

CONNECTICUT



CLIPPINGS

JULY 1984

Volume 18, Number 3

President's Message

Hopefully everyone has recovered from the recent floods without much damage done to their golf courses. It seems to be a carbon copy of 1983 only the floods of 1984 are being followed by extreme temperatures and humidity.

I wish to thank those members who took the time to support the Dick Parsons Memorial Tournament. I regret that more members don't take the effort to support this event.

A beautiful bowl was anonymously donated for the winner of the Dick Parsons Memorial Tournament. The winner of the bowl, along with the Dick Parsons Memorial Trophy, was Suffield Country Club's GCS Tom Watroba. Tom will keep the trophy, with his name inscribed on it, for one year, and then pass it along for the 1985 winner. Tom also receives a smaller replica of the Memorial trophy to keep permanently.

We hope to update our membership list soon and anyone with any changes please contact Armand LeSage or Ron Holcomb. Let's hope that Mother Nature will be kinder to us this summer than she was in May.

*David Stimson CGCS
President—CAGCS*

A black and white photograph of a golf course. In the foreground, a white flagstick stands on a green. In the background, there is a large, multi-story clubhouse building surrounded by trees. The sky is overcast.

"In this day
and age, a golf
course superintendent
has to be
an educated scientist,
agronomist, an economist
and a good people
manager.

"If you put all this together
with a love for a piece of earth,
then you've got
a good golf course superintendent."
TOM WATSON

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
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The object of this association is to encourage increased knowledge of golf course management and greater professionalism through education, research, exchange of practical experience and the well being of each individual member.

The CONN. CLIPPINGS is an official publication of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents, Inc.

Greg Wojick, Editor
1347 Newfield Avenue
Stamford, CT 06905



Frank Lamphier, Golf Course Superintendent at the Aspetuck Valley Country Club, had his course in super shape for the 1984 CAGCS Invitational. Thanks to Frank and the entire staff at AVCC for their generous hospitality.

Grasses for Tees and Fairways

We should forget much of what we know about turfgrasses—or at least that part we learned some years ago. The development and release of grasses within recent years, specifically selected or bred for turf purposes, has drastically changed the use potential of certain grasses. We work with these new grasses annually at the Experiment Station as they are released. My concepts of grasses or mixtures for golf course usage has had to be altered. For years we promoted Kentucky bluegrass as new, improved, varieties reached the market. Today, I question the value of bluegrass for golf courses in our region. Not many years ago we considered perennial ryegrass a bad grass for turf and seldom recommended fine fescues for anything but roughs. Also, we didn't promote colonial bentgrass greatly as varieties available had many weaknesses.

Through observation on many golf courses annually and discussions with many superintendents each year I am amazed at how poorly grasses or mixtures are still selected. Too few people, including your seed sales people, have kept abreast of developments in the seed industry. We seem to keep up with developments in the pesticide industry but not with grass development. Too often the deciding factor in seed selection is price and that is a mistake. The particular grass species and varieties you select for all areas of your golf course should be one of the most important decisions you make. This decision effects your entire management program and management budget. It influences water needs, fertilizer needs, mowing requirements, pesticide usage and, most importantly, the kind of playing surface you provide.

In recent years we have appropriately become more concerned about reducing maintenance costs and being more environmentally aware—not wasting natural resources or using any chemicals we don't really need. In this light, then, let's consider the different grasses available to us today and see how we can take advantage of them to improve our efficiency.

(con't. on page 4)

Results from 1984 CAGCS Invitational

(Aspetuck Valley Country Club)

First Net — 61
Connecticut Golf Club
Robert Osterman
Vinnie Pauruso
Gordon Anderson

Second Net — 62
Aspetuck Valley Country Club
Frank Lamphier
John Strevens
Tom Thorsen
Bill Harrison

Third Net — 63
The Farms Country Club
Stan Sablack
Gary Lagasse
Larry North
Jim Backes

First Gross — 66
Race Brook Country Club
Francis Selva
Armand LeSage
Robert Quish
Richard Massey

Second Gross — 69
Oaklane Country Club
George Estabrook
Les Kennedy
Pete Matera
Ray Gurney

Third Gross — 69
Willimantic Country Club
Steve Rackcliffe
John Boucher
Milton Kozelka
Terry Therrien

Long Drive
Pro — Jack Powers
(Sterling Farms Golf Club)
Supt. — Jim Medieros
(Golf Club of Avon)
Guest — Richard Heddon
(New London Country Club)

Closest to Pin
Pro — T. Kelley 10'3"
(Springfield Country Club)
Supt. — Les Kennedy 34'6"
(Oaklane Country Club)
Guest — Jo Jo Salimeno 2'3"

Robert R. Troup, Prominent Judge and Lawyer, Joins Met GCSA

Met GCSA President Charles A. Martineau has announced that one of Westchester County's most prominent lawyers and judges has agreed to serve as Legal Counsel for the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association—effective immediately and without fee.

