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OLD TIMERS

**Superintendent
Meridian Hills C.C.
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"Aqua-GRO has paid off. We don't have near as much worry about the greens drying out—I mean the water and the time it takes to syringe them. You don't have to syringe as often, and it doesn't take as much time.

"I started using Aqua-GRO three years ago because of the heavy clay soil. You'd get a rain and the water wouldn't penetrate. Especially on the #18, where there is just a little bit of a sway. Aqua-GRO seemed to open it up . . . the water is gone . . . it's wonderful on wet areas."



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set up this large a project.

A new target date for official opening is set for no earlier than Nov. 1, or no later than Dec. 1, 1963.

Expect Many Visitors

Economically, the announcement means that many thousands of new visitors and golf pros will visit the Palm Beaches annually to play the courses. There are 5,000 PGA members. More than 125,000 pieces of mail from the PGA will emanate annually from Palm Beach Gardens. Thirty staff members, and approximately 100 associates will be employed year-around to administer the total operation of the PGA.

Home sites are planned, surrounding the courses, and it is expected that a large number of the home sales will go to the pros and golf enthusiasts. Royal American Industries is in charge of these Sales.

The club and courses will be operated by the PGA for professional golf members. Membership will be private. Residents of Palm Beach Gardens will be permitted to play the courses on a daily fee basis.

Virginia Active in New Course Development

By HARRY C. ECKHOFF
Director, Eastern Region
National Golf Foundation

With the opening of ten new golf courses and additions in the last year, Virginia has a total of 150 courses of which 137 are regulation length and 13 are Par-3 layouts. A further study of the Old Dominion's golfing setup reveals that there are 84 9-hole facilities and 66 18-hole operations in the following categories: 102 private clubs; 41 semi-private and 7 municipal.

Among the new courses opened in Virginia in recent months were the following 9-hole layouts: Hanover CC in Ashland Nottoway River CC, Blackstone; Alleghany CC, Covington; Natural Bridge GC, Natural Bridge; Gordon Trent GC, Stuart; and Carpers Valley in Winchester.

River Bend CC at Great Falls, Va., and Aero Pines GC, a Navy facility at Oceana, each have opened a second nine for play. Bow Creek CC, 18 holes — a

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golf-real estate development at Norfolk also recently came into play. International Town and CC, Falls Church, Va., opened a second nine at its country facility near Chantilly, giving it 27 holes — 9 at its town club in Falls Church and 18 at its country layout.

More Under Construction

The following 9-hole courses are under construction in Virginia: Botetourt CC, Fincastle; Gay Hills CC, Galax; Bushfield CC at Mount Holley; and South Hill CC in South Hill. Tuscarora CC in Danville has a second nine under construction. Hot Springs and Colonial Williamsburg each has extensive golf expansion programs underway. Colonial Williamsburg is adding 18 holes to its existing 9 and has plans for a 9-hole, par 60 layout. On completion of the Lower Cascades course, Hot Springs will have a total of 54 holes in play at its popular golfing resort. Reston, a planned community of 75,000 people in Fairfax County, Va., is constructing an 18-hole golf course. At least two 18-hole facilities are planned for this development.

Three new 9-hole par-3 layouts opened for play in Virginia in 1962. They are

Par Three CC of the South at Richmond; Par Three CC of the South at Petersburg; and Brookside CC in Roanoke. There are now 13 Par-3 courses in operation in Virginia. Sterling Park, a real estate development near Falls Church, Va. (Dulles International Airport area), has an 18-hole Par-3 course under construction.

One for 24,446 Persons

According to National Golf Foundation statistics, Virginia now has one golf course for every 26,446 persons. Total golfing facilities in the nation now run over 7,000 courses. The national average is one course for each 25,376 persons.

Virginia has shown a consistent growth in new golf facilities since 1960. Ten new courses were opened in 1960 (six 9-hole layouts and four eighteens); 15 new courses in 1961 (twelve 9-hole facilities and three eighteens); in 1962 Virginia with ten new courses was among the first ten states in the nation with new golf facilities opened for play.

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