

NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY continued

front of and to the side of the regular greens. They would be smaller, but of the same consistency and family of grass as the primary greens on the course.

During busy seasons these greens would serve as an "alternate route," so to speak, for faster groups wanting to play through slower foursomes.

The faster players would simply elect to hit their approach shots to the passing greens, finish the hole out and proceed to the next tee ahead of the slower foursome.

While the passing greens would shorten the length of the hole, they would be competently designed to make them just as interesting because of their relatively small — about 5,000 square feet — size and contour.

These alternate greens would receive the same treatment as the regular greens, i.e., fertilizing, aerifying,

spiking, top-dressing, spraying, etc. They would be, in other words, a much more suitable playing surface than temporary greens as we know them. The second green could be utilized in many other ways even when the course is not inundated with golfers.

For instance, in the southern climes the alternate greens could be used while overseeding is being done on the regular greens and the winter-grass is still taking root. In the north, the passing greens could be used when weather conditions require the closing of the regular greens, especially in the colder months when the greens are most subject to permanent damage.

In all seasons, the alternate greens could be available for use when maintenance of the primary greens dictates that golfers avoid them for certain periods.

Assuredly, there will be extra costs involved in the construction of the second greens for they must be technically designed and sufficiently maintained to make them

acceptable for their intended purpose.

However, the benefits to be reaped could more than equate the expense, according to Amick, whose firm has designed or remodeled 40 courses during its 15 years of operation.

Speedier rounds, naturally, will enable more golfers to play a particular course. But the theory of second greens also means more business through the appeal of consistently puttable greens throughout the playing season.

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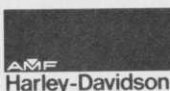
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