



The Coach Approach

The Newsletter of the Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association

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January 1999

From the Clubhouse:

Winter is a time to look back, ahead

A belated Merry Christmas to all of you. Hopefully, your stockings were stuffed with balls, gloves, drivers, putters, clubs, shoes, golf vacations, etc. etc.. My wife gave me a tear drop putter, which I was thinking about getting next spring. I love it, and can't wait to use it on course (without snow, of course).

Now that blizzard of 99 has hit, some of the courses in the southern part of the state are finally closed until spring (which hopefully will be early again). What a year 98 was for playing golf. A number of courses started opening up in March and stayed open for the rest of the year. Not to mention the fact that on most of the days the weather was good as well.

Now that we are in January there are already some signs that the 99 season is just around corner. This past week I received two copies of the January issue of The Golfsmith Store which has some good deals (especially the used Orlimar fairway woods which could be a possibility). In the Journal Sentinel this morning the golf beat writer, Gary D'Amato, had his first column of the year. The first pro

tournament of the year, the Tournament of Champions, has finished in Hawaii. Kids are coming in and asking questions about upcoming season. And, and,... it just keeps snowing everyday (I'm now finishing this report the following week, after over 30 inches of snow and counting).

Now that we have gotten well into January, the upcoming season begins to loom larger. A couple of reminders: the Spring Golf Clinic will again be held at Western Lakes Golf course in Pewaukee, this year on Saturday March 13. It would be great to see as many of you as possible. Also, the annual W. H. S. G. C. A meeting, clinic, and outing will be held the next two years at North Wood Golf Course just west of Rhinelander on Highway 8. This year it is on Tuesday, June 15. Hope to see you there as well. It's a great track. In the practice tee in the last issue of the Coach Approach we saw holes one through six. In this issue we will see Nos. 7 to 12.

Other reminders: if you have completed 25 years for more coaching, or know someone who has, please fill out the form in the last coach approach and send it to TJ Dieck. His address is on the form. Also in the last issue were the Allstate boys and girls nomination forms, friend of high school golf and W. H. S. G. C. A. Hall of Fame award. And, and case you know someone who isn't a member, an application for membership form was on the back page. Finally, your association representatives were listed on the inside back page. If you have a question or comment about something, please feel

free to contact your rep.

Our second raffle this year should easily surpass last years, mainly because we will have a number of prizes rather than just one big prize. We would still like to get more golfing for two with cart prizes and if you can help out in that regard, contact Scott Meyer at 920 - 262 - 3166. (If the raffle is enough of a success, we can then pay the W. H. S. G. C. A. president a salary - cough, cough).

Now, you may turn the page to part 3 of "A Vacation to Remember" or "Honey, I know I'm Senile, but Just How Bad is it?"

Hope to see you in March (and June).

Bob Lehninger

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The Practice Tee

Creating a new or enhancing an existing program

In an effort to help us all become better coaches, this column is dedicated to providing ideas to improving our programs. We at the "Coach Approach" would like to hear from you. What do you do that works? Do you have basic program philosophies that have been successful? Do you have certain drills that seem to help high school students improve their swings or that teach them more effective ways to lower their scores? We want to hear from you. Every year we receive requests from new coaches who are struggling to establish a program. We have attempted to share our ideas in a coaches forum at our spring (March) clinic, but time constraints limit the information presented. Please share your ideas, whether simple or complex. We want your ideas! This first column will get us started with a few ideas that are an integral part of my program. Some of these ideas are mine while others were gleaned from other coaches who were gracious enough to share some of their philosophies. I indeed learned much, when I was younger, from the older coaches. Now is time for those of us who can be considered grizzled veterans to teach the younger coaches.

1. This is probably the most important advice I could give any coach: **Let the players determine who is going to play.** This one is a no brainer. **The lowest number is best!** I use the Wake Forest system. The lowest two total scores from the previous week are exempt from qualifying. Coach gets one pick if he/she chooses and the rest of your team goes into qualifying rounds. I try to have qualifying over 18 or 27 holes to prevent, as much as possible, the fluke score, but even if that happens, so what! The player earned the opportunity to play! In my program we use the Saturday tournament score combined with our Monday and Wednesday conference scores to determine which players go into the Thursday/Friday qualifying rounds. Those who are exempt hit balls on the practice range while the others are playing. Ideally our qualifying round can be completed on Thursday so the entire team can concentrate on their Friday

short game practice. Tuesday is devoted to the practice range. Over the years I have heard numerous players complain that they were not playing in the top five when they should be. The first question I ask is if their scores are better than the person playing. If they can prove that they are then the coach is dead wrong in not playing them, especially early in the season. At some time during the season you should determine the starting five, but probably not until just before the conference final or maybe the invitational or match just before. That way you have total control over who plays at the finish of the regular season and the state tournament series. **But, determine your starting five based on their match or tournament season average.** That is the only average that is important. Once I select my starting five, it will not change unless the number six man has an average within .5 strokes of the number five player, and he/she has one or two bad outings at the end of the season. Then I may decide to have a playoff between those two. In this way no player can ever complain about not being treated fairly. If their score does not beat their competition, then they don't play. If they don't understand that, then I assume they are numerically challenged! Remember, you need not put yourself into a position to receive criticism from your players or their parents. Just let the numbers do the talking for you!

2. Work closely with the pro or management at your home golf course. They are your friend! You need their cooperation. **NEVER** assume anything! Develop a calendar that you will follow and hand it out to your players, their parents, your athletic director and the course management. That way there is never any question where practice will be or where the team competition is being held. Try to also estimate when you will be returning to school so parents do not become alarmed by some of our late nights.

Do not assume you can do anything you want with your team at your course. Always get permission ahead of time. If your team is going to play a practice round at home, have the common courtesy to make the necessary tee times ahead of that day. Otherwise, your players may be disappointed. Always stay with your team until practice is finished. Nothing irritates course management more than having a team on site and a coach nowhere around to monitor behavior. This is another nobrainer! You are responsible for your players from the time you leave for practice or a competition until you return to school. Don't let your home golf course down on this one! You need them!

3. Develop a seasonal schedule in order

to peak your players at the optimum time. During the early portion of the season my players concentrate on their swing

fundamentals and on learning how to hit speciality full shots and appropriate short game shots to better deal with the various situations they face during competition. Every two weeks we reduce their practice time spent hitting balls and increase their playing time. This will begin to improve their scoring ability. By the end of the season they are playing four or five days out of six. Additionally it is important to keep working on course management skills and on the individual players confidence. By combining all three, your golfers should be hitting their peak scoring potential by conference final and regional/sectional/state tournament time.

4. Use travel time wisely. Some of my best coaching is done in the van on the way to or from competition or practice. I may use the opportunity to play a psychology of golf tape, or we will talk about the course we are about to compete on. Every Friday, and again on Monday I go over the coming weeks schedule so there are no misunderstandings. I even have my captain total the weeks scores on Wednesday to determine who is exempt from and who must qualify for the following weeks competition. Most important, we discuss each players round on our way home. My players love to fill out their performance sheets after each competition so that we can discuss them. They want and need to know that I deeply care about their performance that day. Use your travel time to optimize your golfers playing ability.

