



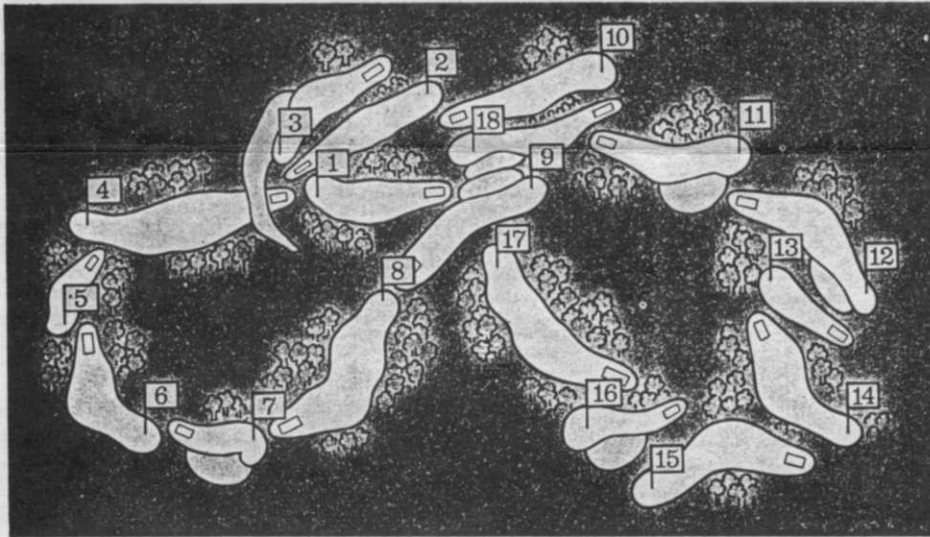
Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER



VOLUME XXXXII

JULY 1989

NUMBER 5



ocean

pinetrees
golf and
country club

OCEAN PINES, JULY 11 MEETING

Ocean Pines is a 3,500 acre resort/retirement community located directly across the Assawoman Bay from Ocean City, MD. It was originally developed by Boise Cascade Co. (the lumber company) in 1968 and is still experiencing rapid growth 20 years later. There are 6,800 lots with about 3,200 homes and 350 presently under construction. 800 additional acres remain undeveloped and it is expected that 3,000 more housing units will be added. Besides the Golf and Country Club, other amenities include a Marina and Yacht Club, and a Beach Club in Ocean City.

Winding through the community is its star attraction — the golf course. This Robert Trent Jones layout was the first project which included the help of his son, Reese. Many characteristics of this course are now trademarks of a Trent Jones design. There is torture by sand (76 bunkers), torture by water (on 9 holes), and very narrow, tree-lined fairways. Originally seeded to common bermuda, most of the trees and fairways have been converted to rye/bluegrass. The course plays to 6,301 yards from the middle tees and 6,950 from the back with a slope rating of 122. With the increased development of Ocean Pines, the course is show-

ing the effects of very high traffic. Plans are underway for the construction of another course on some of the undeveloped land in the near future.

Our host, Randy Dayton, has spent the last three years restoring this course to its original design and turf conditions. In addition, complete landscaping of the clubhouse grounds was necessary after major remodeling of the building, the continuous cart path system was completed, and this year 700 linear feet of bulkhead was added on the 3rd, 9th, and 18th holes.

The sandy soil and heavy shade require some specialized maintenance practices. Because of increased leaching, fertilizer is applied more frequently at lighter rates with slightly higher annual totals. A soil testing service is used and deficiencies of Phosphorus, Potassium, and minor nutrients are being corrected according to their recommendations. Irrigation must be done frequently since the soil has such a tendency to dry out. The U.S.G.A. greens are mowed at 5/32" 5 times weekly, and the trees, collars, and fairways are mowed three times weekly at 5/8". The small amount of rough is mowed at 2" weekly. Scott's Goosegrass/Crabgrass Control is used on the greens and Lesco

Pre-M is sprayed on the fairways, roughs, and most tees. No pre-emergence is used on the Par 3 tees and Acclaim is used to clean up any crabgrass. Scott's TGR was used this spring. Fungicides are used on a preventive basis on greens, tees, and fairways. Because Ocean Pines is such an environmentally sensitive area, extra care is taken with all pesticides.

A unique system of tee marker placement designed by the U.S.G.A. is used to balance the course yardage daily. Another Trent Jones trademark is landing strips for tees. Many of the tees are 75 yards long which drastically changes the yardage on that particular hole. A systematic movement of the tee markers is necessary to ensure that the course plays to approximately the same yardage every day. The tees are divided into six zones and regular movement among the six zones produces the desired results.

Randy graduated in 1978 from North Carolina State University with a Bachelor's degree in Forestry and Park Management. He was a ranger at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis for three years before deciding to get into golf course management. He attended the George Thompson school of turf management at Columbia

(Continued on page 2)