

traffic on weekends certainly should not be overlooked.

From the point of view of a shot into a green, the pin should not be placed directly on the downslope or the back slope of a mound. An excellently hit shot with good spin may land on the downslope a few feet from the hole and kick off to the back. Had the shot landed a few feet further, it would have stuck at that point. The unfairness of this type of pin placement is evident in gripes heard at the 19th hole.

12 Feet from Fringe

In general, pins should be placed as the USGA recommends — at a relatively level area minimum of 12 feet from the fringe of the green and in accordance with the conditions of the day, but not in an unfair position to receive a well executed shot. Fairness and variety are the best guides to proper pin placement. There are no hard and fast rules for establishing pin placements. Yet, when the tenets of fairness, variety and observation aren't followed, many players, pro and duffer alike, voice dissatisfaction.

I recently attended two well publicized tournaments, the Canada Cup at Royal Kaanapali in Maui, Hawaii and the Crosby National Pro-Am. The courses on which these tournaments were played provided vividly contrasting examples of the proper and improper placement of holes.

Let me emphasize that my remarks are not made to be critical, *but to be constructive*. My observations have indicated that mistakes in pin placement are so general as to be a blind spot in the course management program.

Design Directs Pin Location

The Royal Kaanapali course typifies the philosophy of flexibility of a Robert Trent Jones design. This is particularly so with the greens. The greens are large and undulating. Though natural in appearance, the greens were designed with a definite purpose in mind. In general, the rolls and mounds on the greens guard pin positions. A trap may be placed in conjunction with a slope on the green so that a shot into the green will have to be accurate in distance and latitude to end up near the hole. The mounds and rolls

USGA to Hold Regional Green Section Conferences

The green section of the USGA will conduct a series of three regional conferences in Pittsburgh, Mar. 22, St. Louis, Mar. 24, and in San Francisco, Mar. 26. Each meeting will deal with the subject Fairways and the Rough. Among the categories to be discussed in speeches and by panels are: fairway conditions the good player wants and expects; Techniques for efficient maintenance of rough grasses; Trees and shrubs in the rough; and Renovation and Irrigation of fairways. Sessions are scheduled in each of the three cities from 10 am to 1 pm and from 2 pm to 4 pm. Chairmen will be: Pittsburgh, Fred Brand, Jr., St. Louis, Joel Loveridge; San Francisco, Lynn A. Smith.

of the green prevent most of the poorly played shots from ending up near the hole.

The first day of the competition of the Canada Cup was the first annual world Pro-Am in which I participated. The greens had just been brought into shape under the direction of my father, O. J. Noer and J. D. Kilpatrick, supt. It became obvious as we played the first few holes that the pins had been set in extremely difficult and, in some cases, unfair places.

Keep Off of Slopes

It is not the intention of the designer to have the pins set on the slopes leading up to a pin position, but this was the case on many of the greens that day. These slopes, which exist on a large contoured green, are similar in purpose to the small slopes approaching the smaller greens of a former era. A shot landing on them simply doesn't roll much further uphill. But to set a pin in these slopes is similar to setting it on the front of the approach of a green. It is unfair and is not intended by the designer. Putts will break so severely on these slopes that even the shortest putt will give the world's best pros the jitters.

There were many complaints among the
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