5. Be organized. Develop a schedule prior to the start of the season. It doesn't mean that at the last minute you can't change your mind for a given day, but determining practices at the last minute is no way to coach.

6. Always have team practices. It amazes me how often I hear other coaches or players talk about practicing on their own. You are the coach of a team! Always have team practices and require 100% attendance unless you must excuse a player for religious, medical or specific family emergency needs. **DO NOT** assume players will practice on their own. They **WILL** assume that if you are not holding a scheduled practice then practice is **NOT** important! Make it vital!

7. Have practices for an appropriate length of time. Golf is a sport that requires more practice time than any other sport that I am aware of. A one and one half hour practice accomplishes little for the developing high school player. Twice the practice time can achieve far more and in a shorter span of weeks. I can't tell you how many dedicated players on other teams in our conference have joined us for our last two

hours of practice because their coach ended their team's practice after 1 1/4 or 1 1/2 hours. Good golfers know they will NOT reach their potential working much less than three hours a day. We are training muscles through PROPER practice, therefore, 250 shots per practice session for relatively experienced players is most appropriate. Make sure your players take necessary breaks to restore their physical energy and mental focus. Practice to just get through 250 shots serves no purpose whatsoever. Additionally, the golfers may not be quite strong enough to hit 250 early in the season, so build up to that number. For relatively experienced girls, 150-200 shots per practice session will probably be enough, but don't be surprised if really experienced and dedicated girls want to practice for a longer period of time. Some can hit as many golf balls as the boys. It's all a matter of what expectations you set for your team and what your players want out of the sport. And don't be afraid to adjust your expectations slightly. If you have a team that likes to play golf for the fun of it, then don't have quite the same expectations that you might have for a team of golfers who want to play at the college level when they graduate. Adjust to the needs of your players. It's what makes you a great coach.

8. Try to play as few matches or tournaments at home as is possible. This might shock many of you, but when kids, or adults for that matter, play the same course over and over there is less pressure to think about hitting shots. They just get up and swing away because they know what's out there. There is little if any fear. There is little hesitation or trepidation prior to hitting most any shot because they know where to hit the ball and have probably hit the shot many times before. This means successful scoring at home, but what happens when they must play away from home. Unfamiliarity with another golf course causes doubts to surface. Suddenly, an easy 5 iron shot at home, causes fear away from home. These doubts expose all the weaknesses in their swing fundamentals resulting in much higher scores than we would expect. And how many times do you play your conference final, or regionals, or sectionals or the state tournament on your home course? To prepare them for the most important rounds at the end of the season, play most of your meets on the road. Get your golfers accustomed to strange surroundings. When they play in the season ending tournaments, it's just like the rest of the season. They are accustomed to being on the road. It is a big advantage. In my program we usually don't play more than once or twice at home per season. I like it that way.

Now let's hear from you. Even if it is just

one idea, it may help a lot of coaches improve their ability to be more effective with kids. And that's what we are all about!



In our last issue my wife and I arrived in London then took the train to Edinburgh. We played North Berwick Links and then settled in at Dalkeith House, the 17th century manor house now leased by several Wisconsin State Universities. For a mere 10 pounds, or seventeen dollars per person, we stayed in a 5 baronial manor and enjoyed a great breakfast the following morning. Then it was off to the birthplace of golf, St. Andrews. From Dalkeith House one connects to A720 the bypass around Edinburgh and up to the Forth Bridge which extends over the Firth of Forth. M90, A four lane carriage way leads North to A91, then east towards our destination.

It was about 10:15 on a Friday morning when we arrived at this holy spot. The town of St. Andrews is at least 1100 years old. The land that the Old Course sits on was granted the town by the King David in 1123 as common land to be readily available to all the citizens of St. Andrews to be used in whatever way they wished. As a result, the commons, as the land was called, was used in all sorts of activities, from rabbit farming to archery practice to laundering clothes in Swilken Burn (creek) that crosses the first and 18th fairways. However, by 1400 a number of citizens of St. Andrews were using the commons for the game of golf. At first there were 22 holes but much later, in 1764, some shorter holes were combined to form 18 holes, thereby setting the standard for all future courses.

Golf didn't come easily to Scotland. In 1457 King James III banned golf because it was distracting young men from their archery practice. King James IV removed the ban because golfers were ignoring it, and because he was hooked on the game.

In the late 1700's, legal and physical battles between rabbit farmers and golfers ensued on the links. Lasting over 20 years, the case was even heard by the House of Lords. In the end, a local land owner, and golfer, bought out the rabbit farmers and the links were saved for golfers.

In 1848, the gutta percha ball was first produced in St. Andrews, and it's much cheaper price meant the feathery ball was doomed.

The course layout has changed little in the last two hundred years as a map from the very early 1800's proves. But, modern machinery makes the course play differently than 200 years ago. Two interesting changes occurred in the late 19th century. First, the fairways were very narrow through the whin bushes so golfers played to the same holes going out and coming in. As the game became more popular, golfers in different matches found themselves playing to the same holes from different directions. To eliminate this congestion, two holes were cut into the greens. Today, holes 2-8 and 10 - 16 are double greens, with holes 1, 9, 17 and 18 having single greens. Interestingly, the course used to be played backwards, or in a clockwise direction. Then the golfers alternated between clockwise and counter clockwise outings every week. Now, however, the courses played only in a counter clockwise direction which means that sliced balls move away from on-coming players.

I was, as you can imagine, quite excited upon our arrival in St. Andrews. We went directly to the course. My son had told me that being able to play was not difficult as a single because there had been lots of threesomes signed up the several times he has been there. But, this was a Friday, the last day of the week for non-members to play. Saturday's are reserved for members only, and the course is closed on Sundays. After two and a half hours of waiting, my name was called. I would be joining another single from the US and a Swedish club professional, originally from Leeds, England, and one of his members.

My wife, who had gone shopping for the past two hours agreed to walk along and videotape the course. I paid my 72 pounds (\$122) green fees and then got a caddy for another 32 pounds or \$55 and was soon to be off on the oldest golf course in the world. By the way, don't even think of playing the Old Course without benefit of a caddy. You will have no idea where to aim on the many blind shots without their services. In addition, their ability to read greens is invaluable.

The opening hole is a short par four about 350 yards in length from the tees non-members use. To the left of the first hole is the eighteenth hole. It is a wide area with no rough. Waiting to play my tee shot, I noticed that the greens, teeboxes and fairways were all cut the same height! As a result, the entire area looks like a huge green. In fact, if the land in front of the green is flat and has no bunkers, it is almost impossible to tell where the fairway ends and the green is supposed

to begin! My opening tee shot, played in front of over 200 people waiting to play, or just watching, was a beauty that stayed short of the left hand curve of the Swilken Burn, a narrow creek that curves through the 18th and 1st fairways on its way to the North Sea. My caddy had specifically suggested that I hit a fairway wood or long iron, but I had confidence in my driver. After my drive stopped a mere 7 yards away from the hazard, I handed him the driver with a smug look on my face. He just looked at me and shook his head. A short wedge to ten feet and an easy two putt par, and we were off.

