

"Sorry I can't be there. Enjoyed the article in Weeds Trees and Turf. Keep up the good work. Have you tried K-31 fescue in a stress area — seeded heavily?" Fred Sappenfield

"Sorry, Bob wish I could make it." Dick Schmitt

I received a card from Wayne Jerome in Florida saying he would not attend but no reason as to why he could not. Now we must wonder — was it because he was too busy, too far away or was it because Gay and Dale wouldn't let him come.

We did have one member from Florida, tho, Russell Kerns was with us and we were happy to see him again.

It's too bad the rain spoiled the tournament. We wanted you to see the golf course and make suggestions on how we might improve it. Some of our members said it was in better condition than it has been all summer and accused me of dressing it up for the superintendents. I admitted that we had done some extra work, then added that we always do for big tournaments.

NATIONAL GOLF FOUNDATION LAUNCHES "OPERATION GOLF UPDATE"

"Operation — GOLF UPDATE" will be the most comprehensive effort ever made to compile all available significant information about golf and golfers in the United States, according to Don A. Rossi, Executive Director of the National Golf Foundation, which will spearhead the survey of more than 11,000 golf courses.

Rossi explained that golf course records maintained by the Foundation, and dating back to its origin in 1936, are no longer valid since many golf courses have changed in the interim — in ownership, in size, in type of operation and in the facilities offered. He said many new trends in golf course planning, construction and operation have emerged in recent years which cannot be statistically measured by the Foundation's present records. He added:

"To function effectively in meeting the growing demand for help in the development of every type of golf facility we must bring our unique storehouse of golf information up to date."

Rossi said the "GOLF UPDATE" questionnaire has been especially designed for quick and easy fill-out, and features humorous cartoons to make it fun to complete. It is arranged for computer analysis, for quick 'readout' of information. He said:

"This is one survey that will reward the respondents directly because it will produce a useful yardstick for every private, daily fee and municipal golf operation. However, for this yardstick to be truly useful, we need much more than a 'token' response.

"We receive enquiries daily on how many golf courses have installed automatic, or semi-automatic irrigation, where they are located, are they successful, what are the problems, etc.

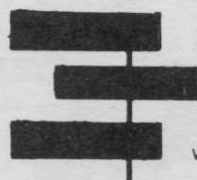
"Other questions involve the use and operation of golf car fleets at the different types of golf courses, mechanized golf course maintenance — even golf course lighting for night play or night maintenance.

"One very important area of information requested is whether the golf operation employs a golf professional, a

course superintendent or a manager — any one of these, or all, or a combination of any two of these. The answers to these questions could indicate a need for additional trained specialists for these departments."

Rossi added that the final 'readout' of the survey will not only furnish much additional important information for the Foundation in helping existing golf operations with problems as well as assisting in the development of new golf courses; it will also indicate future directions for Foundation literature and consultant services.

The National Golf Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the development of more golfing opportunity for Americans through its facility and activity development programs, is headquartered in Chicago's Merchandise Mart.



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