



# A short game solution

A new short game facility at the historic NCR Country Club provides members with a place to practice while also addressing flood problems

**T**he NCR Country Club in Kettering, Ohio, has a highly-rated 36 holes of golf designed by Dick Wilson, but was without a credible short game and learning center.

The club commissioned Hurdzan Golf Design to help address this shortcoming. Several possible sites on the property, which is the drainage terminus for a massive urban area, were identified as possible locations for the facility. These included an unused 10-acre parcel of land that had little use because it would flood several feet deep, several times per year—to the extent that it had been affectionately named ‘Lake Louise’ by members.

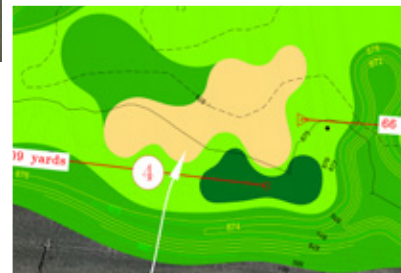
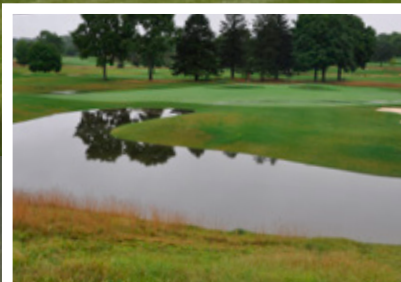
ASGCA Past President Dr. Michael Hurdzan, ASGCA, and his partner Dr. Christopher Hurdzan knew the area would challenge their drainage expertise and golf course design skills, but could see its potential.

The designers first had to determine the velocity, volume, frequency, and duration of flood events, as well as where and what proportion of drainage entered the site. Next they established high-water flood elevation, and then began a backward-planning design process of flood

containment detention and programmed release. The final drainage product consisted of three separate and sculpted dry detention basins, connected by pipes and surface swales to a point where a pumping plant could move the water off-site. A short-game center was designed on an area between the basins, where the ground was elevated by spoil from the basins. The center consists of five half-size greens, a two-acre bentgrass practice fairway—surrounded by bluegrass rough and punctuated by bunkers—including a 10,000 square feet centerpiece bunker. They also designed parking for cars and golf cars for members to access the facility.

Members now just help themselves to a bag of balls to drop wherever they want to practice, collecting them when finished, and leaving the bag for another member to use. The popular facility is the first sight to greet members and guests from the entrance drive, allowing the club to make a spectacular opening impression.

The drainage system works perfectly. The facility can be used almost immediately after a rain event, with the ponds formed within the three basins creating water hazards for the short practice holes.



## NCR Country Club

Location: Kettering, Ohio

Golf course architect:  
Dr. Michael Hurdzan,  
ASGCA Past President  
Hurdzan Golf Design  
[www.hurdzangolf.com](http://www.hurdzangolf.com)

Project summary: NCR Country Club had no short game facility, and a flood problem on some open space reasonably close to the clubhouse. Both issues have been addressed, resulting in a world-class golf practice and learning facility that can be used immediately after rain events.

Partners: Topp Shape (construction); Century Equipment (irrigation); Norfleet, Brown & Petkewicz (engineering)