Sand Greens in Oklahoma

By DON SPARKS, Greenkeeper Chickasha Country Club, Chickasha, Oklahoma



NO. 3 GREEN-256 YARDS-4 PAR

This sand green is connected with a 256-yard fairway, a slight dog-leg which may be reached with a strong tee shot, but demands utmost accuracy because of deep water which flanks the green on the left and back, and long grass on the right. This green is equipped with sand green cups and steel flagstaffs. Notice players practicing with flagstaff in place.

If oiled sand is used freely when greens are constructed they should be good for at least twelve months without adding more sand. The sand should be baked, screened, and well-oiled before applying on green. If greens show too much oil, sprinkle dry sand over them and use a light roller. You can have a fast green or slow green regulated by adding oil or sand.

J AND greens have made a rapid growth here within the past two years and I have done a great deal of work constructing them during the last ten years. It was at the Chickasha Country Club that I constructed my first sand greens, this being the oldest course in the county. They are still using sand greens.

Two years ago I designed and constructed a ninehole sand green course one mile west of Chickasha, on the Hill estate which is now being converted into an eighteen-hole grass green municipal course, known as the Hill Golf Course.

Last April I began constructing a nine-hole sand green course five miles southeast of Chickasha. This course, just off the highway is known as the Meadowlake Golf Course and is noted for its wonderful hazards, both natural and artificial. The better golfers appreciate playing on it that they might show their skill with their different clubs. I also constructed sand greens for three miniature courses last summer. A nine-hole course is now being constructed near the Oklahoma College for Women. It is being built especially for the O. C. W. girls. These four golf courses have been equipped with my sand green golf cups and steel flagstaffs which have proven very satisfactory.

I notice that a number of the miniature courses are not using regulation cups. I would suggest that any greenkeeper who recommends or constructs practice courses of any kind insist on regulation cups being used. Of course, some of the Tom Thumb greens are so small that when a regulation cup is placed in them there is no putt left.

In the December issue of the NATIONAL GREEN-KEEPER I became very interested in Mr. Henderson's story and suggestions dealing with practice golf courses. I had already planned to make a driving course and was wondering how I might arrange

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some other practice shots in connection with it but since I read Mr. Henderson's suggestions on the pitch and putt course I decided just to reverse the situation and build the driving course in connection with it. I believe most every club or club member would appreciate having a practice course of this kind. As a rule, practicing on the golf course is not satisfactory, especially when match plays are being played.

I should be glad to furnish free to any member of the N. A. G. A. any information concerning the construction and maintenance of sand greens.



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NO. 2 GREEN-299 YARDS-4 PAR.

This sand green is on a knoll and affords a chance for a possible three in that the ball can be pitched right to the pin the second shot with the hope of having it stick. A trap has been placed to the right and back to catch the long shot.

This is a typical sand green surrounded with a good Bermuda turf and equipped with a sand green cup and a keen steel flagstaff, which allows the player to hole out from off the green with less danger of striking the flagstaff. I am standing back of green to show elevation.