


CUP POSITIONING

One of the most important aspects of cup cutting is where it's cut. The position of the cup is probably the single, most important factor in determining the difficulty of a golf course. If this seems hard to believe, stop and consider that par on a golf hole is based on the premise that two shots will be required on every green. Thus, on a nine-hole course with a par of 36, the difficulty of half the shots is directly affected by pin placement. Add to that the nine approach shots required and the total goes to 27 strokes. You could even count the drives on the five par four holes because their final position has such a great effect on the approach shot. That's a total of 32 of 36 shots that are directly and indirectly related to pin position.

If you are preparing your course for a professional tournament, the pin placements will be severe. However, there is no reason to punish the duffer with uncommonly difficult pin positions. Consider the following general, day-to-day guidelines:

- . Every cup position should allow the golfer to make putts in a rather aggressive manner. This especially applies when the golfer is above the hole - he shouldn't have to putt defensively.
- . Always remember that the difficulty of a pin placement is determined by how the green putts and how it takes approach shots. This takes such things as contour, holding quality, prevailing wind conditions and length of the hole into account.
- . The general difficulty of the pin position can be governed by the length of the approach shot. Naturally, long shots require easier placements than short shots.

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- . Use all the "puttable" surfaces available on a putting green. Don't continually keep the pin in just two or three positions. Also, "balance" should be maintained throughout the course - all pins should not be placed in similar relative positions.
- . The area around the cup should be of relatively uniform grade - not necessarily level, but uniform - and in good condition to provide a fair location for holing out.
- . Cups should usually be placed at least five paces from the edge of the green. If the normal approach is across a hazard or if the green slopes toward a hazard, the distance should be greater.

These suggestions are consistent with U.S.G.A. policy on pin placement. For further details, see U.S.G.A. Decision 72-23.

Reprint "PRO TURF"

GCSAA PLANS 1981 SHOW

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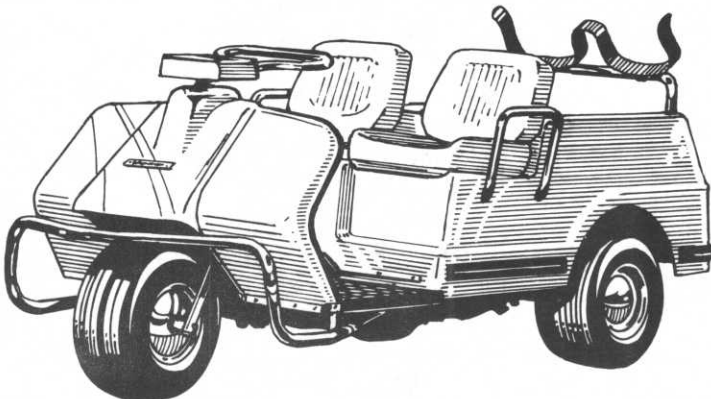
Plans are well underway for 1981 Conference and Show which will be held in Anaheim, California, January 24 - February 30. This week of activities begins with educational seminars on Saturday and Sunday followed by the Opening Session on Monday and general sessions throughout the week.

The ribbon cutting ceremony kicks off the opening of the Exposition Show on Tuesday. The U.S.G.A. will co-host our educational session on Thursday.

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TAPEMARK CHARITY PRO-AM

BY ROGER KISCH

As golf course superintendent, I have been affiliated with the Tape-mark Golf Tournament for the last eight years. This year the tourna-ment will be held at Southview Country Club and Indian Hills Golf Club, July 11, 12 and 13. This is the first year it has been split between two golf courses. In prior years Southview hosted it ex-clusively. Fifty teams will be participating. Each team will play one round on each course. The cut will follow 36-Holes of play.

Those making the cut will complete the final round of play at South-view on Sunday, the 13th. The prize money this year is \$27,500 - the top pro will be winning \$2,000.

The Tapemark is the major volunteer fund raising event conducted on behalf of the area Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC) and the Minnesota Association for Children With Learning Disabilities (M.A.C.L.D.). To date the tournament has raised approximately \$400,000 with a low of \$9,000 in the first year to a high of \$92,000 in 1979.

As the golf course superintendent I must spend time planning and scheduling in order to get the golf course ready for the Tapemark Tournament. During the tournament, it also means extra work for my crew because of early starting and late finishing times as the golf course must be maintained in two shifts - before and after the tournament play. However, we all feel the extra effort is our small contribution to a worthwhile cause and a tremendous group of dedicated volunteers.

We welcome you to attend any or all the tournament days. Good luck Tapemark for 1980!

GREEN CLIPPINGS

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT. Chairman Jim Lindblad announced that the tournament is scheduled for the Wayzata Country Club on Monday, September 15. There will be a 1:00 p.m. shotgun start with dinner to follow in the evening. Please note all voting members are allowed one guest only. All non-voting members are eligible to play but may not bring any guests. An official notice of the tournament complete with entry form will be sent out in a separate mailing to each member shortly.

