

be necessary to obtain sand from other areas. Acid soils, however, are often encountered even in limestone areas.

Rough Test for Lime in Sand and Soil

The presence of lime carbonate in sand or soil can be easily detected. Whenever an acid is poured onto lime carbonate a gas called carbon dioxide is liberated. The liquid froths and the gas escapes into the air. To test a sample of sand or soil procure some muriatic acid from a nearby drug store and pour it on the suspected material. If lime carbonate is present carbon dioxide will be liberated and escape. The amount of gas liberated serves as a rough measure of the amount of lime carbonate present. Often a few tiny bubbles emerge at the surface even though the sand or soil does not contain lime carbonate. This is escaping air which was trapped by the liquid. In case of doubt hold the dish to the ear. If a hissing sound is audible the material undoubtedly contains some lime carbonate.

Accurate determinations of the amount of lime carbonate present can be obtained by submitting samples to a chemist, or the State Agricultural college. Most state colleges test samples without charge. The samples should be carefully labelled and forwarded in good containers, together with a precise statement of what is wanted.

Very little can be done with water supplies containing lime, so far as removal of the objectionable lime carbonate is concerned. No more water should be used than is absolutely required by the turf. Larger amounts simply increase the quantity of lime carbonate in the soil, and make the development of acidity more difficult.

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No hazard should ever be created when there is the slightest doubt as to its real necessity, except perhaps a small one for psychological effect.

Some U. S. Golf Association Decisions on the Rules of Golf

Kindly give me your ruling on the following play. It is "A's" honor. He drives his first ball out of bounds and walks off the tee. "B" refuses to drive until "A" plays his second shot. Is "B" correct according to rule? Is it a courtesy of the game however for "B" to play before "A" makes his second shot?

Decision.—"B's" contention is not correct; the honor man has made a stroke—see definition 13—his ball is in play and it is up to the opponent to put his ball in play; see Rule 2, Section I.

A and B are competing in an eighteen-hole, medal-play tournament; they have one caddie, carrying double. A drives a ball which lodges near a tree, a low branch of the tree interfering with the free swing of his club. B and the caddie grasp the branch, holding it entirely clear until A has completed his shot. The question has arisen: Was B disqualified for assisting his opponent, also, was A also disqualified for permitting his caddie to assist?

Decision.—The player is penalized two strokes under Rule 14, Special Rules for Stroke Competition. The competitor is not affected. The competitor incurs no penalty under Rule 2, special rules

for match play competitions, because those particular rules *do not* apply to medal play.

A player's ball from the tee went into the rough and lodged under some large growing leaves. In taking his stance the ball was not visible, so the player spread several leaves so that the ball could be seen. Nothing growing was broken, nor was the ball moved nor the lie improved. Would like to know if this is permitted in the rules.

Decision.—Rule 15 covers this point. It states specifically that the player is not entitled to bend or break fixed or growing things in playing the actual stroke after he has taken his stance. In this case, the player violated Rule 15 and the penalty would be the loss of the hole in Match Play and two strokes in Medal Competition. The fact that he found his ball is sufficient proof that he knew its location but he is not entitled to bend the growing leaves back to get a better view of the ball.

The Old Flatbush Golf Club

By Maurice J. McCarthy

The Old Flatbush Golf Club is built in the heart of Brooklyn, N. Y. With two million people in the immediate vicinity, it is naturally a novel situation. It comprises 53 acres of land, valued at over three million dollars. One of the tees (fifth) is built on a lot between two large apartments and is worth \$20,000. A large public school is back of the fifth green and a church is on the side of the seventh. A main thoroughfare (Bedford Avenue) runs through the center of the course. The land had been used for years as a circus field, baseball lots, dumping ground, etc. The owner, being a golf enthusiast, finally decided to have a course constructed unless the problem should prove too difficult. Several streets end at irregular points on the borders of the land, and it required some strategy to get nine holes in, without crossing these or Bedford Avenue. However, a very fine 3,065-yard course was finally designed.

Work was started on October 1, 1924. After considerable trouble with the hard ground (more like cement), having to use a crushing machine to break it up, the greens were built and planted with creeping bent before the first of November. The tees and fairways were constructed and seeded before the end of the month, thereby establishing something of a record in having designed, built and seeded the course within two months. The spring of 1925 saw the greens coming along splendidly, and play was started in August, just ten months after ground was broken.

The creeping bent has proved very satisfactory, and except for three months last winter, the course was used to capacity whenever the weather did not interfere. As many as 106 played at one time, and round after round has been the same on fine week-ends. When the course was closed last December, despite the very rainy season and hard playing, the greens were in excellent condition.

A number of the members belong to various clubs throughout the Metropolitan District but live in the neighborhood, and without exception they say our greens are as fine as any in this section, and it is indeed a source of satisfaction to know they compare so favorably with other courses many years older. A small nursery is kept so as to always be ready for any damage which may arise at any time.