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Youngsters Get Passes for Cleaning Up Course

By **RAY J. SCHMIDT**

Supt., Coeur d'Alene (Ida.) GC

I don't claim to be originator of the idea, but a spring cleaning program we have used at Coeur d'Alene for the past several years is one that small clubs can profitably copy.

Every spring we organize junior players in work parties and, supervised by members, have them clean up the course from the first tee to the 18th green. This is not a superficial housecleaning job, but a thorough one. The kids don't merely pick up debris but rake tees, fairways, roughs, greens and the clubhouse grounds.

For their work they are issued season passes. The passes don't restrict them to playing merely on weekdays but give them weekend and holiday privileges. The best thing about the idea is that it gives the Junior golfers an appreciation of what is involved in the course maintenance job. You won't find them carelessly tearing up the course when they play because each has a little sweat and hard work in it.

More Mechanization to Neutralize Higher Costs

By **GERALD F. DEARIE**

Supt., Medinah (Ill.) CC

It is well established that two out of every three dollars that are spent for course maintenance are charged off to labor. This cost has been steadily increasing over the years and our only hope of heading it off is to use ingenuity wherever possible. Ingenuity consists of improving or mechanizing operations when the opportunities arise.

We have mechanized our maintenance routines to the extent that we always use tractors to rake traps. Electric hedge trimmers were purchased several years ago to replace manual units, and are run off truck or tractor batteries. Fertilizer is applied via machines. Not too many years



Signs installed at the bottom of a post or standard are less likely to get knocked over than those that are fastened at the top, according to Gene Stoddard, supt. at Irvine Coast CC, Newport Beach, Calif. This sign is attached to 1/2-inch angle iron that is imbedded in an old hub cap, filled with cement. It is easy to move for mowing purposes.

ago it took four men all day to fertilize 18 fairways; now two men complete the job in four or five hours. Incidentally, we have stepped up our soil tests to give us a better guide in buying fertilizers. Knowing which course areas are in need of heavy fertilization as contrasted with those that aren't, does away with much indiscriminate feeding and saves us money not only in material but the cost of applying it.

In recent years, we have made quite careful studies of course workers' traffic patterns in handling their jobs. The result has been the dispatching of more employees by utility vehicles from tee to tee and green to green. In addition, we arrange to have our crew members picked up by truck or utility vehicle before lunch and at quitting time so that they can stay on the job a few minutes longer and time isn't wasted by them in returning to the maintenance building.

Hundreds of labor hours can be saved in a year's time by cutting down on employees' walking time from job site to job site. Supts. don't always realize this because the time saved in individual situations may amount to only a few minutes. But the accumulation of five minutes here and ten minutes there amounts to a con-

(Continued on page 70)



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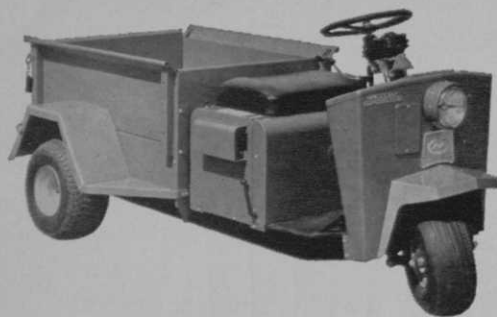
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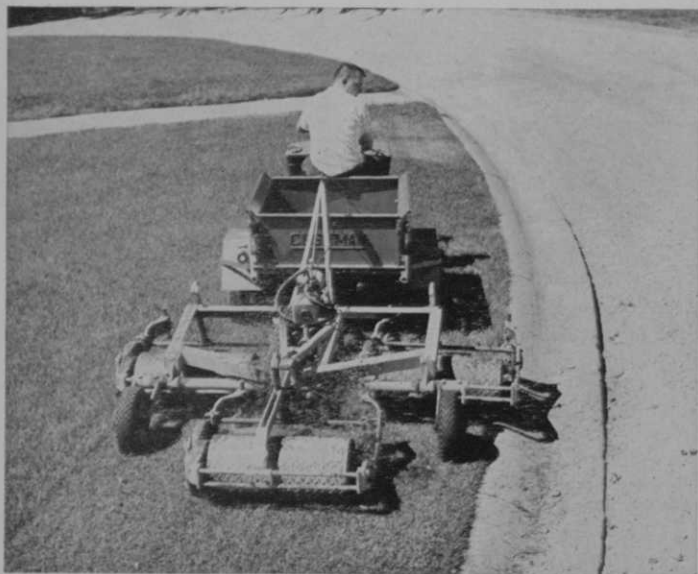
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Player Not Obligated To Give A Warning Before Hitting Shot

