

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2013





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Gerald (Jerry) E Husemann Senior Sales Specialist II

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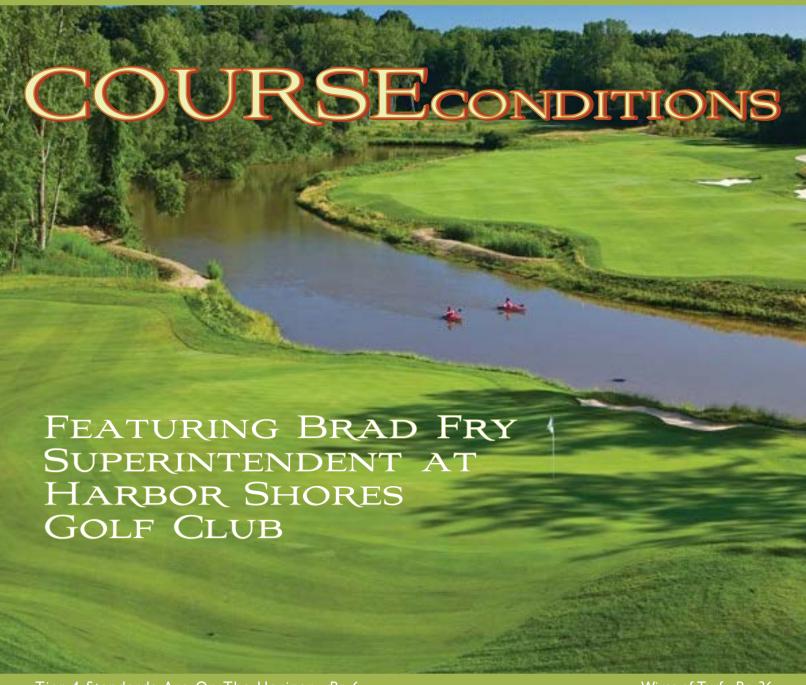






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Tier 4 Standards Are On The Horizon - Pg. 6

Wives of Turf - Pg. 36







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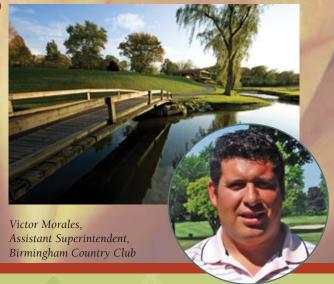
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COURSECONDITIONS

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MIGCSA MEMBERSHIP REPORT

477021

SUMMARY OF CLASSES 7/11/12

	CI IDDENIE	CUD4455 0011
	CURRENT MEMBERSHIP	SUMMER 2011 MEMBERSHIP
Class AA	27	27
Class A	219	198
Class SM	58	52
Class C	82	71
Class D	31	26
Class E	17	20
Class AFF	139	127
Class H	25	24
Class SA	16	10
Class R	7	9
Class I	1	3
TOTAL	622	567

Please log in to your account at www.migcsa.org to renew your membership for 2012. If you are unsure of your status contact us at info@migcsa.org or 1-888-3-MiGCSA.



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President's Perspective



JAY ECCLETON, CGCS

Although June has come and gone, I cannot believe even with the early spring, we are already into the heat of July. The season is just zooming by and we once again find ourselves in the middle of OMG and WTF. The early spring may have brought us some extra revenue but for many of us it also brought us extra expenses. Payroll budgets have been crumpled up and thrown in the trash. We now try to figure out how we are going to survive the rest of the year as we pull in the reigns on our remaining budgets. The excessive heat and lack of rain has not only put all chemical and utility budgets into a tailspin but has also started to effect revenue numbers as golfers are staying home amidst the 90-100 degree heat.

I have taken some time to contact various facilities and their Superintendents and General Managers to ask about how their particular year is going. I am finding out at the majority of the courses that I

contacted are experiencing better revenue numbers than they have seen in at least three to four years. Although the early start of the season for many was not necessarily the source of increased revenue. Money that comes into a golf facility in January through April is usually constant from year to year and consists of season pass or membership dues as well as prepaid league fees for the entire season. The increased revenue that has been recorded in most of the facilities is coming mostly from increased rounds played throughout the season. The extra revenue that came from open play due to an early spring warm up was not really a huge source of revenue due to the fact that the money collected in March was highly discounted due to the golfer looking for "Early Spring Rates"? I discovered that golfers were finding incredible deals locally and did not feel the need to travel to play. What I did discover is that the early warm up gave the homeowner extra time to get their "honey do" list caught up so they could actually play more golf in May and June.

