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# Design for fee-course living

*Functional, spatial and aesthetic plans offered to meet challenge faced by both architects and owners.*

By ZALMAN Y. ALPER

Alper and Alper, Architects, Chicago

The planning and design of clubhouses for fee golf courses is a challenge for both architects and owners. It is well to keep in mind that in fee courses, as well as private clubs, monies made on the course are often lost in the clubhouse. For a private club this means large, annoying assessments; for a fee course it is the difference between profit and loss. Fee course clubhouse problems are very similar to those of the private club and also similar to the public course, although there are few public courses which at present have extensive ancillary facilities.

There are three significant aspects of the architectural design of a clubhouse: function, spatial organization, and the visual aesthetic.

In attempting to set down the functional requirements, it is clear that despite the best efforts of the client there will be omissions and some errors. Any operation is affected and limited by its existing facility and any attempt to project it into a new physical plant will be prejudiced by the existing limitations. Although the client determines function, the architect can aid in bringing to the problem the skill and experience of architectural programming. Given the general and specific functional requirements, the architect can begin to develop the spatial organization.

The relating of space, both as a matter of size and type, into a spatial pattern set against the background of the known and unknown functional requirements presents the architect his most difficult challenge. The primary consid-

eration is utmost flexibility. This is the architect's way of contending with the unknown. Thus planning, as it develops into a spatial pattern, is the provision for the multi use of all areas.

The visual aesthetic of the clubhouse is an area in which some strange and often ludicrous decisions have been made. In the past, for various reasons, clubhouses were designed to give the superficial appearance of manor houses and chateaux. Fortunately this has begun to change and here and there one can see really elegant clubhouses using contemporary materials and designed with reference to site and need—instead of being poor imitations of Elizabethan buildings which even in the original weren't very comfortable. A clubhouse set in a golf course should be part of that environment, an environment often of great beauty, and relate closely to functional requirements. A building should provide for man an environment suitable for his activities and an atmosphere relating to the setting.

Examining the more specific clubhouse requirements, we have, in our office, adopted an approach to planning best described as "EBB" design. After having set out what the client feels are the needs of his operation—needs which invariably are for maximum occupancy—the proposed spatial organization is tested against the EBB condition.

How would this scheme work at 10 per cent occupancy? How will it work at the odd hours? In effect, this means that having determined maximum use, what are the consequences of less than



*Old Orchard's new clubhouse (Mount Prospect, Ill.), is practical example of good design.*

full and continued use? This has particular meaning in golf, which is, in most cases, a seasonal activity.

The EBB design view raises questions. How many service people are required to be present at 6:00 a.m. and still provide full service? How many would be needed at 5 p.m. and still provide service in April and October?

