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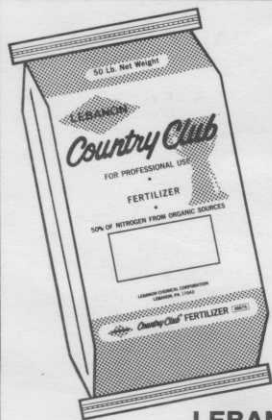
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Who . . . Put The Hole There!

(continued from page 2)

other tournaments had conditioned them to expect holes to be cut in hillsides, behind bunkers or next to creeks, in places where only a lucky putt goes in or a lucky shot ends up in birdie range. They came prepared to condemn the man who put the hole there as some kind of a fiend.

They should not. He deserves not condemnation but pity. He is up before daylight, ready to start setting the holes as soon as light will permit. His early start expresses his concern that the players with the early starting times will have an equal opportunity with the late starters to see how the course is set up. He struggles with intense care to get it right. If he succeeds, he is blissfully ignored; if he fails, recognition is immediate, universal, bombastic and blasphemous.

I do not seek sympathy for these men. Theirs is a vital function. They can emasculate a great design, or they can accentuate its greatness. To assume such responsibility necessarily includes accepting its consequences. Like bad art, there is too much bad pin setting afflicting the championships to combine the art and the science of locating the holes so as to bring out all the qualities of the course on which they are played. Hopefully, the principles applied by the U.S.G.A. will be useful to others who squint into the rising sun hoping to find that small plot of good grass and terrain in the right part of the green for that day's play.

The first principle is to be fair. Never pick a placement that will not fully reward the properly struck shot played from the right position. The hole setter, therefore, must not only appreciate the design of the hole, but he must also weigh such factors as weather, wind direction, and firmness of the turf, and determine in advance how that particular hole will play on that particular day. He must have done some planning. In a four-day championship, for example, this means he must have analyzed the course and generally determined the four areas on each green providing hole locations appropriate for the particular tournament. He must then plan his practice

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Job Opportunity

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Please Contact:
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