The Old Course played to about 6300 yards and to a par of 72. I will try to hit a few high (or low) lights. First, there are almost no trees on the course, and it's difficult to get a feel for distances. Second, many of the bunkers cannot be seen. You need a caddy to avoid them. (I am assuming, of course, that you have the ability to hit the ball where your caddy tells you to!) A number of the fairways are hidden! Either you have to carry whin bushes or gorse, or have to play into an adjoining fairway where golfers are moving in the opposite direction. The Old Course is different from our courses in that it is laid out on a long thin strip of land wide enough for two golf holes. On a number of the holes, the best routing is from the adjoining fairway. You would think that the course is, therefore, dangerous to play, but that is not the case.

Hole 2 is a blind tee shot. The tee box on holes 2, 3, 4 and 5 almost touch the previous green. Scary when you think about the ability level of those behind you. Hole 3 is also a blind tee shot and what looks like the line to hit your tee shot on is actually 40-50 yards left of where you need to aim. Hole 5 is a 485 yard par 5. Two round bunkers set into a large hill need to be carried to reach the green. These bunkers look as if they are just in front of the green, but are actually over 50 yards from the front edge. Between them and the green is a huge gully.

Hole 7 is a most unusual par four because its fairway and the 11th fairway criss-cross each other, although you don't realize it until you get within 50 yards of the green. Number 7 shares a green with hole 11. Coming from the left you hit to the right side of the green on hole 7, while you come from the right on hole 11 and play the left side of the green. Yet, it seems to work. Hole 9 is a short par 4 some 300 yards long. With bunkers in front of the green, one must hit their tee shot to the right. The Swedish pro two putted this hole for a birdie, but his tee shot was at least 60 yards right and slightly short of the green. Because the land is flat to the right of the green, and because the grass is cut to green height, he used his putter for the 60 yard 2nd shot, and hit it within 3 feet of the

hole. Scottish golf is somewhat different.

On the front nine I shot 5 over par 41 with four 3 putt greens. Some of these greens cover over an acre and you can easily have putts of over 100 yards in length. After pars on 10 and 11, I birdie 12 and figured I was on my way. A par on a tough par 4 13th and it was looking better and better for a score under 80. Hole 14 is named long. It is some 525 yards long with 11 bunkers between the tee and green. After a reasonable drive into the Elysian Fields, my caddy informed me that the proper play was to the left of Hell bunker, which cannot be seen from the fairway, and into the adjoining 5th fairway. When I asked if there was another group in the way on number 5, he just said, "don't worry about them laddie." Well, I was worried. Worried about unseen players on hole 5. Worried about Hell bunker, which look huge in the yardage booklet, and unable to determine how far I needed to hit the ball to carry the bunker if I hit the shot further right than I intended. The end result was two rolled fairway wood shots, the realization that I could have easily carried the bunker, and a double bogey 7 on the hole. A par on 15 left me six over with three to play.

16 is a sucker hole. There are 3 bunkers in a cluster down the right center of the fairway. You can play to the right of them having a shorter 2nd shot, but there is only a 22 yard landing area, and an out of bounds fence. I bogied the hole and now faced having to make pars at the long Road Hole, number 17, and a shorter 18th in order to break 80.

Number 17 is the most famous hole on the Old Course. It plays some 450 yards from the middle tees, and you must hit your tee shot over the dark green sheds on the right, which stand about 2 stories high and are immediately in front of you. They are also out of bounds. Playing safe to the left of the sheds is safer but you cannot reach the green on your 2nd shot. I hit a perfect tee shot over the sheds with a small fade which my caddy pronounced as the perfect tee shot. He later reminded me it took a lot of guts to hit that shot. I had a 2 iron 2nd shot left to the pin, but not wanting to mess with the deep bunker left of the green, or the road (in play) and stone wall immediately to the right of the green, I hit a 4 iron that ran up just short of the putting surface. From a tight lie, I wedged the ball onto the elevated green where it slid to the right and stopped 18 inches from the hole. I was about to par one of the most difficult and famous golf holes in the world! I thought about that putt a lot! Too much! I missed the stupid thing! What an idiot. I had talked myself out of making the putt. I was upset and embarrassed. I now had to birdie 18, only 340 yards long, but with a very

difficult green to putt, and the famous Valley of Sin lying in front of a slightly elevated green. Still upset, I popped my tee skyward. It didn't come close to reaching Granny Clark's Wynd (road) which traverses the fairway some 230 yards out. I was left with a fairway wood 2nd shot which found the Valley of Sin. A pitch and 2 putts later I had an 81. "Like kissing your sister!"

The Old Course is a funny layout. No earth was moved. Bunkers are located where sheep dug down into the sand/dirt to escape the wind. Fairways were not smoothed. Teeing areas almost touch the previous green. The course has few trees so it seems wide open but it's not. There are only 11 greens on the course. And yet, its history is unmatched. It was a thrill to stand on the first tee, to cross Swilken Burn Bridge, to almost par 17, to play the last 2 holes while a bagpiper played us in. A funky course, but a major thrill!

Finding a bed and breakfast in golf towns in Scotland is a relatively easy affair unless it is British Open week and the tournament is in town. After a good nights sleep, we drove a few blocks back to the course to take another look. You can stand outside the split rail fence along side the 18th fairway and green and watch the golfers finish their round. When we arrived, the 7 o'clock match was just finishing. It was 9:15. This foursome had played 18 holes in 2 hours, 15 minutes. Slow play in Scotland means any round that takes over 2 and one half hours! A bit more shopping at the many golf shops in St. Andrews and it was off to the northern highlands with a stop at Glamis Castle, home of the "Queen Mum" along the way. Our destination was the town of Nairn along the Moray Firth, part of the North Sea.

Our trip north was very enjoyable. The highlands are very beautiful, and the people are really great. We arrived in Nairn about 7 o'clock, found a bed and breakfast, the town must have hundreds of them, and then went to dinner. Do you like salmon? It's on everyone's menu, breakfast, lunch and dinner. And, it is fresh! There are, of course, many, many other items on the menu. A day off from golf left us thinking about our round the next morning at Nairn Golf Club, over 125 years old, and the site of the 1999 Walker Cup competition.

Nairn is a true sea side links course with the first 7 holes going "out" right alongside the Moray Firth. Hole 8 comes back and 9 goes further out. Then, 10 starts back "in," with holes 13-15 at right angles to the other holes. Hole 14 is a 221 yard par 3 from the championship tee. It looks toward Moray Firth from high atop a hill. It is a strikingly beautiful view, one you would certainly want to take pictures of. The course measured

almost 6500 yards from the tees I used. From the forward tees the course measured almost 5800 yards for my wife. Playing into a 30 mile per hour wind on the outward 9 was tough and I shot 5 over par 40. However, on the down wind "in" side I made a birdie on hole 17 and an eagle 3 on the 530 yard par 5 18th hole. Down wind. I hit a driver that carried long and rolled forever, avoiding some 6 bunkers on the way. A 6 iron 2nd shot landed some 50 yards short of the green and rolled to within 10 feet of the cup. One putt later. I had a 1 under par 35 on the backside and a 75 total for 18 holes. My wife had a wonderful 2 putt from about 60 feet and proudly announced that she made an 8 on the hole, after which she asked what I had on the hole! Boy, don't they ever pay attention to what we do?