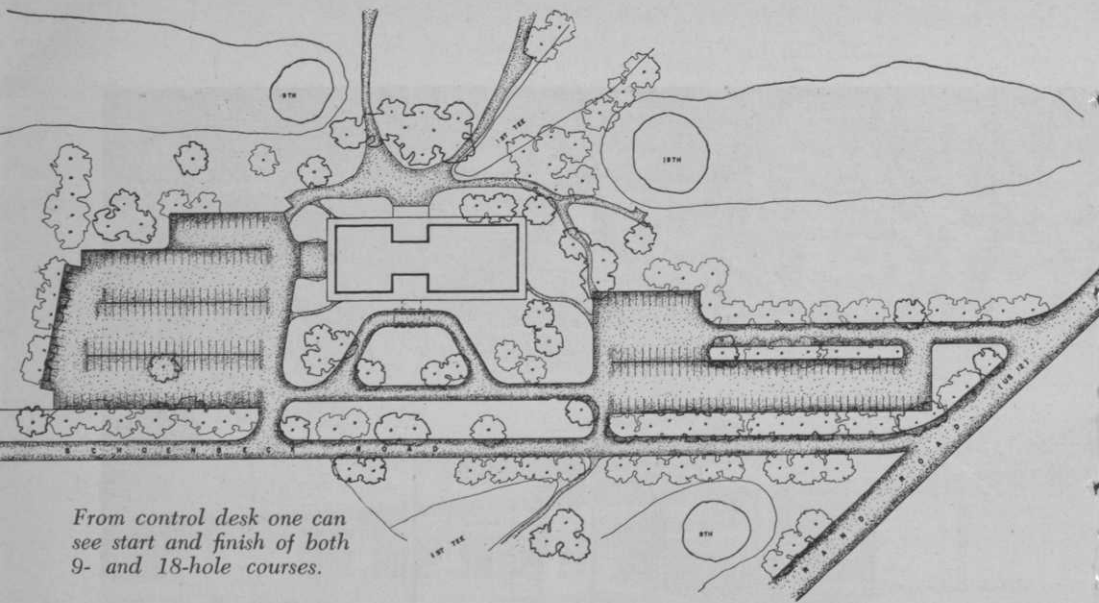
An efficient design would make it possible to operate with as few as five service employes in the clubhouse—one man at a check-in-counter who can also watch the first tee, one bartender to serve the golfing and non-golfing public, one waitress, one short order cook and one porter. A very large clubhouse can open and maintain an EBB operation with more employes put into service as the traffic flow increases. EBB concept makes it possible to open early and still offer all services; it also makes possible the continuing operation during off-hour periods and when seasonal rains or bad weather cut clubhouse use.

It is well to keep in mind that those facilities which relate directly to golf

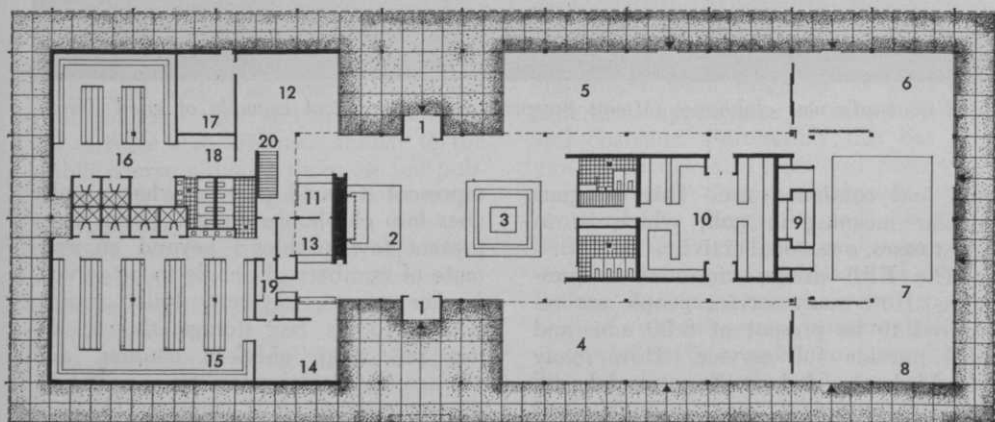
represent a small part of what usually goes into clubhouse design. These areas present few problems beyond an estimate of numbers of people to be served. Locker rooms, showers, toilet rooms, powder rooms, bag storage, shoe cleaning, pro shop, check-in counter, and offices comprise the facilities needed by the majority of golf courses. There is always a serious question as to how many lockers should be assigned to men and how many to women. A possible solution lies in the provision of smaller locker rooms which could, by means of interconnecting doors, be made part of the men's or women's locker room depending on the demand as it develops.

Beyond the possible addition of a small golfer's grill, all other areas usually included in clubhouses are not directly connected with golf. Because of the highly seasonal character of golf in northern communities most clubhouses contain other facilities whose major purpose is to make the clubhouse usable 12 months of the year. Restaurants, cock-

*Continued on next page*



*From control desk one can see start and finish of both 9- and 18-hole courses.*



*Kitchen set at center of building to service golfers' grill, formal dining room and the banquet areas of new clubhouse.*

## DESIGN

Continued from page 53

tail lounges, banquet facilities, driving ranges, theatres, etc., are often included to provide a more diversified clubhouse. Now the fly gets into the ointment.