As golf course operators and general managers, we need to come to the realization that we are only hurting the industry and our own companies by allowing golfers to play golf for a highly discounted rate. Can you say group discount? This is the new way for golfers to play facilities at very low prices. The world of Groupon has created many "copy cat" companies that have followed suit and allow players to play for 50 to 60 percent off the regular rate. The only way that this can work for the facility is if there are heavy restrictions on the discounted passes so that it fills your slowest times. Unfortunately this process still teaches the golfer that there is just another way to purchase golf rounds at discount pricing.

This may be a topic that may be more suited for a club management magazine but I still feel it necessary that all golf course management staff is aware of the situation and hope these topics are discussed at department head meetings. The solution to the golf industry problem is this.....wait for it..... RAISE PRICES! My fees for open golf, league play, outing play, and season pass packages have increased for 2012 across the board and our rounds have increased on top of it. Don't get me wrong, I still get the multitude of cold calls daily looking for one thing, "how much?" But what I try to do instead is to try to relay to the customer that we are selling a service and that we will continue to focus our attention on customer service and quality playing conditions while prioritizing my guest's experience by making sure they see value in their visit to our facility. The experience isn't just directed to their actual golf round but how our facility will service them as a guest in our restaurant, proshop, and parking lot as well. Remember the two most important impressions you can lay on your guests are first and last impressions.

As we move into the half way point of the season, I wish all my MiGCSA fellow members and their facilities well. Hoping that the current trend continues and we slowly see revenues in the golf industry continue to rise and we do get a glimpse of that light at the end of the tunnel. Kudos to all golf course maintenance staff members during this record heat and drought periods, you are all MVP's in my eyes.

Best Regards,

Jay B. Eccleton, CGCS

Tier 4 Standards Are On The Horizon

By Mike Thorsen Parts and Service Manager, Lakeshore Golf & Turf



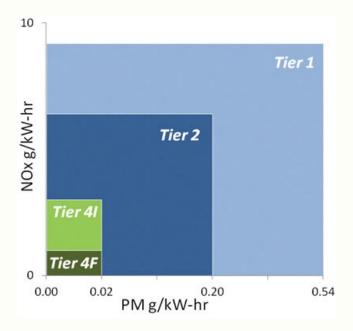
Emission Standards And **Evolution Federal emissions** standards are controlled as part of a law named the Clean Air Act. Fundamentally, the law is in place to reduce air pollution and its hazards to the environment and human health. A federal agency known as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is assigned with regulating the Clean Air Act.

Turf equipment manufacturers, including Jacobsen, have been updating equipment to meet emission standards since an amendment to the Clean Air Act for off-road diesel rules took effect in the mid-1990s. Since 2008, turf equipment powered by a diesel engine under 25 horsepower (hp) is Tier 4 Final and does not require future changes. As the turf industry approaches the Tier 4 Final regulations for off-road diesel engines greater than 25 hp, Jacobsen is investing significant resources in product development to meet the new standards.



Standards for diesel emissions become more stringent from tier to tier and by the final phases of EPA emission standards the harmful pollutants will be virtually eliminated. Each tier addresses numerous types of pollutants, with Particulate Matter (PM) and Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) receiving the most attention.

NOx contributes to ground level ozone, commonly known as smog. Particulate Matter PM consists of soot or unused fuel that gives dirty engine exhaust its black color



Technologies To Meet Tier 4 Final

Additional technologies and innovations are necessary to further reduce emission pollutants beyond current state. A key area of focus for advancement towards clean operating diesel engines is the **fuel injection system**. A common rail fuel system regulates fuel pressure and injection timing to provide multiple system benefits:

- Improved fuel economy
- More torque output
- Reduced engine noise levels.

The exhaust after-treatment systems will also need a major upgrade. To reduce particulate matter

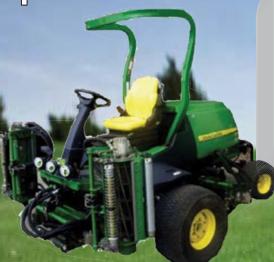
ONLINE AUCTION

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As part of ongoing business, Weingartz, will be selling thousands of dollars of high quality golf course maintenance equipment, professional mowers & other items with Orbitbid.com "Proven Success in the Worldwide Marketplace." This online auction will be held on Tuesday, September 18, 2012, starting at 8:00am & will start closing at 6:00pm the same day.

