

How much equipment is enough?

In recent years, many of the newly built courses have suffered because adequate equipment for maintenance was not provided for in the original budget. By the time this shortage was discovered, a number of the new clubs hadn't the money to correct the mistake. Although most of them are doing well, it will be some time before the equipment deficiency is made up and maintenance operations made adequately efficient.

On the other side of the coin, it is not unusual for older clubs to lack adequate equipment. This is no joke in an era when it is difficult to get competent labor and therefore all the more necessary to save all the time and labor possible by the use of modern equipment. In fact, it may be costing some clubs more per year to be without such equipment than the equipment itself would cost.

But what is adequate equipment?

When GOLFDOM saw that the equipment shortage of newer courses, particularly, had developed into a serious situation, we asked The Clapper Co. and Sawtelle Brothers, two experienced golf course equipment and supply companies in New England, to prepare a list of equipment essential for operation of an 18-hole course (see page 52).

The list called for equipment that, in the spring of 1964 in New England, cost \$56,000, excluding irrigation. That exact figure, of course, won't apply now, but many superintendents, we feel, will find the list invaluable in budgeting for new courses or to bring older clubs into good operating condition.

Revisions of the New England list are, of course, advisable to make it applicable to other parts of the country. GOLFDOM sounded out several superintendents in key areas. Here is what they recommended:

Major Fred Bove, supt., Brentwood

CC, Los Angeles, Calif., thought that the list might better be identified as "suggested equipment" rather than "minimum" as it is here described.

Bove commented that the 7-unit tractor and mower outfit depended on the topography of the course. Both the 7- and 5-unit fairway mowers, he added, might well be backed up by reserve units, as heavy play now demands speeding up the mowing operation. This reserve mowing equipment also called for another tractor.

The 3-gang fairway roller, Bove said, wasn't needed on southern California courses. He also thought that wise use of money would be made in fitting the general construction type tractor with a front-end loader, and by making the power sprayer listed one with a boom for large area spraying, a 150 gal. tank and 10 gpm pump.

Bove suggested the addition of three powered scooters or utility cars, a brush chipper, a chain saw, a hydraulic lift metal trailer and a flat bed trailer. To the listed miscellaneous items, he suggested adding two cup cutters, a cup setter, a cup-cutting guide, wheel barrows, flexible drag mats and ropes. He also advised that acetylene and electric welding equipment, a power sander and two cranes should be added to shop service equipment.

L. W. DuBose, supt., Houston CC, Houston, Texas made the general comment that by and large this was still a good list. To the fairways and rough equipment he suggested adding 1 General Golf Type Tractor (\$3,200), and substituting 1 Fairway Aero Blade at a price of \$675 for the Fairway Power Renovator listed. He also thought that 1-5 Unit Fairway Gang Mower (\$2,500) should be added to the equipment listed for Tees and Greens.

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See chart on page 52

Minimum Essential Equipment for Standard 18-Hole Golf Course

(Prepared by The Clapper Co., West Newton, Mass., and Sawtelle Bros., Danvers, Mass.)

FAIRWAYS & ROUGHS (\$18,100)

1-7 unit Hydraulic Tractor & Mowers	7,000	1-Fairway Power Renovator	\$600
1-Dump Body General Golf Tractor	4,000	1-3-Gang Fairway Roller	700
1-5-unit Fairway Gang Mower	2,500	1-Fairway Aerator	1,100

TEE & GREENS (\$9,400)

6-Power Putting Green Mowers	2,500	2-Power Greens Aerators	2,000
2-Triplex Power Tee Mowers	3,000	1-Power Sickle Bar Trim	300
2-Power Tee & Trimmer Mowers	750	1-Power Vertical Mower	700
3-Hand Trimmer Mowers	150		

MISCELLANEOUS GENERAL EQUIPMENT (\$21,700)

1-Gen. Construction Type PTO Tractor	3,500	5-Rotary Trimmer Mowers	500
1-Dump Type Truck 2 - 5 ton	4,000	1-Power Sod Cutter	600
1-Snow Plow for Truck or Tractor	500	1-Power Spiker	400
3-Hand Broadcast Spreaders	50	1-36" Hand Fert. Spreader	100
1-Power Sprayer	1,500	1-Soil Shredder	1,200
1-Power Top Dresser	1,000	1-Power Saw	200
1-Jeep or small truck	2,500	2-Runabouts (gas Powered)	2,200
1-Proportioner w/nozzles & hose	200	1-Power Stump Cutter	450
2-Powered Leaf Blowers	600	1-Powered Fairway Sweep	1,100
1-Hand Sweeper	50	1-Water Ballast Roller	50
2-Fairway Fertilizer Spreaders (2 types)	1,000		

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS — HAND EQUIPMENT (\$3,000)

Axes	Pumps	Pruners	Funnels	Hose Tools	Soil Testers
Adzes	Snaths	Seeders	Crow Bars	Grass Whips	Snath Stones
Forks	Spades	Scales	Pullers	Sod Lifters	Soil Pluggers
Rakes	Shovels	Dusters	Tree Saws	Animal Traps	Soil Samplers
Jacks	Burners	Gas Cans	Sod Edgers	Snath Blades	Ladders

SHOP SERVICE EQUIPMENT (\$2,200)

Vise	Table Saw	Pipe Threader	Lapping Machine	Ventilation Fan
Welder	Arbor Press	Steam Cleaner	Bench Grinder	Bed Knife Grinder
Drill Press	Work Benches	Paint Sprayer	Air Compressor	Reel Blade Grinder

HAND TOOLS — FOR REPAIR OF (\$1,600)

Mowers	Roofs	Trucks	Roadways	Drains	Cement & Concrete
Sewers	Paint	Motors	Plumbing	Water Systems	Electrical Equip.

