

Trees

By **SEAN TULLY**, Meadow Club

Most of our Bay area courses were first built with very little in the way of trees. Courses like those found at Olympic Club, the Presidio, and the Cal Club were all heavily planted with trees to reduce the effects of wind on the course. These courses were planted early on and have come to be known for the trees as much as for the golf course itself. Among other courses in the area, trees were planted over the years with a large effort to plant trees during the 1930s. There are some wonderful aerials of San Francisco golf courses that were taken in 1937-8 that show that trees were already being planted on golf courses. It has been commonly thought that most of these trees were planted in the 1950s with the increased efforts of individuals and groups in celebration of Arbor Day.

Now we see these same courses removing trees for better turf conditions and increased playability. More thought is going into the proper management of trees on our golf courses and the results have made for far better experience on the golf course. One of my favorite comments on our Tree Management Program at my course was by one of our pros who said, "By taking out that one tree I can see more trees."

The following photos show the 9th hole at the California Golf Club. The first one shows the course in 1980 and the second shows the course shortly after the renovation work done there by Golf Architect Kyle Phillips, and by Thomas Bastis, CGCS and his staff. Sometimes it takes more than one tree to do the trick!!



The California Golf Club, 1980



After renovations

GREENER LONGER

GREEN LAWNGER® TURF COLORANTS

For a quick and easy solution for natural-looking, year-round green turf, add Green Lawnger® brand turf colorants to your management program.

Green Lawnger turf colorants restore natural-looking green color to dormant or discolored turf, and will not break down from UV light for long-lasting results.

BEFORE

AFTER



Greg Wahl
greg.wahl@beckerunderwood.com
925.519.2193 • beckerunderwood.com



™, ® Trademarks, registered or applied for, of Becker Underwood, Inc., Ames.