There are some very interesting and fun holes to play on this course. Although the green fees are somewhat high, \$85 per player on the weekends, I would encourage anyone to make a tee time here. The staff was friendly and my wife and I were able to play as a twosome, as we were at North Berwick. I really enjoyed my experience in Nairn and at the golf course. It is a very good layout, and was in excellent condition.

Following the round, we headed south-east towards Aberdeen and then south to Abroath. Again, we found a bed and breakfast for the evening and another wonderful seaside restaurant for dinner. The Arbroath Abbey in the center of town was founded in 1178 by William the Lionhearted. The next morning it was but a short drive to Carnoustie Golf Links, home to the 1999 British Open.

Carnoustie has a reputation for being one of the toughest courses in the world. Whoever made this claim hit the nail on the head. I hit the ball well and shot 87! Although not right next to the North Sea, hole number 1 is probably within 1000 yards of the water. The holes closest to the water have the typical large sand dunes and hollows of a seaside links, but holes further inland have more trees and take on a parkland setting. From the tees we used on that Monday, the course played 6644 with a wind of 35 to 40 miles per hour. Carnoustie is tough under any circumstances but with this much wind you certainly did not want to get any shots high into the wind. It also helps to know the course, like St. Andrews, but there were no caddies available on this day. My three playing partners were all Americans playing the course for the first time, certainly not helping matters any. On the first 6 holes my scorecard showed 4 bogeys and 2 doubles. Hole 5 hurt the most. Finally going downwind, I hit a good tee shot that reached a hidden burn 302 yards away. I could not imagine hitting a tee shot that long, even downwind. I then

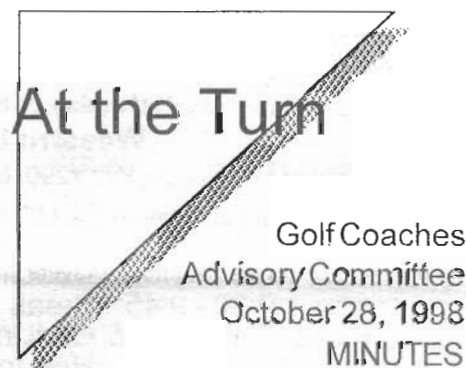
missed the green from 83 yards, chipped poorly and two putted for a double. Pars on 7, 8 and 9 helped me finish strong.

On the back 9, 2 bogeys was not a bad start. Hole 12 is a 450 yard par 4 with the wind up to 40 miles per hour right to left. A great tee shot left a 2 iron which I drew just a tiny bit, but with the wind, the ball ended in a position I have never experienced before. I was in a pot bunker for only the 2nd time in 3 and one-half rounds, but this one made up for all the others I missed. It was small. It was very deep, about 12 feet deep, and my ball was in the left front corner. I could not advance the ball forward, or left, or right, or backward. All I could do was try to bounce my shot off the bunker wall hard enough to give me a swing of some kind. 2 swings later I had a blind shot out of the bunker. My 5th shot reached the green some 10 feet from the pin, lucky, but 2 putts gave me a triple bogey 7.

Hole 14, called the Spectacles because 2 bunkers lie some 320 from the tee and 65 yards short of the green on this par 5. The tee shot is very difficult, forcing the golfer to squeeze the ball through a narrow opening between some high, thick whin bushes on either side of the fairway and then draw the ball to follow the dogleg fairway. I stuck my best drive in 4 rounds and was left a 180 yard 2nd shot to the very elevated green. Being down wind, I struck a solid 5 iron over the spectacles and watched as the ball disappeared. Somehow, I avoided 2 hidden bunkers just in front of the green and was left with an 8 foot eagle putt. A 2nd eagle in 2 days was not to be, however. One more bogey on fifteen and we were moving quickly because a front was rapidly moving in. The winds hit before we reached the 16th tee. The hole played 225 yards long and I hit the front of the green with a 6 iron, of course being downwind. The winds were now up to about 50 miles per hour and it was very difficult to stand up. And the rain began. It was coming sideways. Thank goodness I had a rain suit. I would not have dared open up my Gustbuster umbrella, even though it was rated to withstand winds of 60 miles per hour. I 3 putted the hole and made my way to the 17th tee. What a hole! 425 yards, three times over a wandering burn, to a hidden green. The foursome teed off, but I never saw them again until the 18th tee. It took a solid tee shot, some 10 feet high, followed by a 10 foot high fairway wood and a 4 iron struck about 6 feet high to reach this green. I 2 putted for a great bogey then proceeded to the 18th tee to await my playing companions, not one of whom hit more than 2 shots before giving up the ghost on 17. Watch for the 3 finishing holes on TV this summer.

Wow, what a finish! 18 is a 438 yard par 4. After hitting our tee shots, the wind and rain began to subside a bit. This hole has a burn that crosses the fairway 3 times, including along the front of the green. A bogey left me with a score of 87. By now the rain had ended. I spoke briefly with the starter and he indicated that the course could be stretched to 7500 yards, no player in the world would break 80 playing under the conditions we played. Tiger Woods included!

I would rank Carnoustie as the best course followed by Nairn, St. Andrews and North Berwick, but all were great. I don't think I ever played a tougher course than Carnoustie under those conditions. If you ever get the opportunity, please golf in Scotland. The people are super. They really love Americans! The courses are a "real" golfing experience. They are truly fun to play. It was, without a doubt, one of my greatest experiences!



This summary represents the recommendations of this Committee and is not to be construed as a change or revision of existing rules or regulations. Final action on all items taken by the Board of Control at their January meeting are in parenthesis.

Committee in attendance: Rod Hanson (Lodi), Jake Orłowski (De Pere), Lee Kaczmarek (Waukesha South), Muffet Miller (Glenwood City), Joan Olson (Sparta), and Dave Roberts (Brookfield East). Deb Hauser attended the meeting representing the WIAA. The meeting was chaired by Lee Kaczmarek and the minutes were recorded by Muffet Miller. Rod Hanson, Jake Orłowski, Joan Olson and Dave Roberts received WIAA pins as recognition of their first year of service on this committee.

I. 1997 MEETING MINUTES

A. A motion by Rod Hanson seconded by Muffet Miller to approve the minutes of the 1997 Golf Coaches Advisory Committee meeting. Passed unanimously.