Bob Troup is a graduate of Colgate University and the New York Law School. His experience includes working with the New York District Attorney and the National Labor Relations Board. For 23 years and continuing today, Bob Troup has worked for IBM in the legal field. Presently, he is sitting for his second term as Town Judge for the Township of Mt. Pleasant, NY.

An avid golfer, Bob has been a member of the Whippoorwill Club in Armonk, NY since 1965. A long time member of the Board of Governors at Whippoorwill, Bob served the prestigious Club as President for the two years of 1975 and 1976.

It is expected that Bob Troup will work closely with the Met GCSA Board of Directors and the Chapter as it develops new programs and policies within the previously announced model Management Research Project. Bob's experience will be especially valuable within the Chapter's INDIVIDUAL CAREER COUNSELING PROGRAM—where some emphasis is being given to developing employment agreements between members and local golf clubs.

While it is not expected that the new Legal Counsel will work with individual members with their occasional legal questions, he will be available to recommend what steps should be taken for different sets of circumstances. We are pleased to welcome Bob Troup to the Met GCSA family.

Credit: Tee To Green

Table 1. Pesticides that have shown no adverse effects on earthworms.

COMMON NAME	SOME COMMON TRADE NAMES
Benefine (14)	Balan, Balfin, Benelan, Carpider
Bensulide (14)	Betasan, Betamec 4, Halts, Exporsan, Lescosan, Pre far, Pre-san
Dalapon (1)	Dowpon, Ded-Weed
DCPA (14)	Dacthal, Dac 893, Fatal, Rid
Linuron (1)	Proturf Selective Poa Annuua Control
Diazinon (3)	Spectracide, Lawn Insect Control
Maleic Hydrazide (11)	Chemform, De-Cut, Retard, Slo-Gro, Super Sprout Stop
Paraquat (1)	Gramoxone, Weedol
Siduron (14)	Tupersan
2, 4-D (4)	Chipco Turf Herbicide D, Dacamine, Weed-B-Gon, Weed-Rhap, Weedar

Pesticides that are toxic to or reduce the activity of earthworms.

COMMON NAME	RELATIVE LEVEL OF TOXICITY OR REDUCED ACTIVITY	SOME COMMON TRADE NAMES
Atrazine (4)	Slight	Aatrex, Bonus S, Vectal
Anilazine (6)	Moderate-High	Dyrene
Bandane (14)	High	No Longer Manufactured for Agricultural Use
Benomyl (6, 12)	High	Proturf Fertilizer + DSB fungicide, Tersan 1991
Calcium Arsenate (14)	High	No Longer Manufactured for Agricultural Use
Carbaryl (8, 13)	Moderate	Dicarbam, Septene, Sevin
Chlordane (6)	Moderate-High	Daconil 2878, Proturf 101V Broad Spectrum Fungicide
Chlorothalonil (6)	Moderate-High	Daconil 2787, Proturf 101 V Broad Spectrum Fungicide
Chlorpyrifos (12)	Slight	Dowco 179, Dursban, Kwit, Western Lawn Insect Control
Fensulfothion (13)	Slight-Moderate	Sasanit
Iprodione (6)	Moderate	Chipco 26019
Mancozeb (6)	Moderate-High	Fore
Metham (2)	High	Vapam
Methyl Bromide (2)	High	Brom-O-Gas, Dowfume MC-2 Profume
PCNB (6)	Moderate	Lawn Disease Preventor, Proturf FF, II, Terraculor 75, Turfcide
Thiophanate-methyl (6)	Moderate	Fungo 50, Proturf Systemic Fungicide

¹Timing, rate, frequency and method of application are important in the overall effect of the pesticide on earthworm activity.

(con't. from page 2)

Kentucky bluegrasses— a wide range of greatly improved varieties available, however: slow to germinate and not competitive with *Poa annua*, or other grasses in seedling stage. Require a pH level above 6.0 and a minimum of 2-5 lbs. of N/1000 annually. Not particularly adapted to the 5/8 inch, or less, cutting height required on tees and fairways. Even on new course construction I have seldom seen bluegrass fairways persist in New England.

