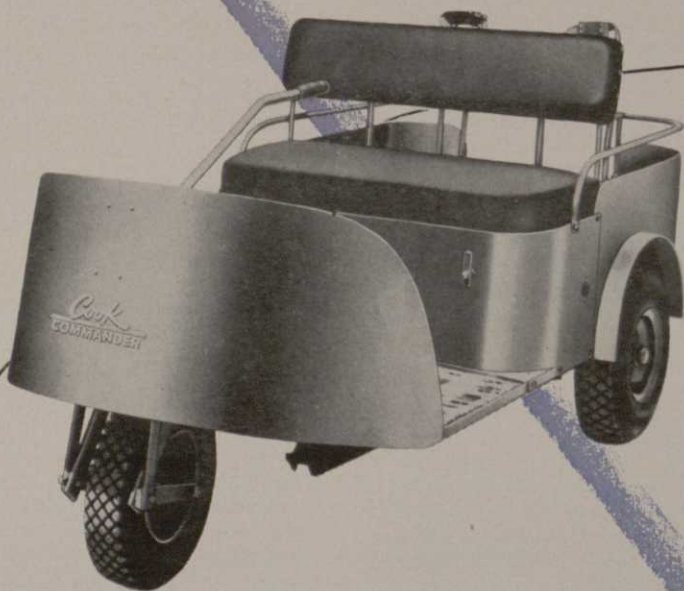


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9½ in. radius, the outer arc described by this circle would be the actual shape and amount of bulge in the faces of our wood clubs. Naturally, the factory has gauges to measure and check this measurement. It would be a simple matter for a pro or shop-man to obtain, or even make one. Then he would be able to check the results of his refacing efforts.

#### Refacing Wood Clubs

Refacing a wood club in a pro shop usually falls into four categories: The professional either recommends more or less loft, or more or less hook to the face. In either case, it would be wise to remove the face screws before applying the file. If the face screws are not removed, the heads and slots of them are apt to be filed down and destroyed. This would ruin the appearance of the club and make any future work on the club face an extremely difficult task.

After doing the desired work, the screw holes can be re-countersunk and the screws replaced. Any filing on a face, no matter how trivial, will remove some of the face scoring. It is therefore necessary to recut the face scoring with a jeweler's saw blade, sand the face lightly, and shellac it with clear shellac.

#### Refinishing Woods

Most pro shops are not equipped to do any refinishing of a wood club. It would be wise to send all refinishing jobs out to an approved finishing expert. Nevertheless, every shop-boy and assistant pro should have a smattering of knowledge concerning finishing processes and procedures. Many manufacturers still use a lacquer finish on all of their woods. Wilson still uses and recommends the more expensive, elastic and durable, varnish finish.

In doing any patching or refinishing, the shop-boy should know that he cannot and should not spray or brush lacquer over varnish, because the quick drying solvents used in lacquers will penetrate and destroy the varnish base, causing a mottled or "orange peel" effect. By the same reasoning, shellac, with a strong alcohol content, should not be used over varnish. On the other hand, varnish may be and can be brushed or sprayed over lacquer without any ill effects.

Synthetic plastics and sprays may and can be used as a "once over lightly" treatment, but in the long run, the field of wood finishing is so intricate and compli-