II. SEASON REGULATIONS

A. Review of WIAA Season Regulations

B. Riding Cart Rule

Motion by Lee Kaczmarek seconded by Joan Olson to recommend the riding cart rule be reworded as follows: Caddies, electric golf caddie, and riding carts are not permitted, except a riding cart may be approved by the WIAA for an individual with permanent illness/disability. Permission must be requested for using a riding cart for permanent illness/disability prior to the individual's first meet. Passed unanimously. Note: Permanent replaces long term in current language. (APPROVED)

C. Summer Rules (Tournament Series Only)

Discussion on the need for emphasis that summer rules will be played at all times unless the golf course deems it necessary to change. This item needs to be added to the tournament information sent to coaches and host schools.

D. Coaching Rule

Lengthy discussion. Results of a survey of the golf coaches was shared. However, currently there is not a clear cut opinion one way or another on the coaching provision. However, a clarification will be added to the current rule as follows... coaches may give advice ONLY from holing out (walking off the green) to teeing off (entering the tee box) on the next hole. Players may leave the tee box to receive advice from their coach. (New language underlined.) (APPROVED FOR SPRING 99)

E. Coach Designation

Motion by Jake Orlowski to recommend that each school be allowed to have one designated coach during a meet that is allowed to talk to his/her players. That person must be under contract with the school as a golf coach. Passed unanimously.

F. Golf Sport Meetings

Golf sport meetings will be eliminated. One annual meeting will be conducted at the spring golf coaches clinic.

G. Out-of-Season Contact.

1. Contact during the Summer - No change in current rule recommended for golf.
2. Contact during the school year - Would like to have opportunity to have contact with players from the time golf courses open in the spring until they close in fall. Many golf coaches are also golf professionals and make a living from giving lessons, etc.
3. Nonschool competition during a sport season - consider eliminating international component to exceptional athlete waiver as several tournaments held do not allow international competitors.
4. Camp limitations - No change in current rule recommended for golf.

5. Transportation restrictions - No change in current rule recommended for golf.

6. Out-of-state meet - No change in current rule recommended for golf.

H. Ejection Rule

Motion by Lee Kaczmarek, seconded by Dave Roberts to recommend disqualifications as a result of USGA rule violations (i.e., signing a wrong score, arriving late for a tee time, etc.) Would not require a player to miss the next event for unsportsmanlike conduct. Passed unanimously. (APPROVED)

I. Spectators on Courses

It was agreed that spectators should be welcome at high school golf meets. WIAA tournament events should be scheduled at courses that allow spectators to be on the course. Some courses have rules which prohibit spectators from being on the course.

III. TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

A. Review of WIAA Tournament Procedures

B. Sectional Pairings By Order of Finish

Motion by Jake Orlowski, seconded by Joan Olson, to recommend teams and individuals be paired at sectionals based on their finish rather than their score at the regional (i.e., first place teams paired together, second place teams paired together). This system would group players with new players they have not played with before and would minimize that one course was more difficult than another. Passed unanimously. (APPROVED FOR SPRING 1999)

C. State Pairings By Order of Finish

Motion by Muffet Miller, seconded by Lee Kaczmarek, to recommend teams and individuals at the state tournament be paired by their order of finish rather than their team score at the sectional for Day 1 groupings. Passed unanimously. Continue to make pairings for Day 2 based on Day 1 scores. (IMPLEMENTED SPRING 1999)

D. Tournament Items

No playoff needed at the regional level for medalist - no medal awarded. Follow same coaching rules used all season at the state tournament even though WSGA rules officials are on site. Coaches should be encouraged to stop players from doing something wrong and have them ask for a ruling. Tournament managers should be instructed to post hole by hole scores at regional and sectional tournaments on large scoresheets.

E. Scorekeepers

Motion by Joan Olson, seconded by Muffet Miller, to recommend adult scorekeepers be required at the state tournament. Re-

gional and sectional hosts should be given the opportunity to use scorekeepers if practical. Passed unanimously. Guidelines for the duties of the scorekeepers will be developed jointly by the WIAA and the Coaches Advisory Committee members. (REFERRED BACK)

F. Use of Carts at the State Tournament

Considerable discussion. Motion by Rod Hanson, seconded by Dave Roberts, to recommend that if a coach needs a cart due to a physical problem, he/she would not be allowed to have anyone ride with him/her and would not be allowed to carry equipment (rain suits, umbrellas, etc.) Or food for his/her players. A sticker would be placed on the cart identifying the driver as a coach. Passed unanimously. (IMPLEMENTED FALL 1999)

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

WHSGCA Fall Minutes

The WHSGCA's annual fall meeting was held at Winnagamie Golf Course, near Appleton, on Sunday, November 8th. President Bob Lehniger called the meeting to order at 10:08 AM. Twenty of the twenty one board members were present. Gayle Wilfong was absent. The board members introduced themselves and, then, the minutes from the June meeting were read.

TJ Dieck gave a positive treasurer's report as he indicated that the current balance is \$8,800. This is approximately \$1,800 higher than usual for this time of year.

Joe Harlow reported that the membership is currently 235 and usually gets to be about 280 at the end of the year. 300 members seems to be an attainable goal for the year as assistant coaches and retired coaches may also join the WHSGCA.

Don Marx presented the Girls All State Golf prospects and, after much discussion, the first team, second team and honorable mention were selected. The selections are noted in this issue of the Coach Approach. All first team members will receive a plaque from the Association.

John Lonergan, who is proficient in graphics, plans to make certificates and a letterhead for the WHSGCA.

Next on the agenda, Arnold Walker from the WSGA talked to the board about a hands-on clinic for coaches and players. Mr. Walker actually represents several organizations. He talked about a concern for more rules instruction and for the pace of play. He proposed a clinic that would be set up at many sites throughout the state to help our high school golfers to become more knowledgeable about the rules, etiquette, etc of the game of golf. His idea was very well received

by the board and it was proposed to have a preview of the hands-on-clinic at the spring clinic and possibly at the June clinic.

Scott Meyer gave the raffle report and indicated that it will be bigger and better than last year. There again will be a grand prize, but there also will be many more additional prizes. All coaches that are members of the WHSOCA will receive a mailing in January with twenty raffle tickets that they will be encouraged to sell. TJ Dieck will produce a letter listing all prizes. The raffle drawings will take place at the June clinic at Rhinelander.

Tom Conrad handed out and commented on the results of the June clinic held at the Springs near Spring Green. Bob Schweder talked about the upcoming June clinic to be held at Northwood Country Club in Rhinelander. The date for the Board Meeting will take place the day before at Northwood.

Kris Schoonover (Oshkosh) and Joe Meloy (MSOE) gave the college report. Six women's programs are now in the WIAC. They are Eau Claire, Oshkosh, Platteville, Stevens Point, Superior, and Whitewater. The men's golf team at Eau Claire is currently ranked in the top 20 for its division. An article on college golf in Wisconsin will be in one of the upcoming editions of *Coach Approach*.

Roger Prikette of Watertown and Bill Berkholtz of Burlington were introduced as new members of the board. Roger coaches the girls team at Watertown while Bill has both programs at Burlington.