By WILLIAM JABINE

When should a golfer yell "Fore"? That is a question the Supreme Court of Missouri, Division No. 1, was called upon to answer recently. A man was the plaintiff and a woman the defendant. The woman had cried "Fore" before the ball struck the man, but had delayed the warning shout until she saw her ball hook instead of fly straight. The plaintiff, who possibly held all women golfers in low esteem, contended that she should have called "Fore" before she made her shot. The trial court returned a verdict in favor of the defendant, and the plaintiff appealed the ruling to the Supreme Court.

The Court appointed a commissioner to hear the case, and he submitted a detailed report, here excerpted: "The defendant was playing in a foursome and each member had driven from the No. 1 tee. Defendant's drive was the shortest; she thus became the first up for the second shot, and it was this shot that admittedly struck the plaintiff. Just prior to the tee shots of defendant's foursome, the plaintiff and his companion finished playing No. 1 hole and were going to the No. 10 tee to join friends there to play the second nine. No. 10 tee, fairway and green are parallel to No. 1 tee, fairway and green, the two fairways being separated by a rough. No. 1 hole was almost straight east from the No. 1 tee, the fairway having neither a curve or 'dogleg'.

Plaintiff in the Rough

"There are a couple full-grown trees and a water fountain in the rough to the north of No. 1 fairway. This rough would be to the defendant's left as she walked in No. 1 fairway from the No. 1 tee, and the plaintiff was in the rough when defendant's golf ball struck his left hand.

"Defendant, called as a witness by plaintiff, indicated that the trees were behind or to the north of plaintiff at a time after she hit her ball and after plaintiff



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was hit. It is not clear where the plaintiff was in relation to the trees at the time the defendant addressed the ball prior to hitting her second shot. Defendant also testified that she saw the plaintiff on the No. 1 green prior to hitting her first or tee shot and assumed when he disappeared from view that he went to the No. 2 tee. This would be a normal expectation, and such course would have taken plaintiff to a point south of the No. 1 green (and southeast of No. 1 fairway).

"Defendant's tee shot carried some 50 yards and came to rest in the fairway near the rough. She walked northeasterly from the tee to her ball where it lay on the left side (to her) of the fairway and she did not see the plaintiff during this walk. Prior to hitting her second shot, the defendant observed her fellow players and looked toward the hole. She also looked to the north (toward No. 10 fairway). The defendant testified that she did not see plaintiff, and that no one was in danger from her intended line of flight to the green, so she gave no warning of her intention to hit her ball.

"Defendant, with no intention to 'pull' or 'fade' her shot, struck the ball with a 3-wood. It went perfectly straight as intended until it hooked. According to defendant, the shot carried about 150 yards. While watching the ball the defendant saw plaintiff in the general area of the trees in the north rough and, when her ball hooked, the foursome (including defendant) screamed 'Fore' and 'Watch out.'

Gave No Warning

"According to plaintiff's partner, he and plaintiff were about halfway of the approximately 380 yards between No. 1 tee and green and about 25 yards in the rough north of No. 1 fairway. He also stated that defendant gave no warning before striking her ball and that she was about 60 yards west of plaintiff at the time. He acknowledged that golfers frequently don't hit a ball straight and stated that the defendant hit a bad shot which she did not intend to hit directly at plaintiff.