*(Continued on page 62)*

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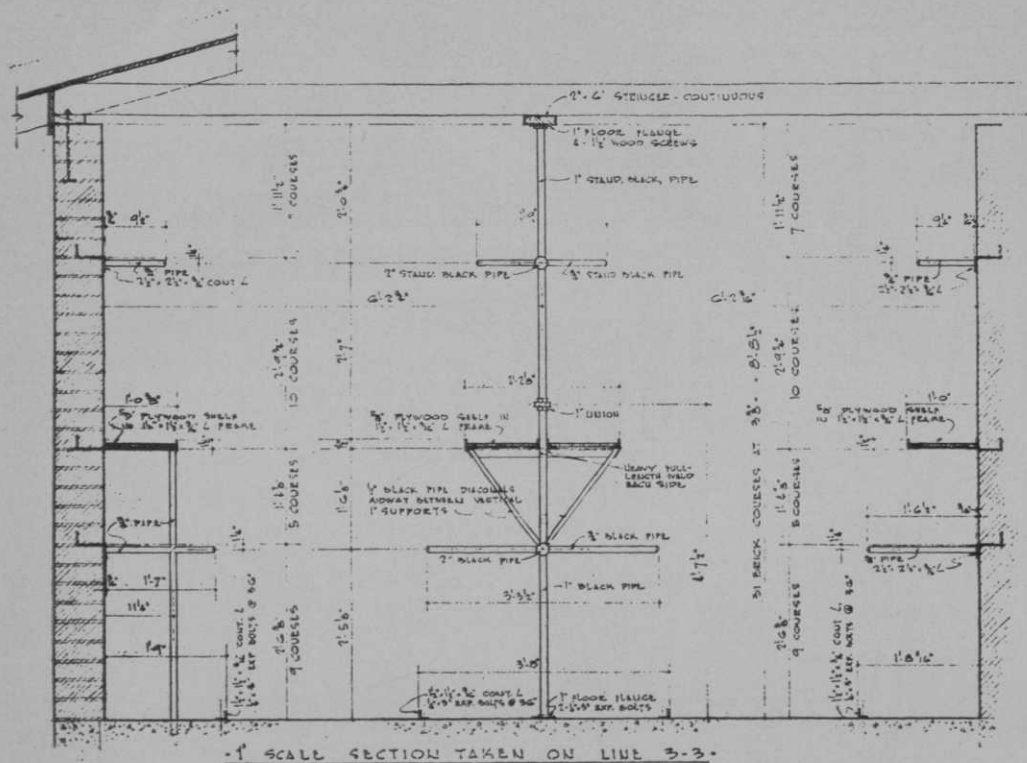
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## Upright Bag Storage Compact

The sectional plan and photograph of the bag storage arrangement at Tucson (Ariz.) CC where Errie Ball is winter professional, gives you an idea of what every pro who has seen the installation considers a great improvement over the usual horizontal bin storage.

Engineer and architect members at Tucson worked out the job with Ball. Upright storage, making use of pipe uprights and dividers, saves space, is economical to construct, is sturdy, protects the bags and solves the cleaning problem. Bags on the second deck are easy to handle.

Inserted in pipe framing are the  $\frac{5}{8}$  in. plywood shelves which constitute the second deck storage.

This construction has been in use for two years and is thoroughly satisfactory to Ball, his staff and to the members.

With a great deal of pro shop alteration and new building in prospect this upright bag storage arrangement is one that should receive studious attention.



# Seek "Fundamentals" In Teaching Methods

**L**ES BOLSTAD, professional at the University of Minnesota, is very much of the opinion that the search for "fundamentals" in the golf swing should be paralleled by exploration for basic elements in teaching golf.

In teaching golf to university classes and in comparing notes with other teachers on the Minnesota faculty Bolstad has been directed to some conclusions he has presented to fellow professionals. Several of his conclusions apply especially to group instruction.

Professionals at university and college courses often have remarked to GOLF-DOM's editor that their teaching has been greatly aided by teaching principles generally applied in education and which they have learned from men and women with whom they are associated on school staffs.

The outline that Bolstad sets forth as basic instruction elements he has found effective:

1. Developing a golf swing takes time. Whole learning speeds up the learning process. Work to a pattern. Stress pattern, movement, posture and getting set. Bring the details in later.

2. Group instruction inevitably leads to individual instruction within the group.

3. Group instruction offers a means of increasing pro revenue. You can charge more for the same time.

4. Much embarrassment disappears in groups when pupils see others having their troubles.

5. The group approach demands that you have a system which you explain over and over again.

6. The fact of individual differences shouldn't stop you from having a system and teaching plan of your own. Many individual differences take care of themselves. Some basic swing points help everyone.

7. Twenty golfers might as well hear your explanation and see your demonstration as well as one. There are certain elemental understandings every golfer needs.

8. Swing faults fall into a pattern.

Some few wrong tendencies predominate and come up with great frequency. They are: (a) the slice which comes from the open clubface, (b) presenting the heel of the club to the ball, (c) the indirect back-swing.