Perennial ryegrass — many turf-type, fine textured, varieties have been released. These have had a tremendous impact on overseeded fairways and tees. Seed germinates rapidly and seedlings do compete with *Poa*. Will tolerate lower mowing and less fertilizer than Kentucky bluegrass. Winter survival o.k.—except on wet soils. Handles traffic well—a tough grass. PH levels should be kept reasonably high. Varieties such as Rapell, Pennant and Regal contain a high level of endophyte which provides resistance to sucking and chewing surface insects. Still some disease problems with ryegrasses but not usually serious when used in mixture with other grasses.

Fine fescues—there is still no great improvement in *creeping red fescue*. *Pennlawn*(an old variety) is still the standard. This is o.k. for roughs. Will not tolerate close cut. Other varieties are Fortress, Boreal and Ruby.

Chewings fescue—a subspecies of creeping red fescue with many excellent, improved varieties. Seed germinates fairly fast. I believe this is a grass with much more potential for golf course usage than is generally recognized. Tolerant of acid, infertile, dry soils. Not a heavy feeder. Holds good color most of the year (including early spring and late fall), will tolerate close cut, very fine textured. Jamestown, a U.R.I. release, was one of the first of the improved chewings varieties. Other good varieties are Banner, Barealla, Highlight, Jade and Menuet.

Hard fescue — a slightly different species but somewhat similar to Chewings. They are fine-leaved and low growing. Very well adapted to low fertility situations (such as roughs) Béljart (C-26),

Rain-Loss Of Nitrogen

The heavy rains of the past several weeks have depleted the soil of nitrate nitrogen by two processes; first, by leaching out of the root zone, and second, denitrification. This is the process by which soil micro-organisms in water soaked soil get their oxygen from nitrates as there is not enough atmospheric nitrogen available (the air spaces are filled with water). As a result, the removal of the oxygen from the nitrates leaves the nitrogen in a gas form which quickly dissipates into the air. This is a rapid process and can deplete most of the nitrates in a day or so of wet soil conditions.

As soon as the soil drains, and a waterlogged condition is no longer present, a nitrate fertilizer should be applied to all vegetable crops.

For example, use one pound per 100 feet of row of urea or ammonium nitrate or ammonium sulfate or two pounds of sodium nitrate.

Credit: Cooperative Extension Service

Reliant, Scaldis, Silvana and Tournament are all varieties that have looked good in our trials.

Colonial Bentgrass—another grass that should be more widely used on our New England golf courses. It is fine textured and tolerant of fairway and tee cutting heights. Also adapted to somewhat acid, infertile soils. Requires less water than creeping bents. Competitive and spreads by short stolons and rhizomes. Very compatible with Chewings fescue. Improved varieties are Exeter (a U.R.I. development), Bardot and Holfior. They are all improvements over Astoria. Highland bent is not suited to New England conditions.

It is my belief that more use should be made of Perennial ryegrass, Chewings fescue and Colonial bents for fairways and tees. In addition I believe we should only be using improved varieties. Mixtures containing 5-15% Colonial bent, 20-40% Chewings fescue and 20-

Future Happenings

July 10

CAGCS Monthly Meeting
(Luncheon Meeting)
Lyman Meadows Golf Club
Middlefield, CT
George Gorton—
Host Superintendent

July 23-29

Greater Hartford Open
TPC of Connecticut
(formerly Edgewood)
Peter Pierson—
Host Superintendent

August 14

CAGCS Monthly Meeting
Golf Club of Avon
Avon, CT
Jim Medieros—
Host Superintendent

September 10

NEGCSA Monthly Meeting
(Invitation to CAGCS members)

Format:

10:30 AM Business Meeting
11:00 Regular Meeting
Noon: Buffet Lunch
1:00 PM Shotgun

Location:

Charles River Country Club
Newton Centre, Massachusetts
Stephen Kristoff —
Host Superintendent

Home: 617-359-6108

Office: 617-332-6899

More information to follow!

40% turf-type Perennial ryegrass should provide an excellent overseeding mixture for tees and fairways. If some Kentucky bluegrass is desired perhaps the finer textured varieties such as Mystic, Fylking, Vantage or Touchdown could be added. Mystic and Touchdown are very aggressive varieties.

The availability of improved varieties of turfgrasses makes it necessary to rethink usage. We can have better turf with less input of management if we utilize these fine new grasses.

C.R. Skogley

Editor's Note: Thanks to Dr. Skogley for sending this very informative article to Connecticut Clipping.