	COST	LIFE	DEP.	REPAIRS
FAIRWAYS & ROUGH EQUIPMENT	\$18,100	10	\$1,810.	\$ 905.
TEE & GREENS EQUIPMENT	9,400	5	1,880.	1,880.
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT	21,700	10	2,170.	1,085.
MISC. ITEMS—HAND EQUIPMENT	3,000	5	600.	120.
SHOP SERVICE EQUIPMENT	2,200	10	220.	220.
HAND TOOLS	1,600	5	320.	320.
	\$56,000	7½	\$7,000.	\$4,530.
	100%			
			12.5%	8.25%
			20%	

TEE & GREEN ACCESSORIES

\$3,000

IRRIGATION

Portable Sprinklers—Hose, Greens & Tees \$3,000

Underground Complete Systems

Manual—\$50,000. Semi-Auto—\$60,000. Fully Automatic—\$70,000

EQUIPMENT

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DuBose pointed out that the prices listed for the irrigation systems would be appreciably higher today. For his area he would list only two—a Manual at \$60,000 and Fully Automatic at \$100,000. He did not think a Semi Automatic system would be suitable for use in Texas.

Ken Putnam, Supt. of Grounds, Seattle GC, Seattle, Washington commented that the list appeared to be quite complete for his area. He pointed out that the cost of some items seemed out of line. For instance, the vertical mower listed at \$700 would be purchased in his area for about \$200 (Ryan). He said that the automatic water system listed at \$70,000 would cost about \$85,000 now in his area. However, the last inventory figure taken at Seattle GC, Putnam said, showed a figure of \$55,000. So dollar-wise, he considered, the list was still very much in line.

Ted Woehrle, supt., Beverly CC, Chicago, Illinois, commented on the 7-unit

Hydraulic Tractor and Mowers in the Fairways and Roughs section on the list. He observed that you should never limit a tractor to one job and that you only need one 7 gang pull type and tractor. Woehrle suggested eliminating the 5-unit Fairway Gang Mower and adding one 7-unit Rough Gang Mower and one Ford LCG (\$2,500).

In the Tee and Greens section on the list, Woehrle considered that four Power Putting Green Mowers were enough. (The list shows six.) Under Miscellaneous General Equipment, he suggested reducing the number of Hand Broadcast Spreaders from three to two, and the number of Rotary Trimmer Mowers from five to two. He also suggested two Power Sprayers—one large, one small—not one as listed, and added two more items: 1 Power Sand Trap Rake (\$600) and 1 Trap Edger (\$200). Under Miscellaneous Items—Hand Equipment, Woehrle added 1 Shovel.

Charlie Danner, supt., Capital City CC, Atlanta, Georgia, made quite a few
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Palmer Enterprises add Japan to market

“Arnie’s Army” shortly will include the Japanese, along with American servicemen in the Far East.

Almost as good a businessman as he is a golfer, Palmer is president of his own company—Arnold Palmer Enterprises—which manufactures, markets and promotes a wide range of golf-related equipment, clothing, instruction materials, and driving ranges and putting courses.

An Arnold Palmer putting course, 18 holes complete in every detail, has been shipped to Tokyo.

Frank Abramoff, senior vice president of Palmer Enterprises who will supervise the installation of the layout in Japan, remarked at a recent press conference in the firm’s Pleasantville, N. J., headquarters, that “shortly the sun will never set on Arnold Palmer golf installations.”

There are almost 200 Palmer installations around the world. Most are built on franchise arrangement and operated under local control. All printed material connected with the courses is made available bi-lingually.

Palmer plans a chain in Japan. •

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changes in the list. From the Fairways and Roughs Section, he eliminated the 3-Gang Fairway Roller; from Tee and Greens section, the Power Sickle Bar Trim; from Miscellaneous General Equipment section, the Proportioner w/nozzles and hose and the Water Ballast Roller.

Additions suggested by Danner were: Two more Power Putting Green Mowers; one more Power Vertical Mower; for the Rough, one 5 gang Blitzer Rough Mower (\$1,500) and one 90 inch Whirlwind Rotary PTO Mower (\$1,000); one Power Topdressing Screen (\$650); one Portable Electric Generator (\$350); one 1 Ton Power Roller (\$1140); two Fire Extinguishers (\$125); and one Power Rotavator (\$500).

As regards irrigation systems, Danner thought the Manual and Semi-Automatic were unsuitable, at least for his area. He saw as practical just the Portable Sprinklers and the Fully Automatic Systems. •