Kaz gave the WIAA advisory committee report. The committee met on November 4th near Stevens Point at the WIAA headquarters. He commented on the recent survey, in the *Coach Approach*, on coaches playing golf during the competition and coaching during the competition. 65 coaches responded and the responses were mixed. No change in these two policies occurred. The wording for coaching during the competition was changed slightly to say that you may coach after your player has holed out and has walked off the green until he or she walks onto the next tee. Carts for coaches at the State tournament were denied and the use of carts for special cases would be only for people with a permanent illness or disability. Also, Kaz noted that regional, sectional and state sites for competition must play summer rules unless conditions are deemed not good enough. Each school is allowed one designated coach at the competition and that coach must be under contract by the school district as a golf coach. Many other ideas were brought up at the meeting such as scorekeepers at the WIAA tournaments. A suggested scorekeeping method is explained in this issue of the *Coach Approach*. Also, there were several other recommendations.

Bob Lehninger read a letter from Gayle Wilfong. It was noted that there should be a board member present at all spring rules meetings to promote membership in the Association and the raffle.

Dave Blake and Mary Beth Nienhaus reported on the plans for the Spring Clinic. It again will be held at Western Lakes Golf Course east of Waukesha. Dave mentioned that, tentatively, Carl Unis would talk about various topics. The afternoon would be devoted to rules. A suggestion was made that a panel of college golf coaches would be an excellent session. All coaches are to attend a golf rules meeting, conducted by the WIAA, during the 1998-99 school year. The Spring Clinic will take care of this responsibility.

A suggestion was made to have a coaches' column in the *Coach Approach*. Kaz indicated that articles are always welcomed from state coaches to include in the *Coach Approach*.

President Lehninger adjourned the meeting at about 1:30 pm. The next Board meeting will be at Babe's in Madison on February 20th, 1999 at 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick McKichan
Vice President

WISCONSIN STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION GOLF WORKSHOP PROPOSAL

Presented to the Wisconsin High School Coaches Association Board Winagamie Golf Club, November 8, 1998.

OBJECTIVE Present pre-season opportunities for "hands on" practical Rules instruction, thereby creating and enhancing interest in the "Rules of Golf for Coaches and Players".

WHEN Any Saturday during the "Itch Season", January through mid March, 1999.

LOCATION: At four (4) individual sites, one each to accommodate the NE, SE, SW and NW sections of the State.

FACILITIES: School gymnasium or similar sized open area that would permit the layout of simulated areas (using rope to define):

1. putting green with bunker.
2. relief situations, obstructions, unplayable lie, ground under repair.
3. water hazard and lateral hazard.
4. seating area (bleachers) and large

screen TV with VCR.

PROGRAM: Duration approximately 3 hours. Registration starts one-half hour before scheduled opening of Program. Attendees will be divided into three groups at registration.

- 8:30am -9:00am Registration
- 9:00am -9:10am Introduction of presenters, proper golf Etiquette and attitude and Pace of Play.
- 9:10am -9:35am USGA Rules of Golf Video.
- 9:35am - 9:45am Answer questions on the Video.
- 9:45am -10:00am Words in the Rules and how to use the Rule Book and then disperse to assigned situation areas.
- 10:00am -10:30am First rotation.
- 10:30am -10:45am Recess
- 10:45am -11:15am Second rotation.
- 11:15am -11:45am Third rotation.
- 11:45am Return to bleachers for any questions and close.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Provide all sites, Registration personnel, TVs and VCRs, WHSOCA meeting notices and publicity.

WPGA: Provide three or four presenters, all required Rules material and equipment necessary to set up the three situation sites, and a complimentary "Rules of Golf" book for each attendee.

NOTICE: Any points in this outline may be modified to the mutual satisfaction of the parties concerned.

The Scoreboard

SPARTA INVITATIONAL
Sparta Municipal GC
September 12, 1998

TEAMS

1. Sparta Red	368
2. Middleton	387
3. Amery	390
4. Eau Claire North	398
5. River Falls	402
6. Hayward	404
7. Tomah	407
8. Barron	411
9. Hudson	412
10. Lancaster	421
11. Viroqua	423
12. Holmen	426

13. Prairie du Chein	440
14. Spart Gold	444
15. Onalaska	450
16. Darlington	459

Medalists

81 Malinda Johnson, Eau Claire North
85 Rachel Sime, Tomah
85 Jackie Obermueller, River Falls
86 Jessica Rickert, Sparta
87 Jenny Schlicht, Viroqua
87 Jenny Ellsworth, Hayward
88 Laura Adkins, Sparta
90 Jill Ries, Middleton
90 Amy Jungerberg, CFC

1998 WHSGCA ALL STATE GIRLS TEAM

1st Team

Katie Connelly, Beloit
Emily Hendricks, Arrowhead
Heather Suhr, Racine Case
Terri Taibl, Brook East
Shannon Carney, LaCrosse Central
Malinda Johnson, Eau Claire North

2nd Team

Kristin Hoff, Racine Case
Alissa Lean, Sun Prairie
Annie Redfearn, Racine Park
Becky White, Middleton
Lisa Irons, Neenah

Andrea Miller, Sheboygan North
Janelle Warrick, Neenah

Honorable Mention

Sarah Braun, Catholic Memorial
Julie Christenson, Racine Park
Shannon Jameson, Edgewood
Jill Stein, Arrowhead
Megan Tarrolly, Homestead
Jackie Walsh, Watertown
Laura Adams, Sparta
Jessica Rickert, Sparta
Sami Forster, Appleton North

WHSGCA RAFFLE

Every Coach/Member of the WHSGCA will be mailed 20 tickets in February to sell. This year's raffle features:

BIGGER PRIZES! \$4,000 to \$5,000 in prizes including Titleist Irons, driver, bag, balls, free rounds of golf at Courses around the State.

DRAWING: June 15th at the Summer Clinic.

COLLEGE RESULTS

Third Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Tournament

Teams

1. Eau Claire	692
2. Oshkosh	698
3. Stevens Point	728
4. Whitewater	806

Medalists

165 Kelly Harper, Eau Claire (Oregon)
170 Cindy Treadwell, Oshkosh (Brook Central)
173 Nicole Toeppe, Oshkosh (Case)
174 Stacy Groettum, Eau Claire (Rochester)
174 Andrea Springer, Eau Claire (Amery)
176 Jamie McAlister, Oshkosh (Goodrich)
177 Lea Haas, Stevens Point (Sparta)
179 Markka Farrington, Oshkosh (West Bend)

SUBY VON HADEN ASSOCIATION University Ridge Girls Golf

Sun Prairie	370
Middleton	381
Edgewood	390
Madison East	414
Milton	415
Madison Memorial	427
LaFollette	491
Madison West	537

Medalists

77 Alissa Lean, SP
86 Shannon Jamison, Edgewood
87 Kristin Maul, SP
88 Jill Reis, Middleton
90 Liz Armstrong, East
92 Becky White, Middleton
94 Liz Cardinale, Edgewood
94 Jackie Wagner, Milton
94 Heidi Gerner, Middleton
94 Nancy Steinhauer, Memorial

The Clubhouse

Women's Golf a "Threepeat" Winner in CCIW;

Lady Reds Place Four in Top 10 in Conference Win

Last Week: The Carthage women's golf team (54-14) won its third-consecutive CCIW Women's Golf Championship on Friday-Saturday, October 9-10 at the Crestwick Country Club in Bloomington, Ill. Carthage, with a 374-362-736 team score, finished 11 strokes ahead of second-place Illinois Wesleyan University at 375-372-747. Millikin University was third at 376-376-752, followed by Augustana College in fourth at 405-390-795, Elmhurst College in fifth at 417-404-821, North Central College sixth at 445-446-891 and North Park University seventh with a 491-468-959 score. Carthage held a narrow, one-stroke margin over Illinois Wesleyan midway through the event.

