



Joe Benner devised this method of club display about 10 years ago. Line of grooved brackets (center of photo) and small, round shelves just below them enable display man to get some interesting layouts.



(Upper right) Shirts and rainwear are displayed in individually marked section for easy selection. Mirror gives added flourish to lighting effects.

(Above) This is the back of the "U" section. Putters and wedges are shown at left and counter in center is used for selling balls and shirts. This section is hub of the shop operation.

(Right) In foreground is self-service glove counter which has identification plates at head of each bin showing styles and sizes. Counter is located in large "U" section of shop and is ringed by shoe and other displays.



## Southern California PGA Section Salutes the Deserving



Fay Coleman (above), 1959 Southern California PGA pro-of-the-year, received trophy and plaque as memento of the selection. At right are John Clock, USGA pres., Harold Dawson, secy. of SCGA and Guy Bellitt, pres. of SCPGA. Dawson was given honorary life membership in SCPGA for his service to golf and Bellitt was re-elected to head the SC section.



The 35th meeting and merit award dinner of the Southern California PGA section was held early in April at Palos Verdes CC with more than 200 pros and club presidents in attendance. The two leading awards were given to Harold Dawson and Fay Coleman. Dawson, executive secy. of the Southern California GA, was made a life member in the PGA organization for his services to the game. Coleman was recognized as the section's home pro of the year for 1959. He is located at Brentwood CC in Los Angeles.

Guy Bellitt of Whittier Narrows GC, South San Gabriel, was re-elected pres. of the section.

Joe Novak, Bel Air CC, L.A., was master of ceremonies at the award dinner. John Clock, pres. of the USGA, Wendel Alexander, pres. S. C. Public Links Assn. and Ray Pep, pres. of S. C. Junior Golf Assn. were among the notables who attended the affair.

S. C. PGA also gave a special award to Singing Hills CC, San Diego, for having the greatest number of participants in the 1959 National Golf Day.

The section's annual report showed that \$66,000 in tournament prize money was awarded in 1959's five Open events, 10 special events and 25 pro-ams. Jerry Barber was the leading money winner with \$4,378 and Jimmy Clark, who won \$2,820, was runnerup. The report added that S. C. PGA is the largest section in the U. S. with 318 members, 162 of whom have Class A ratings.

### Western Open in Detroit

One of the country's four major tournaments, the Western Open, will be played at Western G & CC, Detroit, July 14-17. This is the 57th playing of the event. A large portion of the proceeds from this tournament go to support the Evans Scholarship Fund for caddies.

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- New Yorker
- Social Spectator

Pete Pelcher shows a few putting tricks to Jim Duffy, his assistant. Pelcher's recommendation to his pupils: Practice putting anywhere — on concrete or a hardwood floor. The important thing is that you acquire the touch.



### *How Pros Teach III*

## **Be A 'Take Charge' Guy** **on That Lesson Tee**

**P**ete Pelcher, another member of the "50,000 Lesson Club" whose experience as a golf instructor goes back to wood shaft days, is of the opinion that many pros haven't realized their potential as teachers because they either don't know how or are reluctant to take full charge on the lesson tee.

Pelcher, who has been the headmaster at the rolling Davenport (Ia.) CC for 14 years, attributes part of this reluctance to the subservient position that many pros feel or imagine they are placed in because they are working for people who are civic or social leaders and are accustomed to a certain amount of deference on the part of those who work for them. "You might call it a slight touch of inferiority complex," explains Pete, "which doesn't really need to exist. If a pro has applied himself to being a capable and conscientious

teacher then he has developed a product, so to speak, that helps others. There shouldn't be any timidity on his part in using a certain amount of authority in selling it."

Reluctance to take charge of the lesson, Pelcher adds, also is due to laziness, indifference, lack of confidence and in some cases, simply because the teaching pro isn't a very forcible type.

