

Links at Franklin Park
Tomorrow the grounds will be open to the public
Park Commissioners, After much Deliberation, Say "Aye"
Realize popularity the game has reached in this city.

Boston has taken the lead of all the cities of the country in giving municipal recognition to the status which the ancient and royal game of golf has attained as a popular pastime.

Tomorrow has been appointed by the park commissioners for the opening of the public links at Franklin Park. The commissioners have had the matter of providing such links under consideration for a long time, their only doubt being as to whether the popularity of golf in this country would justify them in allotting the space requisite and incurring the expense of laying out the course.

This doubt has been resolved in their minds-if it ever had a firm lodging there-by the steady, natural, healthful growth in popularity which golf has shown here in recent years.

Golf is one of the few field sports played by partners of opposite sexes, and the exemplification of putts, drives, masses and approaches by the deft handling of golf clubs will afford an added feature to the picturesqueness of the place and its human interest.

The commissioners have decided that for the remainder of the present season, at least, the links shall be used only by those who have had experience in the game. This has been done in the interest of general security. The spectators will have a chance to school themselves in the rules and intricacies of golf by observation of the work of skilled players from now until winter sets in.

Next spring particular hours will be assigned to learners.

The links are composed of nine holes, the first teeing ground being near the administration building or the old Williams house. The links are in the country park, running round the edges of the large field, the shortest hole being 8, which is only 125yards. The remainder are from 200 to 300 yards in length. Permits must be obtained for playing at the park commissioners' office in the Exchange building, or from Superintendent Putnam at the administration building in Franklin Park.

The ordinary St. Andrews rules will govern the play, and special ground rules are in preparation.

It is absolutely necessary that players use extra care that the players in front of them are out of danger before driving from the teeing grounds. It will also be necessary, before a permit can be granted, that a player shall now the game of golf, as no novices will be allowed on the links. This last rule will be enforced for the safety of all concerned.

It is intended by the commissioners to make this an experiment at Franklin Park, and if it is found to be feasible the links will be opened permanently next season.

Experts who have been over the ground declare that the links are among the finest in the country.

If the golf players and spectators will take the pains to use due caution in keeping out of each other's way, there is no doubt that the game can be played and enjoyed. The great danger lies in the spectators crowding the links during the play and thereby placing themselves in danger of being struck by flying balls.

As soon as plans can be perfected licensed caddies will be allowed on the grounds for the convenience of players who do not desire to carry their own clubs.

Further information can be obtained at either the park commissioners' office or the superintendent's office at Franklin Park. The links will be open for play from 7am to 9pm, Sundays excepted.

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