"He (the plaintiff) stated the view between him and the players that he saw in the No. 1 fairway was clear. He admitted that if the defendant had hit a good shot

it would not have come anywhere near him; that defendant's shot was a poor one which hooked to hit him; that golfers do not expect to make poor shots, and that a warning in relation to a bad shot would need to come only after the shot was determined to be a bad one."

The commissioner continued: "Plaintiff limits his appeal to a contention that he made a bona fide case on defendant's failure to warn **prior** to her striking the ball. This leads to the precise issue of whether, under the evidence in this case, defendant had a duty to warn prior to striking her ball."

After thus stating the issue, the commissioner proceeded to analyze a number of cases from various jurisdictions cited by the parties. All of them involved golf course accidents in which persons were hit by golf balls. At the conclusion of his analysis of the first two cited cases, he said: "These cases do not hold that a golfer has an absolute duty to warn everyone in the area of his play before making each shot. Rather, they stand for the proposition that a person about to strike a golf ball must exercise ordinary care to warn those within the range of the intended flight of the ball or the general direction of the drive, and the existence of such a duty to warn must be determined from the facts of each case."

The commissioner then examined several more cases, carefully distinguishing the facts in each from the facts in the case before him, and concluded: "Applying these authorities to the facts of the instant case, we hold that defendant had no duty to warn prior to striking her ball, and therefore the trial court properly directed a verdict for the defendant. The Supreme Court adopted the commissioner's opinion as its own. (Hoffman vs. Polsky, 386 S. W. 2nd 376.)

Southern California Show

The first Southern California golf show will be held in Dodger Stadium, Oct. 13-17, according to Robert J. Case of Sportsman-Showcase, Inc., Los Angeles. The show, which will feature numerous exhibits, contests, clinics, etc., has the endorsement of the Southern California PGA and Public Links GA.

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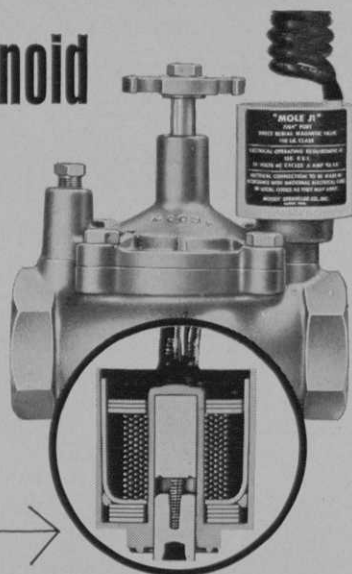
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Duplicate Equipment

(Continued from page 36)

ber would be accepted as standard. If this happened, both the pro and the manufacturer would be cutting their own throats.

"In addition," this pro continues, "if we start selling less than 14 clubs to a set, we'll find ourselves getting stuck with clubs we can't get rid of. I can see my place littered with 2-woods, 2-irons and maybe 5-irons and 6-irons that I couldn't move. I'd have to have a dollar day sale to clear the shop of them."

Would Help Trade-In Situation

In answer to a query as to whether they would be money ahead if they could get members and players to keep their old clubs as second sets instead of having to take them in as Trade-Ins and then sell them, four out of five pros said they would. Most didn't specify any definite amount, but three estimated that the savings would range from \$20 to \$30 per set.

One pro selected a red pencil to write

in: "I don't know if I would be any money ahead but there would be a great savings of time and trouble."

In conjunction with the query on used clubs, the pros were asked if Tom Murphy's "Official Used Club Guide" has been of much assistance in helping to solve the Trade-In dilemma. About two out of three said that it has been a definite help, 20 per cent said it hasn't and the remainder of pros who answered the survey questionnaire were noncommittal.

Those who answered in the affirmative unanimously agreed that the guide has taken the bargaining out of Trade-In transactions. One pro, particularly sold on the used club guide, said it made a great impression on his members, several of whom remarked that it was time that the golf industry took the guesswork out of the Trade-In market and put it on a businesslike basis.

562 Caddies in School

A record number of Evans Scholars — 562 — will attend 26 universities this year on caddie scholarships. They represent 204 clubs from coast to coast.