9. There is a great deal of repetition in group instruction as you make your telling points over and over. The individual problems provide the variety.

10. Habit breaking is one of the toughest problems. Some golfers tend to be habit bound; others, habit free. Before you can create a new swing habit you first have to break the old one.

11. The ability of the pupil to intelligently observe what goes on in a golf swing must be developed. This can be done in "correction sessions" where the group comes together. One golfer hits while the instructor interpolates and asks for constructive criticisms.

12. Habit formation should be one of your aims; in a golf swing you should relegate to habit as much as you can. This is where group drills come into the picture.

13. There is a language barrier. You have to learn to say each point in different ways so as to be sure to penetrate the understanding of your listener.

14. The same rules of learning which apply to the development of any motor skill apply likewise to the learning of a golf swing. An understanding of the principles of learning is as necessary as a knowledge of golf.

15. A forceful swing eventually looks easy if accompanied by the proper balance, an easy "let go" feeling in the body, and a rhythmic flow of motion.

16. The counter-clockwise exercise and the development in the swing which come from it are a necessity. You have to establish a control over the clubface. You have to know how to switch gears at the top of the swing.

17. A golf swing implies torso control. You can't develop a good swing on a poor base. Posture, body control, and correct body action are required assignments.

## Cotton Boll Humus Answers My Problems

By EVERETT SHIELDS

Supt., Druid Hills Golf Club, Atlanta, Ga.

Many times a year I am asked what I use for humus, to improve the physical composition of my turf. I use a humus known as Iro and in this article will tell why.

The problem of properly using humus is one that confronts most everyone in the turf and gardening fields. There are numerous theories and techniques involved. We all have a pet product, but progressive and conscientious superintendents are always on the alert for a product that will do a dependable job with less time and effort. I have used and experimented with several different products, including Iro for a number of years. Iro is finely granulated cotton bolls, manufactured by the Ira A. Smith Co., East Point, Ga. It was first marketed about 1940, and has proved to be a satisfactory answer to many of the humus problems.

I started using Iro in 1943. In the last 12 years of using and observing Iro, I find that it has aided me to have a better physical composition in my greens, which means less work for me and my men, and yet have a better golf course more economically. Some of the advantages of Iro I find are these:

1. Iro is almost 100% dry, which minimizes weed seeds, fungi, insects, etc.
2. Water holding capacity is 310%.
3. Nearly neutral on pH (6.6), which is outstanding in a humus.
4. Finely granulated.
5. Being dry it is easily distributed onto a green with a fertilizer distributor, quickly and economically. (Play not inconvenienced).
6. Easily incorporated into a green after distribution by sprinkling with water. Not necessary to aerify, aerate or spike in.
7. Due to its fineness of granulation it mixes and retains its position within top dress mixes if so used.
8. Has a definite nitrogen reaction to a topdressed area, although not recommended so specifically.
9. Being finely granulated it incorporates itself into soils faster.
10. Greens dressed regularly with Iro do not require as much water. Evaporation of surface water is minimized — with less water being necessary to maintain growth. Golfer traffic compaction minimized. Grass roots are deeper.
11. Economical to use; price is low.
12. As a holder of fungicides and fertilizer if you use a sprayer.

It is not advisable for me to specify any definite rates of application as the product has varied potentialities and any specific

recommendation by me may not be applicable to what someone else is trying to accomplish.

However, I do recommend light applications and as often as needed in preference to a heavy application for un-aerated putting surfaces, as the ease of handling and distribution makes it practical and golfer inconveniences are minimized.

For greens application I use the conventional type fertilizer spreader, and 100 lbs. is sufficient for approximately 6000 sq. ft. of putting surface.

I usually make a 90 degree distribution using a maximum of 200 lbs. per green per application as needed. This will vary with what you deem your green requires.

I prefer the humus treatments on my Bermuda turf. Unseasonal weather during our rye grass greens season makes any humus or organic application a gamble. These are the recommendations I am making for Bermuda and rye combination of greens.

There is no reason why bent and other fine turfs needing a humus can not be adjusted to the above mentioned advantages of Iro.