Report on Brian Silva's Presentation at Greenwich C.C.

David Kerr, Assistant Superintendent
Innis Arden Golf Club

Brian Silva of Cornish & Silva Architects shared some valuable insights on course remodeling as he addressed the MGCSA at the Greenwich C.C. this past May 15.

He began with an emphasis on establishing a comprehensive master plan. Thorough research prior to any reconstruction is sure to yield better playability and keep costs to minimum. You must begin with the course's original design, not its current condition. Old plans, past photographs, and conversation with old members should yield a good idea of the original design. Next, we should examine the extent of remodeling. Most remodeling is not wall to wall; therefore a clear notion of existing style and scale is important. Each golf course architect has his or her own style which should be consistent throughout the course. It is important to detail your wants when sitting down with an architect. If not, he or she will likely remodel to his or her own style—which is fine if that is what you want. Prior to meeting with the architect, establish whether you want to retain, slightly change, or introduce a new style to your course.

Be sure to include often overlooked considerations such as cart paths, irrigation needs, ornamental plantings, etc. in your master plan. For example, we recently recontoured our fairways at Innis Arden with the understanding that we had to adjust our irrigation budget to include fairway head repositioning where gross changes were made.

The latter part of Mr. Silva's presentation was on bunker restoration, a key topic as many clubs are remodeling all bunkers. These clubs are remodeling because their bunkers are either old and deteriorating, have been built incorrectly, or have been altered over the years. When reconstructing a bunker, we should keep in mind the function of a bunker and some basic rules of design. A bunker must be of sufficient character or depth to prevent a player from making as easy a shot off the fairway or fringe. The closer the bunker is to the green, the steeper the face and deeper the bunker. Exploded sand must be kept to reasonable levels. Lastly, eye appeal, strategy, and future maintenance complete the basics of design considerations. Mr. Silva mentioned a common finding in his remodeling efforts in reference to the war years. Many bunkers, which for economic reasons were filled in during the war years, need to be reestablished. Other bunkers have been moved too far from the green to reduce exploded sand and still others have remained the same while the greens have decreased in size, once again for economic reasons.

The talk was accompanied by an excellent slide presentation and I feel we all are in a better position to consider our own remodeling needs and are pleased to have Brian Silva as a valuable reference in our area.

Credit: Tee To Green

Classified

For Sale

Cushman Topdresser
Excellent Condition

Bantom Sodmaster
Sod Cutter
Good Condition

Ryan Power Screen
New Screen—New Engine

Contact: Pat O'Connor
Cedar Ridge Golf Club
31 Drabik RD
East Lyme, CT
739-7395

GCSAA News

At its executive committee's spring board meeting, GCSAA changed the name of its annual Conference and Show to GCSAA's International Conference and Show.

The site for the 1986 Golf Championships will be Rancho Canada Golf Club in Carmel, California, and the headquarters hotel will be the Sheraton Monterey.

Golf Results

Joint meeting —

Met GCSA and CAGCS
May 15th — Greenwich C.C.

Team Championship Results
(Aug. Gross and Net Team Scores)

Met GCSA: 76.18

CAGCS: 76.50

Gross Prizes (B.B. of Two)

Low: David Roule —

Hartford G.C. 74

John Austin —

Hartford G.C.

Two Teams Tied — Coin Flip

2nd: Mark Millett —

Old Oaks C.C. 76

Dan Verrille — Retired

3rd: John Carlone —

Stanwich Club 76

Paul Veshi —

Siwanoy G.C.

Net Prizes (B.B. of Two)

Low: Bob Osterman —

Conn. Golf Club 60

Bob Phipps —

Shorehaven G.C.

Two Teams Tied — Coin Flip

2nd: Brian Silva —

Cornish & Silva 62

Greg Wojick —

Sterling Farms G.C.

3rd: Dom Di Marzo —

Sunningdale C.C. 62

Joe Camberato —

Sleepy Hollow C.C.

Nearest to Pin

Frank Bevelacqua —

Blue Hill G.C. 9'10½"

Larry Pakkala —

Woodway C.C. 13'10"

Longest Drive

Mike Neal —

Milbrook C.C. 260 yds.

Charles Kohr — Hartford G.C.

Editor's Note

In the last issue of Connecticut Clippings I inadvertently omitted the Connecticut Golf Club in the list of the Connecticut Golf Courses listed by Golf Digest as the top 100 best-designed courses in the country. My apologies to Bob Osterman and the members of the Connecticut Club for the slip.

Greg Wojick, Editor

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