Once having made a decision to enter the restaurant and banquet business, the clubhouse is called upon to house a number of functions which are not related to golf as such. For most clubhouses the banquet business, with its predictable costs and minimum over-

## KEY

- |                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. ENTRY          | 11. CHECK IN DESK     |
| 2. FIREPLACE      | 12. PRO SHOP          |
| 3. BAR            | 13. OFFICE            |
| 4. FORMAL DINING  | 14. CHECK ROOM-LOUNGE |
| 5. GOLFERS GRILL  | 15. MENS LOCKER       |
| 6. BANQUET ROOM 1 | 16. WOMENS LOCKER     |
| 7. BANQUET ROOM 2 | 17. GOLF CLUB STORAGE |
| 8. BANQUET ROOM 3 | 18. POWER ROOM        |
| 9. BANQUET BAR    | 19. LOCKER ATTEND     |
| 10. KITCHEN       | 20. TO THEATRE        |

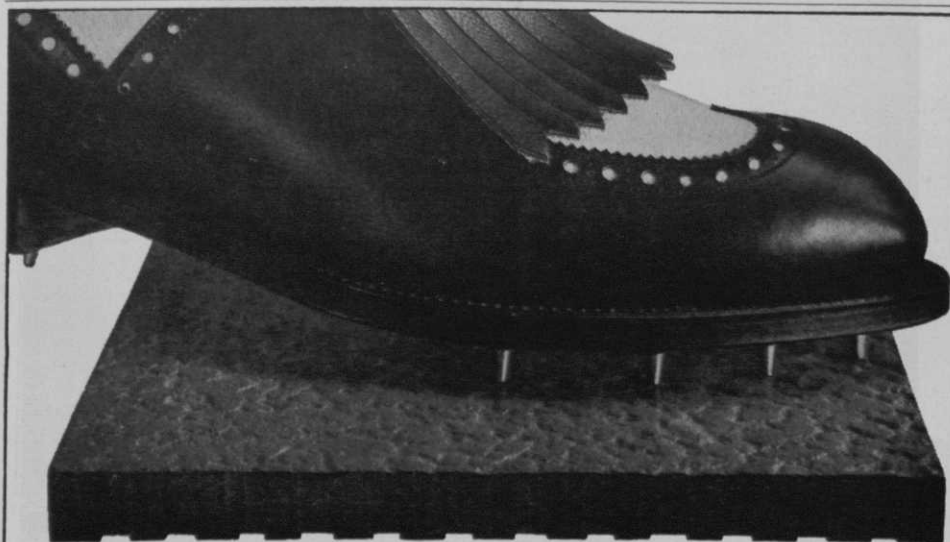
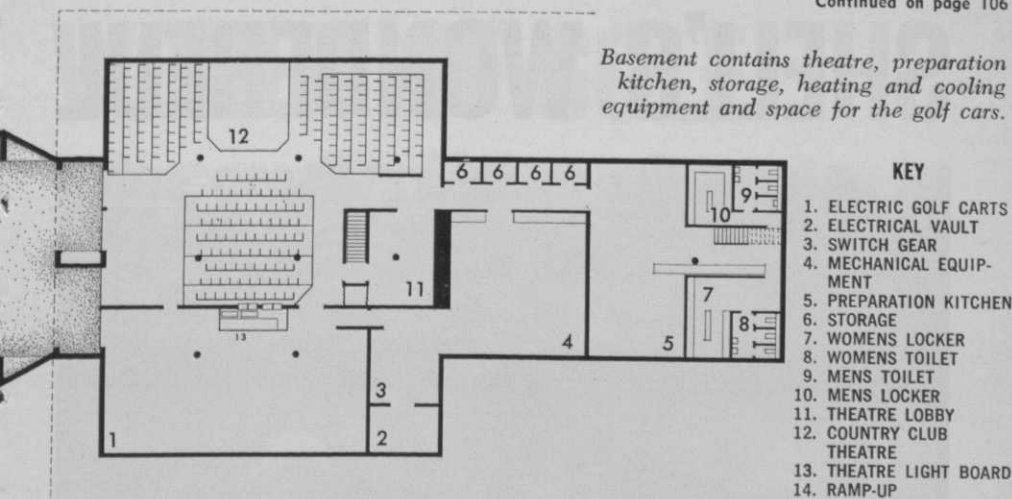
head, is the most profitable. However, since a golfer's grill is already in the program and the banquet facility requires a large kitchen, why not go further and include a full-scale restaurant? Why not indeed! From the viewpoint of planning it raises some interesting possibilities and many problems.