The Coach: Brian Mosher (Carthage, 1983) completed his sixth season as Carthage's only head women's golf coach. His career record stands at 261-119, with the program gaining varsity status for the first time in the 1993 season.

Last Year, Carthage compiled a 63-11 record last year, winning five invitational tournaments and winning its second-straight College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin title.

The College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin, now in its 53rd year, began sponsorship of women's golf as a championship sport in 1996, and Carthage has won all three titles. The Lady Reds won last year's title at the Elks Golf Course in Pontiac, Ill., with a two-day team score of 716, out-distancing second-place Illinois Wesleyan by 79 strokes. The Titans were second with a 795 score, followed by Elmhurst third at 829, Augustana fourth at 860, Millikin fifth at 867, and both North Park and North Central with incomplete team scores. Wheaton College sponsors women's golf as a varsity sport but plays its season in the spring.

COACHES HOSTING GOLF

INVITATIONALS

We want to publish the results of your tournament in the

Coach Approach

Send your results to:

Lee Kaczmarek
Waukesha South HS; 401
E. Roberta Avenue;
Waukesha, WI 53186

MENS WISCONSIN COLLEGE GOLF

Men's and Women's college golf programs are flourishing within Wisconsin. While many of the State University system men's programs are no longer in existence, women's programs are growing in number.

Men's golf is quite competitive at a number of colleges and universities. Many of us are familiar with the NCAA Division I programs. UW-Madison, Marquette and UW-Green Bay all offer some athletic scholarships for golf and compete fairly well within their respective conferences. UW-Parkside, our only Division II program, also provides some athletic grants for their men's program. There are 14 Division III golf programs within the state. UW-Eau Claire is the only state university system school still participating in men's golf. The Blugolders consistently rank with the top 20 golf programs in the nation and regularly participate in the national championship. Thirteen private colleges participate and many play both fall and spring seasons. Last spring the Milwaukee School of Engineering won the State Private School Championship in a 36 hole tournament at the Greater Milwaukee Collegiate Championship in April with a two day total of 634. Many of the colleges play around the Midwest and frankly, play a fairly demanding schedule on many premier courses in our region.

For instance this fall the Milwaukee School of Engineering Varsity team played the following schedule.

September 11	Clarke College
Invitational	Thunder Hills
C.C. Dubuque, IA	
September 13-14	WLCIMSOE In-
vitational	Washington
County Golf Course	
September 20-21	Lakeland Invi-
tational	Lawsonia
Woodlands and Links	
September 27-28	Eau Claire Invi-
tational	Eau Claire
C.C.	
Oct. 3-5	Twin Cities
Classic	Links of
Northfork, Rush Creek and Minneapolis Golf Club	
Oct. 11-12	Lake Michigan
Conference	Grand Geneva
Highlands and Brute	

In addition to the universities, 9 two-year UW and technical colleges participate in golf.

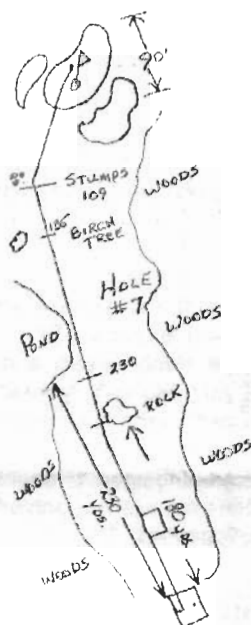
Probably around 80% of the golfers at Wisconsin colleges come from within our state and played in the independent and public school conferences. If you are inter-

ested in more information, please contact Joseph P. Meloy, Golf Coach-MSOE and Wisconsin State High School Golf Coaches Association College Representative at 414-277-7227 or e-mail at Meloy@msoe.edu.

A Look at Northwood

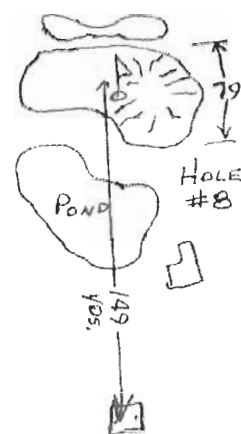
On Tuesday, June 15th, 1999 the WHSGCA will conduct it's annual meeting and golf tournament at Northwood C.C. In our last issue of the "Coach Approach" we reviewed holes 1-6. Today, lets take a look at holes 7-12.

Hole 7 is a five par of some 481 yards from the blue tees.



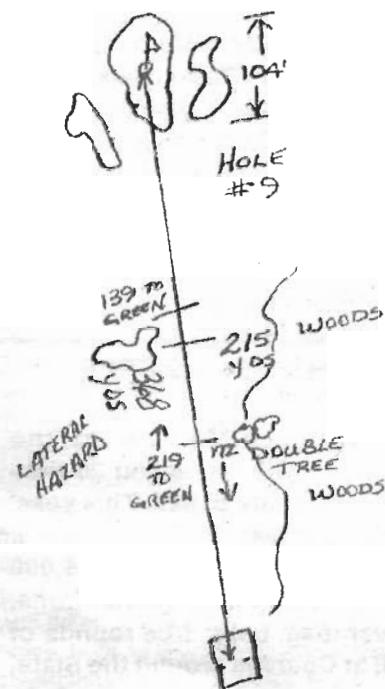
190 yards out thus clearing the rock and then rolls thirty yards thus staying short of the pond should the ball be left. Once accomplished, it's a mere 260-265 yards to the green which is bunkered front right and back left. The green is set at a 45 degree angle between the bunkers. One help here is the elevated teeing area so you can easily see your drive land perfectly in the middle of the fairway, or the bounce off the rock, or for you big hookers, roll into the hazard. Oh, by the way, beware of the woods and scrub to the right of the fairway on your second shot. It sneaks up on you! The green, thankfully, is not difficult to putt.

