

How we spruced up for the Illinois State Women's Amateur

BY CHARLES PRIBBLE

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We keep Quincy Country Club in top shape for our members all through the playing season. For we have a club reputation to maintain—as well as the course.

Quincy Country Club was organized in 1897. It has always been in the same location even though the course has been rebuilt three times. We have a tournament history almost as long as any in the country—dating back to 1902. Today, Quincy is regarded as one of Illinois' top playing courses—and most appealing to women players. That's one reason we had the Illinois Women's Amateur match play tournament back for the fourth time the end of June, 1968.

There are some great golfers in this group—and we are anxious to give them the best playing conditions. Therefore, about a month before this event we accelerated our maintenance pace.

Special Touches for the Ladies

Our plans included rebuilding four tees, enlarging them and resodding. Two holes were lengthened in the process.

For the tournament we dropped the fairways to 1" and went on a daily mowing schedule.

The program also called for bringing down the heights of the roughs to 3" from 4½" to 5" since the ladies don't like to hack out of the deep stuff.

Our 45 sand traps were carefully edged and raked just prior to the event.

Everything looked good as the 106 women arrived for the one-day qualifying round. Up to now, the weather was cooperating fine. However, tropical storm "Candy" hit the area and caused a 4½" rain during the night following Monday's qualifying round match. This forced postponement of play for one day with the resultant shortening of the match play schedule to maintain a Friday conclusion. The course was eminently playable the remainder of the week.

Winner of the event was Mrs. Paul Dommers of Belvidere, Illinois. Mrs. Raymond Vaughn of Bloomington in a practice round sank a hole-in-one on the 17th, where a new green had been put in play only a month before. We had a gallery of over 500 people each day.



Watering Plan

Our course is well irrigated. All eighteen tees and greens are supplied with water from the city. Some of our cast iron pipe has served fifty years. We try to water the greens every other night, depending on moisture. The tees are usually watered every third day. Normally we use six-hour sprinkling on the greens.

Our new greens are Old Orchard bent. Overseeding of old greens is with Penncross. Fairways are bluegrass. All new collars and tees are Merion. Roughs are bluegrass. We have brown, sandy loam soil here.

Our fertilizing of fairways utilizes 4 lb. of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet. This is made up of 1 lb. in the spring and 3 lb. in the fall. The collars and tees receive 6-8 lb. per year.

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