#### **Depends on Pupil**

The degree of firmness or authority that a pro should exercise in giving lessons, Pelcher declares, should be dictated by the type of person he is teaching. As far as he is concerned, more than 90 per cent of members who take lessons are either easy to teach or eager to learn and instruction sessions with them usually come off in harmonious fashion. A pro, in such cases, goes along, neither trying to give



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Construction of Palmetto CC, Miami's newest course, was progressing from the blueprint to the building stage when this photo was taken. In it are (l to r): W. M. Porter, one of the owners; Shelley Mayfield, associate architect; O. J. Frank, building supt.; Dick Wilson, architect; and Henry Russell and F. B. Wagor, owners. The course is now being built and will be ready in November, according to present plans. It has two lakes and a 3,000 ft. waterway, giving course 11 water holes. Length ranges from 6,450 to 6,900.

the impression that he is the man in charge, nor that he is overawed by the importance of the person who is his pupil. Whether it's a housewife or the town banker, he just teaches.

But with the other 10 per cent, the situation may be just a little different. Pupils in this category require a little study on the part of the pro as to their temperament, willingness to learn and similar factors. They include persons who want to teach the pro, those inclined to let their minds wander in the midst of a lesson, people who don't have much confidence because they aren't athletically inclined, and that sort. You have to be firm with these people, often snapping them back with what amounts to gruff commands or treatment. "Some of them naturally resent it," Pelcher observes. "In fact, some of them become quite irritated with you and stay that way for 10 or 15 minutes, but eventually they get over it. Luckily, you're going to find that practically all of your players are intelligent enough to know that you are trying to help them."

#### Sensible Approach

In his zeal to show who is boss on the lesson tee, the Davenport golfmaster warns, the pro can't have a belligerent or blustering attitude. Members soon re-

sent that and it can quickly lead to job hunting. As Pelcher defines it: "You have to be positive, but not aggressive. If you've had a little difficulty in the past in teaching some of your members, you and not they, have to be the first to forget it. Everytime you go out on that lesson tee, your own attitude should be that you are starting from scratch regardless of what may have happened in the past."

Pelcher, who operates a 5-net downtown winter school, and has been doing so since 1950, is probably more thoroughgoing than most pros. A large percentage of his lessons are preceded by a brief skull session with the pupil in which perhaps two or three of the latter's rounds are reviewed. In not more than a few minutes of this, a pro can pretty well decide just what part of the player's game needs re-touching. About 75 per cent of the time it is his short game.

Except with Juniors and young people who are just starting to play golf, Pete Pelcher teaches to correct faults. His theory is that most people who get around to taking lessons from a pro have so many ingrained swing habits that it is practically impossible to eliminate them. So, the only hope is to get them straightened out as much as possible.

*(continued on page 118)*

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# Fairway Maintenance

*How a season-long program based on proper timing and calculated risks can produce durable turf that stands up under all kinds of weather and conditions*

By **ROBERT M. WILLIAMS**

Supt., Bob O'Link GC, Highland Park, Ill.

**M**OST of us probably have been so preoccupied in recent years with the care and handling of greens that we have overlooked to some extent the maintenance of what constitutes about 85 or 90 per cent of the golf course proper — the fairways. Not that I think that the fairways I have seen at numerous courses around the country are in danger of going to pot. They're not. It's just that I think that it is occasionally good for us to stop and take stock of our methods of maintenance and improve where we can.

When I transferred from Beverly CC in Chicago to Bob O'Link last year, I did a lot of thinking about an improved fairway maintenance program. The turf at my new club was about 50 per cent creeping bent and 50 per cent annual bluegrass. Irrigation facilities were limited since we could water only from midnight until 6 a.m. at a capacity of 450 gpm. Weed infestation was relatively light. Drainage seemed to be a localized problem in several low areas. The soil at Bob O'Link is a sandy, clay loam mixture with good physical and chemical structure. The biggest drawback was that corrugations had developed on fairway surfaces due to high speed mowing.

I tried to put my maintenance program on a segmented basis, thinking of it as a procedure that involved these things: Timing of maintenance operations; Diagnosis of troubles; Observation; Planning; and, of course, the proper use of the Calculated



Bob Williams (r) is shown with A. L. (Jim) Miller, Bob O'Link green co-chmn., who is nationally prominent in Senior golf.

*This article is condensed from a speech made by Bob Williams at a recent Michigan State U. turf meeting.*





## **CUSHMAN** ELECTRIC **Golfers.** *...out in front on every count*

*reports Bennie Boggess, veteran pro with 22 years of service at Indian Hills Country Club, Kansas City, Mo., (shown at the right of the picture with Jack Stadler, Cartmaster)*

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Risk. I won't say that the program was 100 per cent successful for us, and possibly wouldn't be at any other course, but I do think it was a distinct improvement over the general practices of the past, my own included, and has a promising future.

