Nov. 1, 1962, Maryland had a total of 91 golf courses in play. Of these, 83 are regulation length and 8 are Par-3 layouts. A further study of the state's golfing facilities reveals that there are 26 9-hole layouts and 57 18-hole operations in the following categories: 55 private clubs, 14 semi-private, and 14 municipal. Of the 8 Par-3's in play in Maryland, four are semi-private, three are private and one is a municipal.

New facilities opening in Maryland during 1962 were the first 9 of a planned 18 at the Tantallon CC, Fort Washington,



The check that Bob Mills (center) received for serving as secretary-treasurer of the Western Michigan GA in 1962 was donated to Eugene J. Johannsmeier (l) of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation to aid the research program that the Foundation carries on. At right is Roy Peck, president of WMGA.

and the first 9 of the planned 18-hole Aviation Yacht and CC at Chaptico. Courses under construction in addition to those being developed by the MNCPP commission, include: a third 9 at Turf alley in Ellicott City; a second 9 at Gunpowder CC, Laurel; a 9-hole semi-private operation at Cumberland and a new 18-hole replacement course for Five Farms CC in Baltimore.

According to National Golf Foundation statistics, the combined areas of the District of Columbia and Maryland now have one course for every 42,468 persons. Total golfing facilities in the nation as of Nov. 1, 1962, were 7070 courses (6521 are regulation length and 549, Par-3's). The national average is one golf course for each 25,376 persons.

Maryland and the District of Columbia rank 49th among the states in ratio of golf courses to population. Only Alaska has fewer courses per capita.

The ten leading states in new golf course openings in 1962, excluding Par-3 courses, were Florida 24, California 23, New York 22, Pennsylvania 19, Texas 18, Massachusetts 13, Alabama 11, and Ohio, South Carolina and Virginia — each 10.

PGA Changes Classifications

At the 1962 meeting of the PGA in Palm Beach, Fla., delegates voted to eliminate the Class D classification of assistants, substituting a new one, Class Junior A. Class C also was eliminated and Class B was expanded to take in former Class C members. Initiation fees for Class A and B members were increased from \$25 to \$100 and those for Class A Juniors from \$10 to \$50.