Hole number 8 is a short par three some 149 yards to the middle of a 27 yard deep green. If pro Dan Buckley has the pin set on the right side of the green, some of us may still be putting come next January! Otherwise not a difficult hole. Oh, did I mention that the last 50 yards of this hole is over water? And

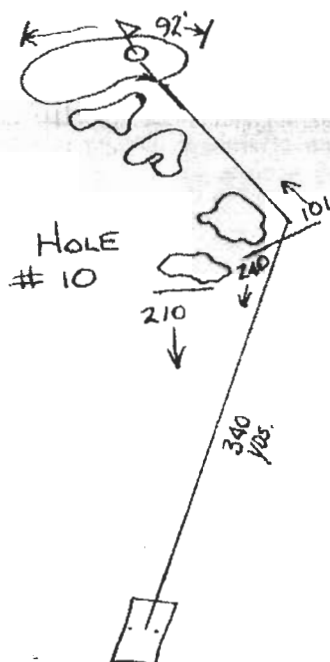


out to the right. Of course it means that par is virtually impossible and a double bogey is still in the cards. Good luck!

Hole 9 is a par 4 measuring 368 yards. The hole descends into a valley and then goes uphill to the green. Problem is that you DON'T want to hit your tee shot longer than 190 yards because the fairway really narrows down after that. Therefore you are now faced with a second shot of some 180 yards to an uphill green. Are we having fun yet? Both the left front and right front bunkers snuggle nicely up to the green which is sloped considerably from back down to the front. Just shows that a great hole does not have to be ridiculously long. Please remember that anything left or right of these fairways will NOT be recovered! You would not dare even venture into some of that stuff!

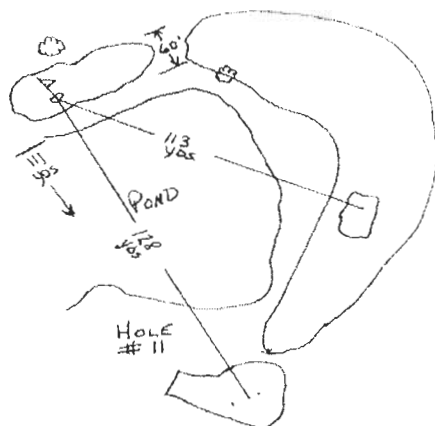


just for good measure there is a bunker over the green. However if you get a severe case of the trembles on this tee you can bail



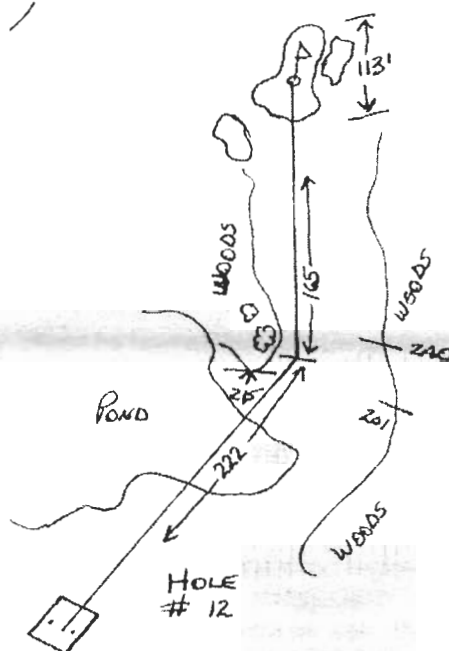
One begins the backside wondering if they are on the same golf course. When loggers first began clearing the trees to route the holes they started with this hole and over did themselves. The result is one of only two open holes on the course, and a new team of loggers to complete the job. Number 10 measures only 340 yards long. It is a dogleg left with a couple of bunkers at the inside of the turn beginning about 210 yards out. It is extremely tempting to take out the driver and have at it. Resist this temptation with all your might! Play a long iron or fairway wood into the fairway some 200 yards out. You will be rewarded with a simple second shot of about 110 yards to a simple to putt green. You must carry your drive some 250 yards to carry the bunkers which will leave you still some 70 yards to the green. It's a simple hole, so don't mess it up!

The par three number 11 is only 128 yards long. Sounds simple huh? Oh your beginning to catch on.



Yes its not that simple for the green is set on a peninsula surrounded on three sides by water. By the way, there is no bail out here. You have got to go for it. This might be a one or two sleeve hole! Additionally I have found that the wind swirls, making the tee shot a real guessing game. I have hit a seven iron short into the hazard and a wedge over the green into the hazard. The green measures only 23 yards deep but is quite wide. The land slopes off both front and back toward the hazards. One hint- **DO NOT** use the sprinkler head marker, use the WSGA marker! The teeing area is elevated so you can see exactly where your ball enters the hazard. Well, at least this hole is wide open. Of course it is, there is so much water around this green that there was no place to plant trees!

Walking from the 11th green to the 12th tee



you will experience one of the finest manmade water falls you have ever seen. Please stop and enjoy. For some of us it might be the only moment we can put a smile on our faces during the round. Hole number 12, a par four of some 384 yards, is a dogleg left and slightly uphill to a well contoured green that falls off sharply in the back. There is a large pond to the left of and in front of the teeing area. The tee shot for most golfers needs to be taken over the right portion of the pond. It must NOT travel more than 220 yards or it will go through the fairway and into never never land. Of course if you can manage a draw around the dogleg then longer tee shots are a real advantage. Past the pond to the left of the fairway is absolutely dead. The tee shot here reminds one of the first hole tee shot

requiring the same length or shaped shot. It takes a shot of 215 yards carry to clear the pond on the left to reach the absolutely dead woods. The second shot will be slightly uphill, some 170-180 yards in length to a somewhat difficult green to putt. There are bunkers front left and middle right to catch the errant second (or third or fourth? shots) The green is 38 yards deep. This is a really good hole!

In our next issue we will take a look at the finishing six at Northwood. I promise, there are only six really great finishing holes yet to come!

Hats Off To A Real Gentleman

During this past fall's girls golf season, an interesting situation occurred which I would like to share with you. It was during a Classic 8 dual match involving my team. My number 5 girl, who had just started playing golf this past summer on a very limited basis, was playing in her first varsity meet. She was, needless to say, very nervous. I watched her play the fifth hole, taking notes on items she would need to know or work on in the future. At the conclusion of the match, the opposing coach handed me a copy of the scoring sheet which indicated each player's hole by hole score as well as their total for nine holes. Glancing through the scores I noted that we had beaten our opponents by several strokes. But I then discovered what I thought was an error in my number 5 girls score on the fifth hole. An eight had been recorded on the signed card, but I was sure her correct score should have been a nine. I took her aside and went over each shot on the hole and the girl could not remember her shots. She is a beginner, and had been using her counter to remember her opponents score. Since I was sure the score was a mistake, I reported the facts to the opposing coach and told him we would have to disqualify the girl and use the dropped score resulting in our opponents winning the match. But, the opposing coach rejected the idea of disqualification, insisting instead that since his girl had recorded an incorrect score on my girl's score card, and especially in light of the fact that my girl was a true beginner, mistakes could easily happen. We will just change her score to a nine he said. "Besides, he said, we don't want to win that way." That is what being a real gentleman is all about! This long time coach has operated with this philosophy for more than 20 years as a coach. He is what you picture when people speak of true gentleman coaches. Hats off to you Mike Duchin of Kettle Moraine High School. We are proud and privileged to know and compete against you!