

Good growth enjoyed by NGF

31 new members and a record attendance highlight success of its annual meeting in New York City.

The National Golf Foundation continues steady growth. At the Foundation's annual meeting in New York City, it was announced that total sponsor members as of April 1, 1967, number 162, up 24% during the last 12 months. NGF's associate membership for the nation's golf courses, begun in 1966, resulted in 242 courses becoming members.

Based on requests for NGF golf facility planning publications, interest in course development reached a new high during the past six months. Distribution of these publications is up 82% compared to the same period a year ago.

However, the continued shortage of mortgage money at reasonable rates and the severe winter have had their effect on course development. During the past six months, 82 new courses and additions opened for play in the U.S. This is 16% less than for the same period a year ago, when 98 courses came into play.

Many economists believe the tight money situation will soon ease. Recently, several leading banks in major cities throughout the nation announced decreases in prime interest rates.

It was also revealed at the NGF annual meeting that the nation's courses are



Standing, left to right, Bob Robinson, Leo McNamara, Jim Campbell, Bob Shaw, John Wright. Seated, Chuck Cummings, Elmer Blasco, Bill Davis, Tom Bryant, Tom Hughes.



Standing, left to right, Bob O'Byrne, Des Tolhurst, John M. Ross, Harry Obitz. Seated, Al Laney, Stan Weston, A. I. Wiswell, Morry Oliver and Fred Schmucker.

National Golf Foundation's officers for the year, left to right, Harry Eckhoff, Bill Bommer, Robert D. Rickey and George Herrmann.



becoming more crowded every year. As of the first of the year, there were 8,672 courses for 8,525,000 golfers — 983 golfers per course. The figure was 932 in 1965, 912 in 1964. Just 10 years ago, in 1957, the average was only 677 players per course. During these 10 years, courses have increased 56%, while golfers playing 15 rounds or more annually increased 123%

When one considers the current rapid golfer growth and expected population increases, it is obvious that more golf facilities are going to be sorely needed in the U.S. for some time to come. ●



Standing, Walt Brueggen. Seated, left to right, Jack Krigger, E. C. Tatum, E. C. Palsbo and Howard Gill, Jr



Standing, left to right, Don Krigger, Bob Abramson, Peter Fallon. Seated, Tom Oliver, Frank Perrella, Dick Young, Gurdon Leslie, Bill Kaiser and Joe DiFini.



Standing, l. to r., Martin Rosenberg, Carl Simone, Richard Mankey, Jack McGrath, Stan Kazmark. Seated, Bob Hughes, Sayre Ross, Emery Slaght, Paul Hopkins, Paul Jones.