### How We Mow

We mow 18 fairways in 3½ hours with two seven-gang mowers. Height of cut is ¾ ins. in the early spring and is graduated to a maximum of ½ ins. in the hot, humid midsummer months. We drop back to the lower cut in the fall. Frequency ranges from 3 to 4 times a week in the growing season to only once a week during hot weather. During midsummer most of the fairway mowing is done in the evening to avoid bruising of turf. Most important, our tractor speed is kept to 5 mph to keep the mowers from lifting and causing corrugation.

Removal of early morning dew has been a big factor in our program. This not only permits the golfer to get out early but gives the grass an extra drying period so that mowing can be started and nearly completed before play becomes too heavy. We remove dew by attaching 200 ft. of 1-in. hose to two tractors that are driven down opposite sides of the fairway. All 18 fairways are dragged in about 40 minutes.

### Irrigation and Moisture Control

Since we have a great deal of annual bluegrass we have tried to learn to live with *poa annua*. To do this it is necessary to keep the *poa*'s shallow root system moist, well fertilized and treated with fungicide to combat fungus disease.

The building of a two-acre lake and new pumping plant has increased our irrigation supply to 1,000 gpm. We can now water all tees, greens and fairways in about eight hours. Also, we can water the entire course nightly now and not stretch the operation over three days, as before. We have found that *poa* frequently can't wait two or three days for water. If the top ½ in. of soil dries out, *poa* may die.

### Aerification Procedure

Aerification is a means of moisture control. Without it, turf may become dense, moisture penetration is impeded and slopes will shed water with about 100 per cent runoff. We sink a ¾ in. thatch spoon below the turf mat into about ½ in. of soil. Care should be taken to aerify only if grass is growing and heals readily. The exception comes when water penetration is necessary to prevent desiccation.

In 1959 in May, June, July and Sept.,

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## 1960 USGA Competitions

May	20-21	Curtis Cup Match, Lindrick GC, Worksop, Eng.
June	16-18	Open, Cherry Hills, Englewood, Colo.
July	11-16	Amateur Public Links, Honolulu
	21-23	Women's Open, Worcester (Mass.) CC
Aug.	3-6	Junior Amateur, Milburn G&CC, Overland Park, Kans.
	11-12	Americas Cup Match, Ottawa (Can.) G & Hunt Club
	15-19	Girls' Junior, Oaks CC, Tulsa
	22-27	Women's Amateur, Tulsa CC
Sept.	12-17	Men's Amateur, St. Louis CC, Clayton, Mo.
	19-24	Senior Amateur, Oyster Harbor Club, Osterville, Mass.
	28-Oct.1	World Amateur (Team) Merion GC, Ardmore, Pa.

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aerification worked well at Bob O'Link. With a tractor-lift aerifier, 18 fairways can be completed in about 12 hours. Following this, fairways should be dragged with a 20 ft. length of mesh fence to break up cores and help reduce matting of the bentgrass. If soil is kept in a moist state during aerification, formation of local dry spots, that refuse to take water thereafter, is avoided.

### Weed Control

Weed infestation at our club was light. Our experience has been that healthy turf will surmount the weed menace. When we use 2-4-D on bent fairways, the dose is kept at a ¼ to ½ lb. per acre rate for active ingredient. Light applications of sodium arsenite seem to be safe for fairways in the spring and fall. We have used 1 to 3 lb. applications in Nov. and April. They reduce clover and minor weeds and apparently stimulate bent growth.

### Disease Prevention Program

Fairway fungicide programs probably are neglected in maintaining close-cut bent-*poa* turf. Fear of high costs and too demanding work in application undoubtedly have deterred fairway fungiciding. Yet at the same time, no supt. would hesitate to treat bent-*poa* greens with fungicides. In either situation it's the same grass growing under similar conditions except for height of cut. It should be remembered that fairway grass is just as susceptible to disease as the turf on a green. After the 1959 toll of fine fairway grass, due to disease, I think many supts. will come around to adopting a fungicide program that will prevent a recurrence.

(Continued on page 112)