



## Court-Type Maintenance Building

In his 30 years in the course maintenance business, Offord Veal, supt. at LaFortune Park GC in Tulsa, has had to contend with just about every kind of an equipment building that man has devised. This includes everything from lean-to's to elongated structures, where everything is always located a mile or so away, to garages with leaky roofs where equipment and material are parked or thrown into a jumble in the center of the building.



But five years ago, when the LaFortune course was being built, Veal was able to corner a Tulsa park commissioner and outline for him exactly the kind of a maintenance building he wanted. Veal had his way and the court-type structure seen in the diagram on page 42 is the product of his design.

To put it in Veal's words, a building of this kind is something of a "Lazy Susan arrangement." That doesn't mean that everything is immediately on hand, but at least nothing is much more than 30 to 40 paces away. "It's the only way to build a maintenance building," says the LaFortune supt. "It must save us several million steps a year."

The LaFortune building cost \$37,000 to construct. It is enclosed on only one side, with the other two being made up of stalls in which such as fertilizers and topdressing are stored along with trucks, tractors and miscellaneous equipment from a park which is adjacent to the course.

#### **Concrete Block Building**

The entire structure is built of concrete block. The enclosed portion of the building has a 4-inch concrete floor. Four-inch steel columns, spaced at 15 feet intervals, support the steel beamed wood roof which is insulated with tar paper and roofing material. The supporting columns are 12 feet high. The building, both inside and out, is painted white. The court, covering about 2,500 square feet, gives ample room for maneuvering large pieces of equipment such as trucks and tractors.

The shop and storage areas that are in the enclosed area each cover about 450 square feet. There are three overhead lamps in each section and the shop is heated with a portable heater. Overhead doors, about 12 feet wide, front each section.

Offord and his assistant, Charles White, have a 15-man crew that not only maintains the 18-hole course, two practice greens and a 30-tee range but six baseball diamonds and a 30-acre park. Construction work is still going on on the large course and in the last year or so, the LaFortune Park maintenance department has been building a Par 3 which will be completed around Memorial Day.

The 260-acre LaFortune Park represents an investment of more than \$1,000,000, including land and improvements. It is estimated that about \$700,000 has been put into the golf courses, park clubhouse and other facilities. The park was given to the city six years ago by J. A. LaFortune.

The standard course's greens, each of which average about 10,000 square feet, are in Pencross, and U-3 is planted in the fairways. Each green at LaFortune has two holes and foursomes alternate in playing to them. From 250 to 300 rounds are played daily at the Tulsa layout in the busiest part of the season and revenue from golf in 1963 exceeded \$160,000. Twenty-five golf cars are available for the players.

Offord Veal helped supervise the construction of LaFortune. He came to the Tulsa course in 1959 after having spent several years as supt. at Dornick Hills in Ardmore, Okla. Before this he was employed at Indian Hills, also in Tulsa, and at the Highlands course in Billings, Mont.

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#### **No. Calif. PGA Committee Heads**

Nine committee chairmen were recently confirmed by the Northern Calif. PGA board of directors. The new committee heads are: Manufacturers' Relations, Joe Zakarian of Del Rio CC, Modesto; Junior Golf and Seniors Liaison, Joe Reboli, Richmond G&CC; Assistants, Al Maus, Los Altos G&CC; Publicity, Bob Badger, El Macero CC, Davis; Tournament, Rick Jetter, San Jose; Council of past presidents, Eddie Duino, San Jose; Northern Calif. PGA Advisory, George Gnau, San Francisco; and Education and Teaching, Dave Mancour, El Dorado Hills.

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#### **Publishes Iowa Golfer**

Iowa Golfer, a publication devoted to activities of Iowa amateur and professional players, will make its bow with the May issue. It will appear monthly from May through September. Bert McGrane, recently retired golf editor of the Des Moines Register, is the editor and publisher of Iowa Golfer. The annual subscription price is \$2. McGrane is located at 5709 Beaver st. in Des Moines.