A humus problem is not for a novice and my suggestion to a person not knowing how, why or when to handle humus problems is to consult someone familiar with same, or do experiments to familiarize yourself with the product. One definite problem you will not have with Iro will be a pH variance. This in itself should make it an ideal humus for those who deal with turf, plants, trees and shrubs.

## Illinois PGA Outlines Assistant Training

Feature of the Illinois PGA Spring meeting program was accent on a definite program for training assistants. Joe Paletti, John Revolva, John Gibson, Stan Kertes and Tim O'Brien got the plan under way with a fine clinic on instruction that passed along the experience of older successful professionals and brought forth lively, informative discussion.

Attendance at the meeting was 150.

Al Thorpe of the Internal Revenue dept. spoke to the Illinois section on how pros can properly make out tax returns and take advantage of regulations made to give them a fair break.

Bob Rickey, MacGregor Golf sales. mgr. talked on fitting golf clubs and Al Robbins of Footjoy told how to fit shoes.

Dan Sheehan of the National Golf Foundation showed the new picture "Par for the Pro Department", prepared by the PGA Educational committee and the National Golf Foundation.

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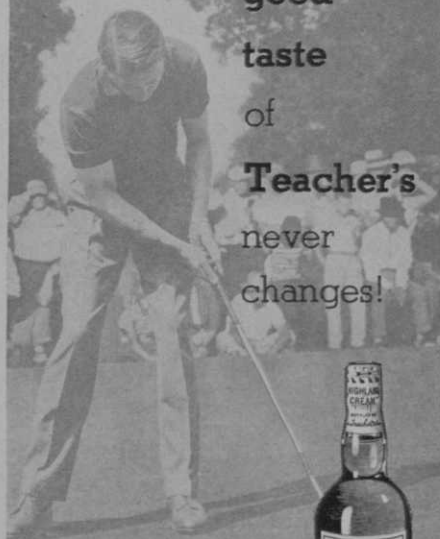
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## How To Avoid Accidents On the Golf Course

**M**ORE than 10,000 golfers, caddies and club personnel will be injured this year on America's 5,000-plus golf courses.

According to a recent study of golfing accidents by the Institute For Safer Living of the American Mutual Liability Insurance Co., the game is producing an average of two serious accidents per year per course. Rarely a day passes on any course when there are not one or more "nearsies" and "almosts" any one of which could easily result in a bad injury.

The points often overlooked by golfers, says the Institute, are that a driven golf ball travels better than 250 miles per hour and that a swung golf club speeds through its arc at a rate of 200 miles per hour. They discount the dangers of lightning, heat prostration, and sunstroke, and ignore the hazards of motor vehicles as they cross roads running through the course.

Most frequent cause of trouble is the golf ball itself, a hard shelled object that becomes a dangerous missile in flight. Damaged and lost eyesight, broken bones and concussions, resulting from being hit by a golf ball, appeared often in the survey. This hazard can be removed in two ways: Wait until the foursome ahead is out of range before you drive. Make sure the caddy who is shagging balls has the sun behind him so that he can see the driven ball as it comes at him.

Practice swings on the tee were shown to be the cause of many accidents, and in nearly all cases serious injury.

Getting struck by lightning while on the golf course was not a frequent occurrence. Yet, in more than 150 instances it struck down players and caddies, and in at least half the cases caused death. The Institute advises players to get off the course during a thunder storm. Don't stand under a tree. Don't rely on shelters. Best precaution, next to getting into your automobile, is to stand among many trees.

At least 500 golf course accidents resulted from players or caddies being hit by motor vehicles driving through the club grounds. Players and caddies make the mistake of feeling sure that the car driver is looking out for them and will give them the right of way. Courtesy, says the Institute, is the surest cure for golfing accidents. Watch out for the other players. Make sure where they are before you drive, before you swing a golf club.



# Turfgrass Questions Answered

By FRED V. GRAU

Dr. Grau will welcome questions on course maintenance subjects from superintendents, green chairmen, club and public course officials. There is no charge or obligation attached to this service. Address Queries—Grau, Golfdom, 407 S. Dearborn St., Chicago 5, Ill.

**G**OLF courses are looked to as the turfgrass proving grounds of the world today. A new product put forth for use at any area where turfgrass of high quality is desired cannot claim to have been proven until it has been accepted for practical use on a golf course.