Auction Highlights

John Deere 8700 Fairway Mowers
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John Deere 3225C Fairway Mowers
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John Deere 3235 Fairway Mowers
John Deere 7400 Terrain Cut Mowers
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(PM) contained in the engine exhaust, systems like Diesel Oxidation Catalysts (DOC) and Diesel Particulate Filters (DPF) are highly effective. The systems are used concurrently to transform the PM into harmless substances like water and carbon dioxide and to further filter exhaust prior to exit. The DPF operates at high temperatures and burns off the collected PM - a process known as 'regeneration'. To combat the other pollutant of focus, a Selective Catalyst Reduction (SCR) system may be utilized to turn NOx into harmless nitrogen and water vapor. While these systems and technologies come with a price, they may also allow improvements to engine noise, sound levels, performance and diagnostic capabilities that may provide return on the purchase price investment.

Turf Equipment Manufacturers

In previous tier transitions, the adaptation of new compliant engines into equipment was completed with minimal expense impact. The upcoming transition to Tier 4 Final for 25-75 hp powered equipment is an exception - turf equipment will be outfitted with new engines and exhaust systems with advanced electronic controls, additional filtration and updated cooling systems, to name a few. To accommodate these new, additional, and larger components many frames, chassis, and engine compartments require redesign. Potential solutions for turf equipment to meet the Tier 4 regulations may include:

- 1. Conventional Tier 4 Final path using fuel injection and exhaust after-treatment technologies
- 2. Utilizing engines under 25 hp by reducing power without compromising overall performance or supplementing with hybrid power to manage peak demands
- 3. Alternative fuel powered engines like gasoline.

While specific turf equipment market price implications are not yet available, a noteworthy increase can be expected.

Equipment Transition Timing

It is important to note that the EPA regulates the transition from one tier to the next at the engine manufacturer level. As previous tier engines and equipment containing those engines is depleted from the supply chain and marketplace, the new tier product will be released. Ultimately, all turf equipment manufacturers will transition

to Tier 4 Final compliant product. Each equipment manufacturer's launch date of the new tier will depend on conversion schedules and the use of a voluntary "Transition Program for Equipment Manufacturer's" (TPEM) - aka engine FLEX credits. TPEM is an EPA provision which assists equipment manufacturer's in transitioning products from one tier to the next and is critical to ensure stability of equipment supply to the market. An engine supplied under the TPEM provision meets all the requirements for EPA compliance.

Turf Equipment Users

Equipment currently in use meets the EPA regulations that were in effect the year the engine was manufactured and is EPA compliant for the life of the equipment. At a federal level there are no requirements to "upgrade" to make turf equipment compliant to new standards. Beyond the EPA, be attentive to local jurisdictions designated as nonattainment (an area considered to have air quality worse than the National Ambient Air Quality Standards) that mandate standards exceeding the EPA. Equipment users should be aware of the upcoming 2013 regulation for 25-75 hp range and become knowledgeable on how it may affect near to mid-term options as capital equipment budgets are developed. Approaches that end users may consider:

- Buy on regular routine: When a capital equipment plan calls for new equipment and/ or existing equipment useful life ends, buy what is available and pay market price.
- Buy ahead: Prices are forecasted to rise when Tier 4 compliant equipment is released, so postpone the purchase of higher priced equipment and buy equipment in advance of a regular replacement cycle.
- Buy environmentally friendly: Despite the expected higher prices, actively seek out and purchase the greenest Tier 4 product.
- Buy used: Since equipment is complaint based on the year of engine manufacture, buy equipment that is already in use.





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2012 NORTHERN FUNDRAISER



The 2012 Winning team of Steve Hammon, Dave Drettmann, Eric Guttenburg, and Chuck Havill.

There seems to be a pattern starting to form of perfect day's at Arcadia Bluffs for the Northern Fundraiser. This year MiGCSA members and friends came out and helped raise close to \$8,000.

This year there was an option for a practice round on Sunday evening and 11 players took advantage of the \$50 rate for 18 holes.