Our view of this problem is to relate all dining facilities to a central kitchen.

Plan for a coffee shop for golfers and non-golfers separate from a more formal dining room (a non-spike area). A center bar will serve golfer, non-golfer and day time banquets and meetings, avoiding the need for double facilities.

By providing the possibility of opening the dining areas to the banquet areas it is possible to utilize the banquet areas as an overflow for the restaurant and golf-

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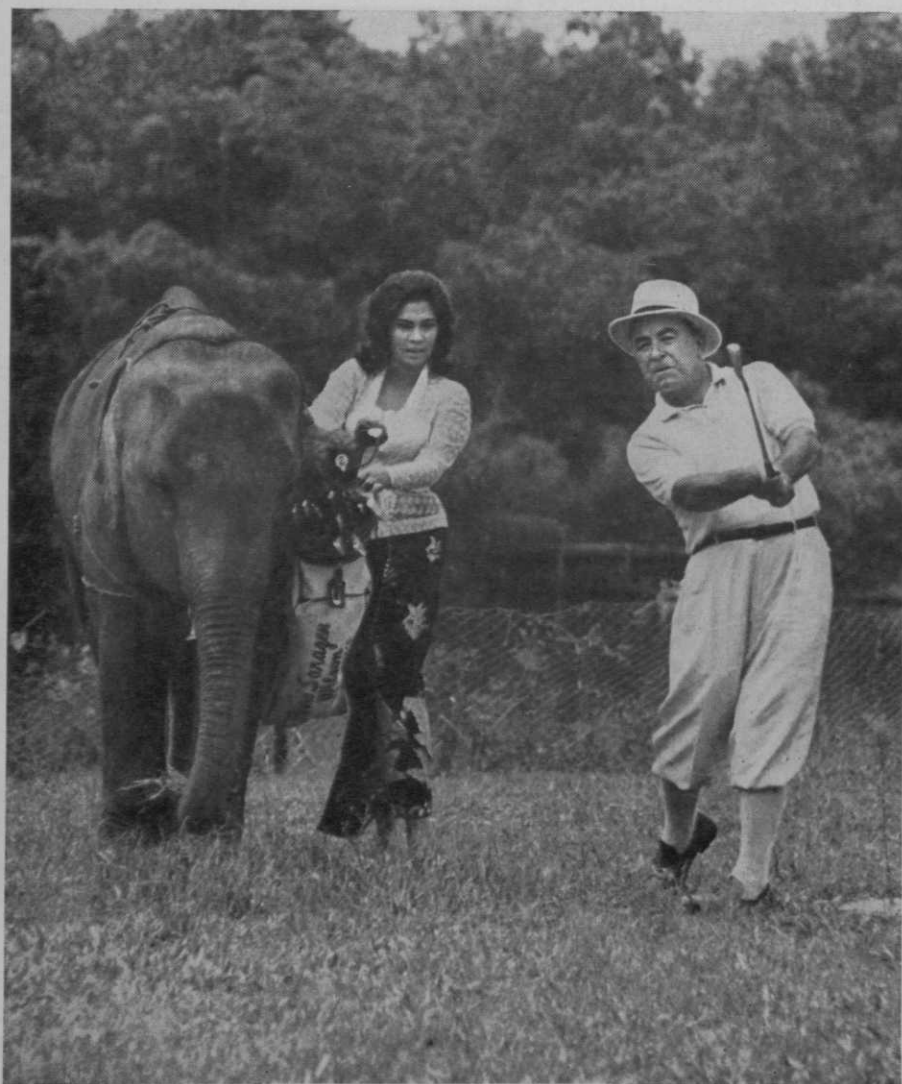