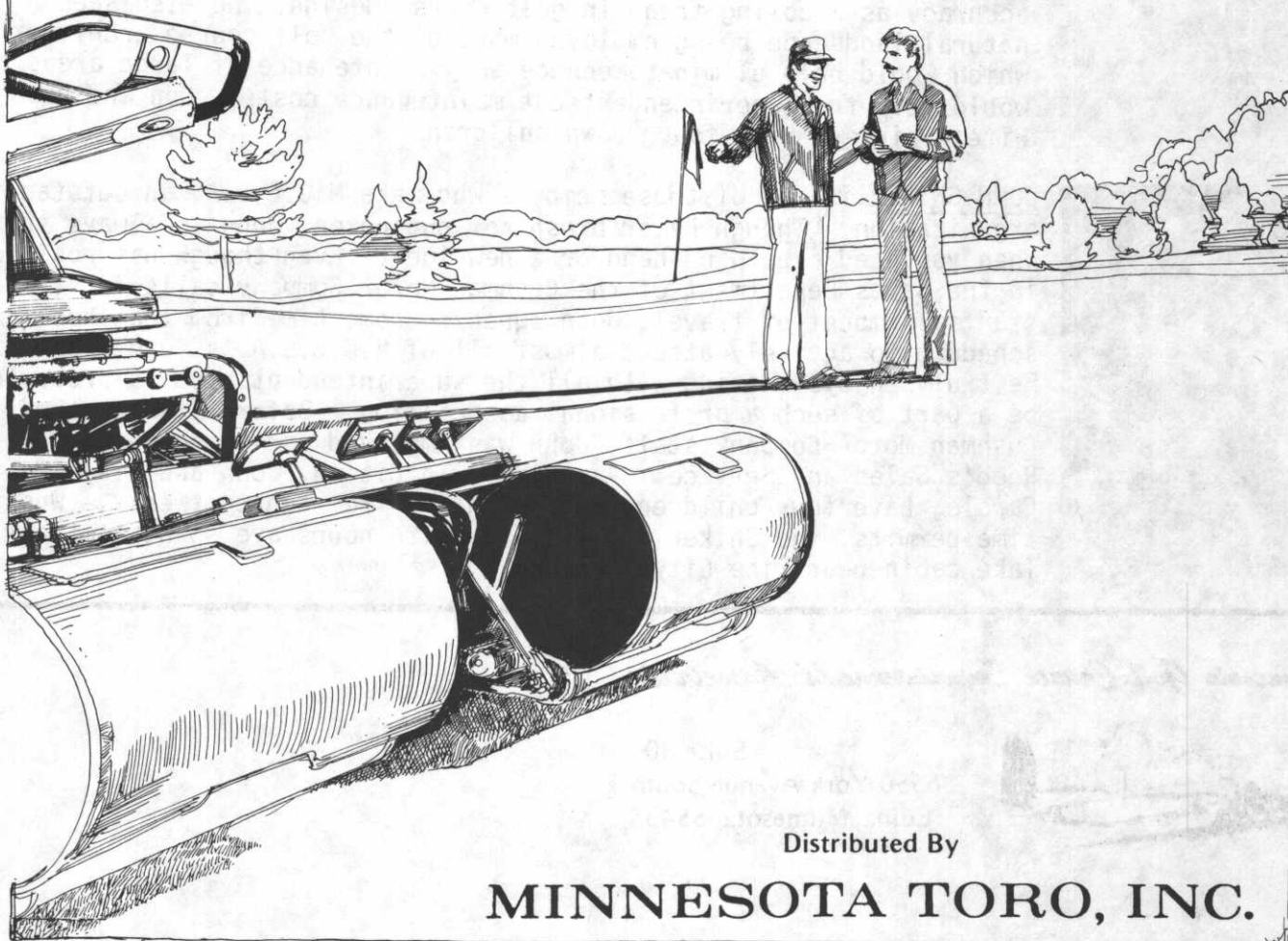
NECROLOGY. We are sad to announce that Chet McCann, Life Member from Eau Claire, Wisc., passed away on June 17. Chet had been a member of M.G.C.S.A. for many years.

HONORED. July 19 the Rochester Country Club will honor Superintendent Kurt Erdmann with a golf tournament in the afternoon and dinner party in the evening. Kurt has been at the Rochester Country Club for twenty-four years. A very well deserved tribute to a fine gentleman!

FINANCIAL. The Treasurer's Report as of June 25 is \$3,332.72 in the Checking Account and \$2,706.24 in the Research Fund.

PALMER PLAYS WOODHILL. George Jennrich reports that Arnie Palmer played at Woodhill Country Club when he was in town to be inducted into the P.G.A. Hall of Fame at the Grand Slam of Golf Banquet. He shot a 69 and told George his fairways in the drive zone were narrower than those in the recent Open Championship at Baltusrol.

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