

Golf Boom at Eastern Vacation Areas

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Many Eastern vacation areas and state and regional parks and municipalities are expanding their golf facilities to accommodate the rapidly growing number of golfers.

The pattern that is emerging is to build 27 or 36 holes of golf — 18 regulation length and a nine or 18 (frequently a long Par-3) or an executive type (with some Par-4 holes). Such variety of facilities provides courses that will be challenging and interesting to golfers at all levels of capability. It also lessens the probability of slow play on the more difficult layouts as individuals will tend to play the course best suited for them.

Some Resorts Adding Facilities

The Williamsburg Inn, Williamsburg, Virginia, which opened its new 18-hole regulation length Golden Horseshoe course in 1963, added a 9-hole par 31 executive type layout known as Spotswood late in 1964.

Pocono Manor Inn, Pocono Manor, Pa., has a fourth nine holes under construction with the opening scheduled for this July. Wentworth-by-the-Sea, a plush vacation spot in Portsmouth, N.H., has a second nine under construction.

Jekyll Island (Ga) GC, a state operated facility, opened a third regulation nine on Thanksgiving Day, 1964, giving it 27 holes of golf. It has another 18 on the drawing board. Tommy Bean, pro-manager, reports golf play averages around 10,000 rounds a month during the mid-January to Labor Day season.

Stone Mountain Memorial Park in the greater Atlanta area has plans for 36 holes of golf, 18 to be regulation length and 18 to be a Par 60 layout, with lights.

Saratoga Opens Two

Saratoga Springs, a New York state operation, opened a new 9-hole Par 29 course in 1964. A new 18-hole, 7090-yard regulation length layout opened for play in 1963. The state now plans a second

full sized 18-hole course to be completed by 1967.

Ski resorts also are adding golf courses in order to provide all-year recreation facilities. Among them is Mount Snow, Vt., which now has a 9-hole regulation length course under construction. Plan calls for 45 holes of golf — 27 regulation length and an 18 Par-3. Stratton Mountain, another popular Vermont ski area, also has a course under construction.

New Municipal Courses

Williamsport, Pa. will open its \$550,000 18-hole White Deer regulation length course in 1965. It also has a 9-hole, 1,353 yard Par 28 course under construction.

Huntington, New York, will open a municipal 18-hole regulation golf course in 1965; a 9-hole Par-3 is scheduled to open in 1966. Newport News, Va., expects to have a municipal golf operation by 1966. Included is an 18-hole regulation course and a 9-hole Par-3. This project is part of a 600-acre city park.

DeKalb County, Ga., will open its 18-hole regulation length "Mystery Valley" golf course (now under construction) in 1966. The course was financed with a bond issue.

Pennsylvania Leads Nation

Pennsylvania led the nation in new golf course development in 1964 with 35 new courses. Runners up were North Carolina with 34, California with 33 and New York with 28.

National Golf Foundation surveys reveal that more new golf courses were opened for play during 1964 than in any previous year in history. Total new course openings ran to 470. This includes 292 new regulation courses; 82 additions to regulation courses; 90 new Par-3 layouts and six additions to existing Par-3's.

Golf Museum Inspection

The private golf museum collected over many years by Jack Level (Golf Book Service), 42-05 Layton st., Elmhurst, L.I., N.Y., may be inspected at this address. There is no charge or obligation, according to Level. Appointments to see the museum can be made by mail.