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PLAYERS		LOCATION	BROADCAST DATE
Ramon Sota	Bobby Nichols	Club de Campo (Spain)	Feb. 19
Sam Snead	Jimmy Demaret	Air Force Academy (U.S.A.)	Feb. 26
George Will	Dave Marr	Turnberry Golf Course (Scotland)	Mar. 5
Ben Arda	Dow Finsterwald	Valley Golf Club (Philippines)	Mar. 12
Chen Ching-Po	Tommy Jacobs	Ibaraki Country Club (Japan)	Mar. 19



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# *Around the fashion*

*This preview of Golf Magazine's exclusive forecast  
spotlights the trends in the pro shop's most  
increasingly profitable operation.*

BY JOYCE HAKLAR  
Golf/Golfdom Fashion Editor

THESE are so many new trends in golf apparel this year, there should be no trouble stocking the shop with interesting and exciting merchandise. The fashions featured on the next four pages represent a sampling of what will be presented in the April issue of GOLF MAGAZINE as the forecast of the new trends in design and color for golf wear. Men's wear revives a classic item with modern form and content—knickers. Once heavy, floppy and uncomfortably warm, the "plus-fours" and increasingly popular "plus-twos" are now more tailored, and manufactured with a blend of lightweight fabrics that stretch and breathe. In some cases, the knee buckles have been replaced by stretch bottoms, which keep the knickers in place. Always popular among the older golfers, this style is being picked up by the younger set, which favors the lighter colors and attractive plaids and checks. Slacks are also trimmer and appear in fabrics made of the miracle fibers of Arnel, Dacron and Fortrel. The standard v-neck cardigans are still the most popular sweaters, but loose-fitting pullovers have gained acceptance, particularly short-sleeved sweaters (another new trend). Women's golf wear has finally taken on its own look. Gone are the days of imitating the men's fashions—the gals can be as feminine on as well as off the course. Let's hope it stays that way. This is the year of the skirt—in every conceivable length, shape, color and fabric. The best design for the year is the culotte that never reveals its true identity until vigorous action is taken because the split is hidden by extra large pleats, buttons or zippers. Knit tops appear in many styles. In addition to the traditional placket golf shirt, there are v-necks, boat necks and poor boys, in color coordinated stripes and solids. And speaking of color, this year's move is to the more subtle shades of yellow, green and blue. Maize is popular among the men, with women favoring gold. Spring shades of green and various degrees of blue are found in most lines. •



# course in '66

Right, cotton velour shirt with henley neck, contrasting trim, Sportswear by Revere (\$8.95), checked slack of Dacron polyester and cotton by Corbin (about \$18), Etonic shoes (\$42.50).



Left, v-neck shirt of Banlon, by Etonic (\$3.95), homespun skirt in raspberry sherbert, fabric of Dacron polyester and cotton, Etonic by Harburt (\$12.95). Right, shirt of Arnel stabilized knit (\$8), rayon scottin culotte (\$12), both Golf-A-Rounds by Louise Suggs.



*fashion course* Continued

Man's alpaca cardigan by Parker of Vienna (\$45), open mesh shirt of Durene, by Duofold (\$6.50), slack of Arnel triacetate and rayon, Esquire Sportswear (\$16.95), Etonic shoes (\$42.50), Acushnet glove. Ladies' alpaca cardigan by Parker of Vienna (\$55), cotton seersucker shirt, Gant Shirtmakers (\$7.50), culotte by McMullen (\$12), Etonic shoes (\$22.95), Bonnie Doon socks.