



It Takes More Than Clubs . . .

'Pro Juniorizing' is only part of the solution . . .

Where will the kids play? Syracuse, N. Y. has an answer

Burnet Park's first green has narrow, rolling approach. Second green can be seen in the background.

On June 5th of 1963, Syracuse, N.Y., took a giant step toward developing top golfers in the years ahead, when it opened the first golf course in the country, and perhaps the world, exclusively for children.

Realizing a longtime dream, Mayor William F. Walsh began administrative preparations leading to the development of the 9-hole, tree-lined course shortly after taking office in 1962.

An abandoned municipal course (Burnet Park), on the city's west side, was reactivated and remodeled into a 9-hole course exclusively tailored for youngsters at an overall cost of \$27,000. This renovation included modernization of the clubhouse adjacent to the 9th green, revision of the overall layout of the former course and the creation of 4 new golf holes and complete reconstruction of 5 former holes. At the end of nearly a year's preparation, a 1252 yard, well groomed 9-hole course with par set at 27 was opened for Syracuse youngsters.

Memberships Available

Play for boys is limited to those between 8 and 15, while the girls may play through age 16. Green fees are \$.25 per

day, or \$4.00 a season for membership. Several hundred season memberships were sold during the first year of operation.

The course operates Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and is open April through October, with some readjustment of course hours when school reopens in the fall. On Mondays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon, the course is reserved for girls, due to the somewhat slower nature of their playing habits.

Two golf pros, Larry Murphy and Bill O'Leary of the PGA, are available each day to provide free instruction for youngsters during course hours. Children under 10 must be accompanied by adults. All children, regardless of age, must have at least one hour of instruction by the professionals, unless they have substantial prior experience in the game.

Make The Rounds

Both Murphy and O'Leary stress etiquette as well as golf fundamentals, during the sessions. In addition to giving lessons and supervising the course, Murphy and O'Leary take turns touring the course, offering on-the-spot advice to young golfers and insisting on good golf manners. A city policeman is assigned to maintain



(Above) Pro Bill O'Leary helps youngster get lined up on a pitch shot. (Right) Mayor William P. Walsh pre-tests a preen as Larry Murphy, Burnet Park pro, and other Syracuse city officials check the roll.

discipline and provide an added measure of safety.

Children using the course are required to furnish their own equipment, including a minimum of three clubs, plus tees and golf balls.

Both O'Leary and Murphy say that play has been excellent, with the young golfers learning very rapidly. Two holes-in-one were registered last season.

Gross annual operating costs were estimated by the city at approximately \$11,500. Revenue figures for 1963 aren't available, but it was estimated last June that the city would take in about \$2,000 in green fees.

Course improvements in 1964 call for the addition of a practice putting green. A city-wide tournament for youngsters is scheduled to be held in mid-August.

Speaking of the course, Mayor Walsh



said recently: "Nothing has given me more satisfaction, since taking office, than the development and success of this course. Recreation of this kind has had a tremendous impact and we are proud and delighted with the public response to the program."

Florida Turf Trade Show Scheduled for Late April

Florida's third annual Turf-Grass Trade Show is scheduled for April 30-May 2 at the Hotel Seville in Miami Beach and at the Plantation Field Laboratory of the Florida Experiment Station in Fort Lauderdale. Besides the exhibits and clinics dealing with turf problems, there will be a small business clinic covering such subjects as "Workmen's Compensation" and "Banking Services and Procedures." The trade exhibits and a special lawn care clinic will be open to the public.

Burnet Park Scoreboard

Hole	Yards	Par	Hole	Yards	Par
No. 1	223	3	No. 6	100	3
No. 2	110	3	No. 7	123	3
No. 3	105	3	No. 8	128	3
No. 4	137	3	No. 9	144	3
No. 5	182	3		1252	27