



# CHIPS & PUTTS

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POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION

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## Golf Rules Trivia

'Tis the season for this question. Larry is playing a spectacular par three over water, featuring a beach bunker between the edge of the water and the green. His nine-wood tee shot falls short of the green and lands in the bunker. After two inches of rain the previous night, the pond has risen and the bunker is completely filled with casual water and Larry's ball is lying smack dab in the middle of it. Larry has four options in this situation, one of which is to play the ball as it lies. Can you determine the other three options? Your clue is that one of the options is without penalty, the other two involve one stroke penalties.

*Answer is in the  
Pocono Roundup!*



## Andy Jubinski, Golf Course Superintendent Glenmaura National Golf Club

The October meeting for the Pocono Turfgrass Association was held at Glenmaura National GC. Glenmaura National was designed by Dr. Michael Hurdzan and Dana Fry in the early 1990's. Even though Glenmaura is relatively young, the course has started on the right path to a successful history. Glenmaura is currently the annual host of the Northeast Pennsylvania Classic (on the Nationwide Golf Tour). As many of you know, the course is built on the side of a mountain, and features one of the only gravity-fed irrigation systems in the world. In addition to the challenges of the irrigation system, Andy and his crew face many challenges related to the topography on which the course was built. Recent major projects include, major bunker renovation last year by McDonald and Sons, as well as a lot of drainage work done in house.

Prior to Glenmaura, Andy received his BS in Agronomy from The Pennsylvania State University in 1987. He started working on golf courses as a kid at Shadowbrook Resort. He says the reason he got into the business was because he did not enjoy being a Mechanical Engineering major and was enjoying work on the course during the summers so Agronomy was a better fit. After college he moved to New Jersey to become the Assistant/Superintendent at Medford Lakes CC and then crossed the river to become the



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## President's Message.....

Well, it's another year in the books... The golf season, as it has been of late, was a strange one. A very wet fall of 2002 lead into a winter with heavy snowfall, a very wet spring and finally above average rainfall amounts for the summer. But.....we survived!

This will be my last President's message. Your Board of Directors has positioned themselves for a very long tenure with successive excellent candidates for executive position. I would like to thank them all very much for their support and volunteerism over the past twelve months. They righted the ship, so to speak, and have worked hard to get the Pocono re-organized. Only good things are planned for the future of the Pocono, and it is going to be very enjoyable being part of this association for years to come.

A big "Thanks!" goes out to all superintendents who opened their courses to us this year. We already have a few commitments for next season. Thanks to all!

I would also like to thank Melinda Wisnosky for hanging in there with all of us over the past few years of uncertainty and unrest. Things will only get more efficient.

And lastly, thank you to all the members. We are nothing without you! To all our affiliate members, their support and participation over the years has kept the Pocono afloat.

THANK YOU ALL!

See you at the meetings!

*Ron Garrison, CGCS*

## From the Editor's Desk.....

Congratulations to our newly crowned PTGA Golf Champions, and thanks to Andy Jubinski and his staff for providing us with a wonderfully manicured golf course to crown our First Annual Association Champions. Congratulations also go out to Duane Schell, Paul Brandon, Steve Chirip, and Charlie Koennecker. These four represented the Pocono Turfgrass Association at the Joe Valentine Tournament at Bent Creek. They cruised to a second place finish, one stroke back of the winners.

I would also like to take this time to thank the staff at the PTGA newsletter department, Field Reporters Jason Barndt and Jeff Koch, Photographer Jim MacLaren, and Publisher Melinda Wisnosky, for their time and assistance. Jeff Koch will be taking over the reins as editor, so please keep those great ideas and volumes of information flowing his way.

