

### OUR HOST AND HIS GOLF COURSE

Al was born and raised in Eastern Colorado, and after a tour of duty in the army moved to California in 1970. He began his golf course career at Almaden CC in 1974 under the direction of Bob Ford as his assistant. In 1978 Al went to the Villages Golf and CC as the assistant to Jim Ross. When Jim took another position Al was promoted to Superintendent in 1981. After five plus years as superintendent Al became certified through GCSAA, and then in July of 1987 took the Superintendent's position at Santa Clara Golf and Tennis complex which is managed by American Golf Corp.

The Santa Clara Golf and Tennis Club was constructed on a sanitary landfill from the plans of architect Robert Muir Graves. The course was officially opened on April 4, 1987 and sits amid a complex comprised of the Santa Clara Convention Center, a 500 room DoubleTree Hotel, and an ultramodern office and display complex entitled Techmart. American Golf Corp. began managing the Golf and Tennis Operation in May.

The relatively long (6853 yards from the blue rating marker) and rolling golf course with many blind shots, and the ever present afternoon wind which blows off the southern tip of San Francisco Bay, has accommodated over 77,000 rounds in the 10 months American Golf has managed the golf course. Built in an area which is very flat, the course rises from the surrounding ground level to a height of about 80 feet at the 12th green. The rolling hills were created by bringing in some 950,000 yards of fill to cover the existing cap over the land fill and the addition of one foot of sand over the tees and fairways was included in the 165 acre site. Features of the course include a 440 yard par four (15th hole) which plays directly into the wind and a lone par three (236 yards) which plays into a three-quarter wind along with large, undulating pencil greens. The NCGA rating is 72.2 from the blue and 70.5 from the white. Tom Hale is the Head Professional. Richard Muzzy is the General Manager.