

## HUBERT COOKE



How do you honour someone who has been associated with a golf course for 41 years? After Hubert Cooke retired as professional and manager of the Prince Albert Golf Course in 1965 the City Council renamed it Cooke Municipal Golf Course.

Hubert Cooke came from England to the Wascana Golf Course, then moved to Prince Albert in 1925 to work on the rough nine-hole course there. In 1928, using horse-drawn equipment, he began construction of the second nine. The Depression caused a delay in finishing the work, finally opening in 1935. Hubert was innovative in developing the watering of fairways, greens and tee boxes. His expertise and knowledge built a golf course that still holds its character today with eighteen unique holes. He was respected internationally for his turf management knowledge.

Hubert developed a very strong junior program and gave lessons to juniors every Saturday morning. At one time there were over 200 juniors who enjoyed generous use of the course. Many of those he coached did well provincially and nationally, including his son Geoff who won the Saskatchewan Amateur in 1947 and went on to become a pro himself.

He was devoted to seeing the game grow. His enthusiasm resulted in Prince Albert hosting the Saskatchewan Amateur Championship in 1955, followed by other provincial and national championships held at the course.

His wife Alice cheerfully assisted in the Pro Shop over many years and was a top-notch golfer as well. Hubert Cooke died in 1968 and is remembered for his character, integrity and devotion to the game of golf.