*Eric Reed*



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## Pushing Back Fall Maintenance Comes at a Cost

### By Darin S. Bevard, Agronomist

The 2003 golf season has been one to remember. Many rounds of golf were lost due to excessive precipitation, late snow cover, and an occasional hurricane. Turfgrass maintenance programs also were delayed or postponed by inclement weather and cleanup. Unfortunately, golfers were opposed to any additional disruption or reduction in playability during the season. The result has been late implementation of maintenance programs, which may not provide the results needed next spring.

*When is the latest that rough can be overseeded successfully?* The answer to this question varies dramatically by the turfgrass used. Turf-type tall fescues and perennial ryegrass will germinate into late October if weather conditions remain mild. Kentucky bluegrass has a substantially longer germination period. As October day length shortens and temperatures cool Kentucky bluegrass will be difficult to establish. Often, the grass that emerges after a late Kentucky bluegrass seeding is *Poa annua*, which rapidly deteriorates early next summer, returning the rough to the condition that led to overseeding in the first place. The bottom line is that overseeding operations in the rough need to be scheduled in late summer or early fall to have a reasonable chance for success. An early winter could lead to failure if the seed is incorporated too late, wasting time and money.

*What about aeration?* The timing of aeration depends upon the area impacted. In the rough, overseeding can be performed through slit seeding rather than aeration followed by broadcast seeding. However, high traffic areas need to be addressed through

aeration to alleviate compaction; a little extra fertilizer in these areas would not hurt either.

On putting greens, fairways, and tees, aeration timing can vary dramatically. The peak germination of *Poa annua* is between mid-September and mid-October. Thus, if you are trying to control *Poa annua*, aeration should be performed prior to this period to allow the existing turf to heal before the *Poa annua* germination period. Healing is an important element. If putting green aeration is performed too late in the fall the holes may not heal until next spring resulting in golfer discontent. Ideally, aeration should be performed to take advantage of optimum turfgrass growing conditions for quick healing.

As maintenance programs are pushed back into cooler temperatures and shorter days, the chances for achieving success are reduced. This is an important factor to consider when deciding on scheduling for important maintenance programs that are greatly dependant on mild temperatures for success.

Leaf drop is occurring at an accelerated pace throughout much of the region. Blowing and removing leaves from the golf course is time consuming and tedious. In some instances, the leaves fall as fast as they can be cleaned up. Golfers need to be patient during this time and realize that they will lose some golf balls in fallen leaves.

If the Mid-Atlantic Region agronomists can be of any assistance, contact Stan Zontek (szontek@usga.org) or Darin Bevard (dbevard@usga.org) at 610-696-4747 or Keith Happ (khapp@usga.org) at 412-341-5922.



### September Golf Results

#### Valley Country Club - Individual Stableford Format



1st	Duane Schell	Longest Drive	Rich Sweeney
2nd	Paul Brandon	Closest to Pin #2	Steve Chirip
3rd	Steve Chirip	Closest to Pine #9	Bob Seltzer
4th	Charlie Koennecker		



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Assistant at Huntington Valley CC under the guidance of Superintendent Scott Anderson. Andy left Huntington Valley to come back up to NEPA and work at Glenmaura as Assistant Superintendent under Bo Chichuniec and then Steve Campbell. Following Steve's departure, Andy was promoted to superintendent. Andy has been the Superintendent at Glenmaura since 1996. He credits Bo Chichuniec and Scott Anderson for teaching him to become a successful superintendent, and hopes to pass on that knowledge to his own assistants. Mike O'Neill is currently completing his first season as Andy's able assistant. Prior to Mike, Jeff Koch served as assistant superintendent and is now finishing his second season as Superintendent at Wyoming Valley CC. Andy is currently 'enjoying the single life' and enjoys skiing, reading and playing video games when not managing turf. He currently serves on the Pocono Turfgrass Board of Directors as the Education Chairperson.

