

in the program of practically every turf-grass conference held in the United States in 1955. In addition, all the regional directors attended the national Golf Course Superintendents Association Turf Conference and Show and a part of the staff attended the National Agronomy Society Meetings in Davis, Cal. The fact that Green Section personnel are able to attend these national meetings enables them

to gather information which they may pass along to individuals at the various USGA member clubs. Education in matters of turf management may be done in individual conversations or in group meetings. It is believed that the USGA Green Section has never carried on a more comprehensive program of research and education than it is doing at the present time.

1954-55 GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE COSTS FOR 35 CLUBS

Compiled by Harris, Kerr, Foster & Company, Accountants and Consultants

An analysis of the golf course maintenance costs for 35 clubs located in all sections of the country indicates that for 1954-55 the average cost per hole amounted to \$2,204, an increase of slightly more than 2 per cent over the preceding year's average for these same 35 clubs. The highest costs were recorded by clubs in the West Coast area, with an average of \$2,750 per hole, due principally to greater payroll costs in that section. The costs for all other areas, eastern, southern and mid-western, were stable, however.

The 1954-55 actual expenditures for greens maintenance for these 35 clubs totaled nearly \$1,500,000, the average for each club amounting to approximately \$42,000.

For comparative purposes, the costs shown in the schedule below have been expressed in terms of one hole, since a number of the clubs included maintain 27 or 36-hole golf courses, as against the usual 18-hole course common to most clubs.

In all areas, the salary and wage cost for the greenkeeping staff was slightly higher than in the preceding year and generally accounted for about two-thirds of the total cost of golf course maintenance.

A breakdown of the costs:

	<i>Average All 35 Clubs (666 Holes)</i>	<i>East (17 Clubs 351 Holes)</i>	<i>South (6 Clubs— 99 Holes)</i>	<i>Mid-West (7 Clubs 126 Holes)</i>	<i>Far West (5 Clubs 90 Holes)</i>
AVERAGE COST PER HOLE, 1954-55:					
Salaries and Wages	\$1,538	\$1,493	\$1,507	\$1,450	\$1,873
Course Supplies and Contracts	356	397	339	372	190
Repairs to Equipment, Course Buildings, etc.	181	203	162	111	211
All Other Expenses	129	109	135	62	296
Total	\$2,204	\$2,202	\$2,143	\$1,995	\$2,570

**PERCENTAGE VARIATIONS, 1954-55 BASED ON
1953-54:**

	<i>Percentage</i>				
Salaries and Wages	+3.1%	+ 1.2%	+ 6.3%	+ 6.7%	+ 2.4%
Course Supplies and Contracts	— .5	+ 8.8	— 3.9	+ 2.3	—23.7
Repairs to Equipment, Course Buildings, etc.	+1.8	+ 1.6	—14.9	+18.8	—18.6
All Other Expenses	+1.5	—11.4	+10.7	— 6.1	+20.1
Total	+2.3%	+ 1.8%	+ 2.9%	+ 6.0%	— .5%