

MID-POINT STOPOVER



Golfers play 160-yard third hole at North Carolina CC with some trepidation. Green is not only surrounded by water, but is small enough not to allow much margin for error.

North Carolina CC, built in 1964, and 10th course in the Pinehurst area, offers plenty of hazards by way of the water, interesting tee situations and a semi-automatic system geared to irrigate the 7,000-yard course in easy stages

The completion in 1964 of the North Carolina CC course in Southern Pines brought to a total of 10 the number of layouts in the Pinehurst-Southern Pines area. Many vacationers, on their way from the North to the Florida sunshine, never get further than this mid-point, once they stop over and play a little golf on one of the tree-shaded courses.

The new course at North Carolina CC was designed by Ellis Maples, who over the past eight years has designed 25 top courses. Maples is a firm believer in designing a course as something superimposed on top of the existing terrain, and not as a creation of the bulldozer.

Lake Tapped for Irrigation

The front nine consists of rolling, sandy terrain. Some of the long leaf pines on this side are as high as 200 feet. The back nine lies around a 60-acre spring-fed lake, with unbelievably clear water. The lake is tapped for the course irrigation system, designed by Chick Hunter of

Southern Irrigation Co., Charlotte, N.C. The layout of the course is such that no other hole is visible to a player while he is occupied with play on a specific hole. The course is actually laid out as a rough figure eight and the overall length ranges from 5,600 to 7,000 yards.

Grass used for the course is a rather unique combination which Maples believes has not previously been used. For greens he has used Penncross bent. Tifton Bermuda (419) is planted on the fairways along with Weeping Love. Planting was handled by Southern Turf Nurseries. Greens, tees, and fairways are irrigated by a semi-automatic system that combines 27,000 feet of Transite water pipe, ranging from 8-in. to 3-in. mains, which feed 18,000 feet of plastic pipe 2-in. to 1¼-in. in diameter.

Fairway irrigation is accomplished through tapped couplings directly from the larger diameter mains. The plastic pipe is utilized to feed the pop-up heads that water the greens and tees. Irrigation of each tee and green is individually timed and manually controlled.

Three-Day Watering

The automatic part of the irrigation system is so laid out that one-third of the fairways can be given one-third of an inch of water during a nine-hour period. Fairway valves are coded in three colors — red, yellow, and white. Sprinkler heads are plugged into all valves of the same color for the sprinkling operation. Thus all the fairways can be watered over a three-day period, watering nine-hours nightly.

Sprinkler heads handle 80 gpm and cover a radius of from 90 to 100 feet. Five time clocks are spotted around the course, each of which can handle six fairway heads running at the same time. They are set, however, to turn on two sprinklers each, so that a total of ten are running at any one time. A total of 250,000 feet of control wiring is utilized to run from the clocks to automatic valves. This wire is buried alongside the Transite, running to plug-in outlets. Pipe is buried so as to give a minimum of 24-inches of frost cover.



Eleventh hole doglegs to the left. There is plenty of open space on the right, but if golfer pushes one too far he invites trouble. Sixty-acre lake is in the background. (Below) Pump house, nestled in the pines, was built of materials that give it a hunting lodge look and to blend with other structures on the course.





The 18th hole at North Carolina doglegs to the right, has just enough distance and hazards to make it one of the more interesting holes on the course.

As mentioned before, irrigation water is piped from the 60-acre lake through an 8-in. main. The pump house was constructed to look more like a hunting lodge than a pump house and blends well into the surroundings. The lake is 15 to 20 feet deep in some portions.

Some Tees Are Offset

Several tees at North Carolina CC are offset from the greens. In many cases the golfer is offered several options that make his choice quite difficult. Water hazards are widely used, some holes being either completely surrounded by water, or having water on three sides. The longest hole is the ninth, being about 590 yards. The third hole, 160 yards, is on an island and is accessible via a bridge. The eighteenth hole is a dogleg, and offers the option of attempting a long shot onto the green over intervening water, or taking a safe route from joint to joint of the dogleg.

Some members of the club actually live on the course, with the surrounding land, as well as the central area of the first nine, being subdivided into building lots. These lots are sold by invitation to members of the club, most of whom come from the larger cities in North Carolina.

Trap to be Installed for Property Protection

A sandtrap will be built on the seventh hole of the Brookside CC's golf course in Montgomery County, Pa., to discourage duffers from hitting golf balls into Albert B. Wrigley's backyard.

Wrigley, who collected 183 golf balls on his property last summer, went to court this spring to put a stop to the barrage.

The new trap was recently promised by the club as part of a proposed settlement of Wrigley's suit. The property of Wrigley, 31, an attorney, shares a boundary with the seventh hole fairway of the course.

Common Pleas Court Judge David E. Grohens ordered the club to devise an acceptable solution.

The club's lawyer, William A. O'Donnell, Jr., told Judge Grohens that the sand trap will be positioned so that golfers will be obliged to aim away from Wrigley's property. The club also will erect screening along the fairway boundary and move the seventh tee 40 feet eastward, altering the line of misfire.

Judge Grohens set Aug. 27 as the deadline for the club to make the changes.