## October Golf Results

### Glenmaura National Golf Club - PTGA Championship

Superintendent Gross Champion	Ian Kunesch	82
Superintendent Net Champion	Gary Phillips	73
Affiliate Gross Champion	Charlie McGill	82
Affiliate Net Champion	Rich Pany	70
Longest Drive	Charlie Koennecker	
Closest to Pin #2	George Skawski	
Closest to Pin #15	Paul Brandon	



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## ACT 220: Making Pennsylvania a leader in water resource management and conservation.

Not only is water resource management and conservation essential to protecting the environment and keeping residents healthy, but it also is vital for fueling the economy. Water is a strategically important resource that can provide a competitive advantage in helping Pennsylvania attract and retain businesses and jobs.

In 2002 the Pennsylvania General Assembly enacted the Water Resources Planning Act (Act 220), designed to help the state better assess and plan for current and future water uses and needs. Pennsylvania is committed to making sure we have answers to basic questions such as how much water we have, now much we use and how much we need. Achieving this goal depends upon water use registration by all turf related businesses.

Act 220 requires individuals and operations that withdraw or use more than 10,000 gallons of water per day from their own source(s), averaged over any 30-day period, to register their water use with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Those users whose sole source of water is from a Public Water Supplier do not need to register their use at this time. Users of less than 10,000 gallons per day are asked to register voluntarily. This information will be used as the foundation to update Pennsylvania's State Winter Plan, which will involve stakeholders at both regional and statewide levels.

Why is this legislation so important? Consider these facts:

- The State Water Plan has not been updated in over 25 years, and it does not tell us which areas have critical water needs. As a result, we do not know who is running out of water until wells and local supplies dry up.
- Since 1900, residential use of water has increased from 5 gallons to 62 gallons per person per day. Total water use in Pennsylvania has climbed to 10 billion gallons per day, and there are increasing conflicts over the same sources of water.
- Only about 5 percent of the municipalities in Pennsylvania know their "water budget" – how much water is available and how much is being used.
- Last year alone, 27,000 new homes were built in Pennsylvania.
- 18,000 new wells are drilled in Pennsylvania each year.
- Pennsylvania has experienced drought conditions during 8 of the past 10 years.

Business, industrial and agricultural users will receive a pre-registration form in the mail, asking them to choose a method of registration, either on-line using a pre-assigned pin number, or by completing a paper copy. A registration form will be required for each source of water and must be returned or completed on-line to the Bureau of Watershed Management no later than March 16, 2004. A representative of the Bureau will be attending the following Turf conferences and trade shows:

1. Penn State Golf Turf Conference, November 11-13, 2003
2. Eastern PA Turf Conference and Trade Show, January 13-15, 2004
3. Northeastern PA Turf School and Trade Show, January 29, 2004
4. Western PA Turf Conference and Trade Show, February 23-25, 2004

At these conferences you will be able to ask questions and receive assistance in completing the required registration forms. Those wishing assistance in completing the forms should bring all the necessary documentation including

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pump test records, drilling records and water use records for all sources for 2003. Help us get a comprehensive water resources picture for Pennsylvania. It's not only good for Pennsylvania, it's good for business, too.

For more information about Act 220 and the registration process, call the Act 220 hotline at 1-888-457-6653 or visit the PA PowerPort at [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us).



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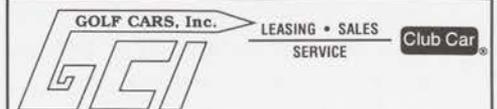


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*A message from your golf course superintendent and GCSAA*



## Officially Fall And Still Wet

### By Keith Happ, Senior Agronomist

Try as they may, golf course superintendents cannot control the weather. Most of the Mid-Atlantic Region was hit by rain and wind from hurricane Isabel along with other severe weather. Normal course preparation activities were halted in most areas by saturated soil and debris resulting from high wind and flood waters. Areas of the Mid-Atlantic Region received as much as 10 inches of rain in as little as 3 days.

