

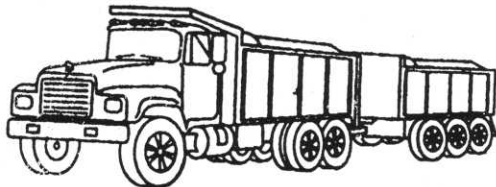
There Will Be a Lot Of New Things to See At Braemar Course

By John Nylund
Golf Course Superintendent

With spring approaching, we all look forward to getting away to attend our monthly MGCSA meetings. Getting a chance to get away and talk with friends in the golf business is a welcome break from the daily grind we all encounter. Dale Wysocki asked me if I would tell a little about Braemar before the May 11th meeting. This gives us some background on the course that is having the meeting.

When you all attend and see projects or interesting features on the course, you will have some idea of what is happening. So here goes.

Braemar Golf Course was built in 1963 by the City of Edina and opened in July 1964. The complex consists of an 18-hole championship course, an executive course and a driving range. In 1969 it hosted the Minnesota Classic. At that time the course was very young to host a PGA event. In 1979 Braemar hosted the USGA National Women's Public Links. Both events proved successful along with numerous state events held over the years. Braemar has a patron card it sells to residents of Edina. This allows them to make reservations over the phone. Non-residents must take what's left of the times.



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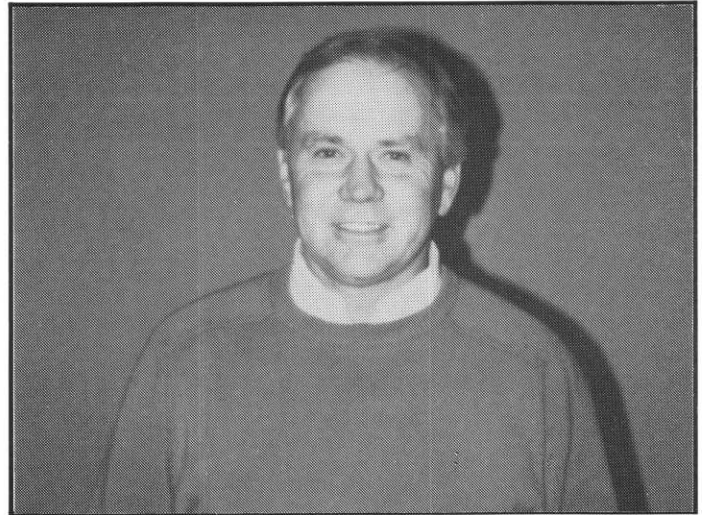
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Some of the new things you will see when you play are called the Oases. These areas are built to keep traffic around tees to a minimum. They are made with paving stones. The cart path connects to the paving stones so players can drive up and through the service area. The service area includes the ball washer, bench, waste basket and approach to tee.

The golfer then enters to tee off at the red, white or blue markers. We planted ornamentals on each side of the oases and set it off with a new tee sign. We plan to do four or five tees per year, and to this date we have completed 12 oases.

Another thing at Braemar is the new 12th tee area. This is a tee built into the side of a very steep hill. Our problem has been keeping turf on a small tee area. Our solution was a drive-thru tee area with four new tees built into the sides of the steep hill. A large amount of Keystone block was used to build tees and hold back steep banks of soil. The hole is a favorite now and is much easier to maintain.

Our other project completed last October was the redesign and installation of a new sixth green. The entire project consisted of a new USGA green, extensive drainage, irrigation and sodding of the green, fairway and all areas damaged getting to the site. Needless to say, this was very expensive but considering having the hole ready to play by May and completely finished make for happy members.

These are but a few of the projects we are doing at Braemar and hope you all attend and enjoy the day. See you May 11th.

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