The golf courses also are the show windows of everything required for the production and maintenance of fine turfgrass, whether for sports or residential or commercial use or other beautification and utility.

This vast and sharp focus of public inspection on the golf course superintendents' work, and the superintendents' powerful and far-reaching influence on the marketing of everything needed for growing and retaining fine turfgrass, has placed a heavy professional responsibility on the men who manage golf courses.

During World War II when it became apparent to military leaders that grass was a strategic engineering material, many golf course superintendents were called upon to assist in far-flung grassing projects. It is a credit to the profession that superintendents were able to convert and translate their knowledge of peacetime pursuits into something of great military value.

Seeds and stolons and sprigs of almost every grass that has or is believed to have turf value have been planted at one time or another on golf courses. Here they have been subjected to tremendous variations in soils, climate and management. Here only the hardiest survive to be called superior.

Machines designed for the maintenance of turfgrass areas receive the "acid test" on the golf course.

Those that are accepted and used regularly very soon are adapted for use on other areas for other turf interests. It has been said "the development and main-

tenance of a putting green represents the highest form of agriculture".

Golf course tees are similar in many respects to athletic fields where cleated shoes and constant trampling render grass growing difficult, to say the least. Fairways are closely akin to the kind of lawns that millions of folks would like to have. The rough on the golf course is like the city park, the highway strips or the local airfield in many respects.

The golf course superintendent can be secure in the knowledge that even though his authoritative position may not be publicly acknowledged and appreciated, millions of people depend upon the kind of practical grass information that he has helped to develop and accumulate.

**Q—I am a doctor and on occasions when I have free time I would like to be able to do some practice putting in my backyard. How do you build a backyard putting green? (Del.)**

**A—**The first thing to do is to consult with a local golf course superintendent who is the authority on putting greens in the area. The superintendent can look over the site and see if the location is suitable, if the soil is favorable, and other technical details.

Cost of establishing and maintenance may be important. In a few cases the superintendent may let one of his workmen care for the green after hours. If the green is to be bentgrass, the details of fertilizing, watering, mowing and spraying for diseases are too much for the layman and should be handled by the best professional turfgrass man—the golf course superintendent.

It may be possible that the local golf course may have a nursery of putting green sod which could be moved intact to produce the putting green quickly. To

grow it from bent stolons or seed would take the better part of a year.

If the green is to be used mainly during the heat of the summer it may be well to consider planting the green with sprigs of an improved Bermudagrass which spreads rapidly and needs little or no fungicidal treatments, is not easily damaged and in general will produce a more foolproof putting green for the home lawn. All Bermudagrasses lose their green color in winter and, in the more northerly areas, some may winterkill entirely.

Regardless of the kind of grass used, a putting green should be mowed every day or every other day. Occasional aerifying and vertical mowing will help to keep the green in good condition. These services are becoming available on a custom basis from landscape gardeners and lawn service firms so that a homeowner need not be obliged to purchase, store and maintain this specialized equipment.

**Q—I have been told that I can use hydrated lime on my bent greens to help control brownpatch. Is this safe? How much should I use? (Va.)**

A—Hydrated lime is a respected and proven practice to aid in checking brownpatch during hot muggy weather. It acts

in at least two ways, to rapidly change the pH (reaction) of the surface and to dry the grass, both of which check the growth of fungus.

To add more water as a spray at a time when an excess of moisture already favors the organisms is not the best way to check brownpatch.

A treatment that helps to dry the grass will help check the spread of the disease. Two pounds of hydrated lime to 1,000 sq. ft. dusted on and allowed to remain is considered a safe application. Avoid using any soluble nitrogen fertilizer within a couple days of using hydrated lime because this active form of lime will release ammonia gas which can cause grass burns.

**Q—Can one save the plugs from the aerifying of greens and economically put them into the soil bed of a new green? (Ida.)**

A—Yes. This practice is growing in popularity and it makes it practical to have "every green a nursery". One enterprising superintendent we know planted a new nursery and all his new greens with the cores from aerifying his bent greens of a superior strain.

It is well to use the thatch spoons in



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