Fall is normally the time the turf begins the recovery process prior to winter weather. Fertility is intensified to fortify root structures and build reserves to better tolerate cold temperature stress. When the soils are saturated programs have to be modified to nurse weakened turf back to health. For example, using a little fertilizer but applying it more frequently is an agronomically sound technique to implement. However, even this can be difficult to accomplish when the course is so wet that the applicator cannot get to all areas of the course.

Several questions have been asked regarding turf management under severe conditions. The most frequently asked is, "the greens are so wet I'm afraid we won't be able to aerify. What should we do?" Don't panic. While it would be better to core and topdress to fill the holes don't hesitate to alter your plans to fit the practice to the situation.

- Accomplish what you can.
- Make every effort to vent the soil by slicing, spiking or using solid tines.
- Topdress when weather allows and don't bury the turf. Apply product in a manner that allows the turf to grow without creating abrasion.
- Multiple low volume applications may be in order rather than treating too heavily.

We will soon be gathering leaves and the temperatures will drop. The fall clean-up process usually signals the end of the season. We may still have some good weather to enjoy golf and condition the turf before winter weather arrives.

If we can be of assistance, contact Stan Zontek ([szontek@usga.org](mailto:szontek@usga.org)) or Darin Bevard ([dbevard@usga.org](mailto:dbevard@usga.org)) at 610/696-4747 or Keith Happ ([khapp@usga.org](mailto:khapp@usga.org)) 412/341-5922.

## Two New Grants Available

The Environmental Institute for Golf and GCSAA are pleased to announce two new grants which are funded by Bayer Environmental Science and Par Aide. In addition, Syngenta has expanded the Legacy Award Program.

### Superintendent Conference and Show Grant

This grant is funded by Bayer E.S. and will send five golf course superintendents to GCSAA's International Golf Course Conference and Show. The purpose of the grant is to assist the superintendents with their professional development through participation in the annual event that features the most comprehensive education program available in the industry. All superintendents who have not attended GCSAA's Conference and Show for the prior two years are eligible to apply. **Deadline 11/14/03**

### Joseph S. Garske Collegiate Grant

This grant, funded by Par Aide offers educational grants to children and stepchildren of GCSAA members. Par Aide funds the award of \$2,500 in honor of the founder of the company, Joseph S. Garske. **Deadline 3/31/04.**

### Legacy Award Program

This program is funded by Syngenta Professional Products and offers 20 educational scholarships to children and grandchildren of GCSAA members. The program has been expanded to include Turfgrass management. **Deadline 4/15/04**

Anyone interested please call Melinda at 570-388-2167 or applications can be found at: [Http://www.gcsaa.org/career/pursuing/scholarships/scholars.asp](http://www.gcsaa.org/career/pursuing/scholarships/scholars.asp).

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## POCONO ROUNDUP

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE POCONO  
TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION



### October Election Results

Elections were held at the October 7 meeting at Glenmaura National Golf Club. Following are the results:

President	Eric Reed
Vice President	Jason Barndt
Secretary	Duane Schell
Treasurer	John Downer

Mark Eisele resigned from the Board. Jeff Koch was appointed to fill this vacancy. Darrin Larkin was nominated and appointed to the Board.

Steve Chirip was nominated and elected to serve on the Board representing the commercial members. Also on the Board are Andrew Jubinski, Rich Sweeney, and Ron Garrison as Past President.

### Answer to the Green Box Trivia Question

Larry may take maximum relief within the bunker as long as his ball is no nearer the hole. With the bunker being completely filled with water, Larry would be permitted in this situation to take relief in shallower water, without penalty, in lieu of his other two options. The second option for Larry would be to take a drop outside of the bunker, keeping the point where the ball last crossed the margin of the bunker between himself and the flagstick. Since the pond is adjacent to the margin of the bunker, Larry would have to take his drop, with penalty of one stroke, on the other side of the pond. The third option is for Larry to declare his ball in an unplayable lie, and to re-tee his ball, with one stroke penalty.



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