On Monday the weather was again fantastic as was the golf course. A huge thank you to Paul Emling Vice President of Operations at Arcadia Bluffs, Paul sits on the MiGCSA Foundation Fundraiser Committee along with Steve Hammon, Paul Witte, and Mike Hirvela, without the input from this committee the day could not have been such a

124 players came out starting at 7:30 and teed off until 1:40. There were 6 proximity markers on the course thanks to our 2012 Premiers Foundation Sponsors BASF, Bayer, FIP Irrigation, LaFontaine Automotive, Syngenta, and Tri-Turf. The four closest to the pin winners were, #2 Rich Sauve, #6 Steve Hammon, #13 Mike Fatke, and #17 Jim Esther. The Long Drive winners were #3 Matt Kerridge, #11 John Miller. Each winner received \$25 in Gift cards to Arcadia Bluffs. Congratulations to the winners and great shots.

In the team best ball scramble, the first place plagues and \$300 in gift cards went to the team of Steve Hammon, Dave Drettmann, Eric Guttenburg, and Chuck Havill by shooting a 14 under 58. The second place team of John Reinhart, Mike Mausolf, Dave Drisko and Gulbert won in a scorecard playoff on the first hole with a birdie on # 7 the # I handicap par 4 with a birdie 3 and a total of II under 61, this team took home \$160 in Arcadia Bluffs gift cards. Third place with a score of 61 as well was the team of A.J. Rings, Ryan Osborne, Collin Romanick, and Tom Dejonge, \$80 in Arcadia gift card for third place.

There were \$340 in skins for the day, but every skin was cut, the MiGCSA Board has recommended that the skins pot be donated to the Foundation, so thank you to the teams that played in the skins game.

There was a 50/50 raffle thanks to Eric Cowan and Steve Williams of I.W. Turf on hole #5, the winner is Dave Drisko for a total of \$320. A special thank you to Dan Hunt, Paul Wittie of Residex/Turfgrass and Dave Ross of SeaPro for running the game on #9 tee to hit it in the circle, a total of \$285 was raised from this event.

The putting contest was hosted by Chad Kempf from Rain Bird. MiGCSA Board member Justin Bickel hit the stick stopping the ball 2 1/4 inches away to win 1/2 of the \$310 pot. And thank you again to Jacobsen for the Chicago Style Hot Dog's on hole #7 and #15.

The golf course staff did a fantastic job all around. The conditions were perfect as ususal thanks to MiGCSA Members Superintendent Mike "Stubby" Nielsen, Assistant Superintendent Custer Carland, Second Assistant Superintendent Trevor Nash and Equipment Technician Pat Sullivan. PGA Head Golf Professional, Zack Chapin and Assistant Golf Professional, Jay Waltrip and their entire staff were incredible, and thank you to Director of Food & Beverage, Rick Dewling and his staff that had a great box lunch and cold drinks for all of the players.

The Arcadia Bluffs Maintenance Team



Thank you 2012 Premiere **Foundation Sponsors**



WHERE IS THE HAZARD?



All designers, superintendents and even many golfers understand the ramifications of course conditions on golf course design. After watching the U.S Open last weekend, this point became obvious.

How greens roll plays a critical role in how a golf course design will be experienced. But, second to greens, bunker conditioning has as big a role as any other facet of the golf course design. During the U.S Open at the essentially fairway bunker-less Olympic G.C, I was intrigued by how the green bunker maintenance (which are technically hazards) affected players navigation of the course design.

During many U.S Opens, one will often hear golfers yelling for the ball to "get in the bunker!" Which, at first blush, sounds odd. Bunkers are meant to be hazards, right? Hazards are supposed to be bad things penalizing features created by the golf architect to impede golfers. Not help them. So why are golfers imploring their balls to go into them?

A logical first thought would be that these bunkers must be "saving grace" bunkers; ones that stop the ball from going down a cliff or into a water feature. Nope. Many of these bunkers are simply surrounded by what seems to be typical turf. So, a normal golf viewer would still ask: "why does he want his ball to go into that sand, which was designed as a hazard, versus the grass?"

And, the only answer to this question is that rough turf on a U.S Open Golf Course is more of a "hazard" than the bunkers. Which, if you think about it, is like being in bizarro world, where good is bad and bad is good. Does this make any sense? Is this what the designer of the golf course intended? I know when I design a golf hole, the bunkers are meant to extract a penalty shot – not the turf.

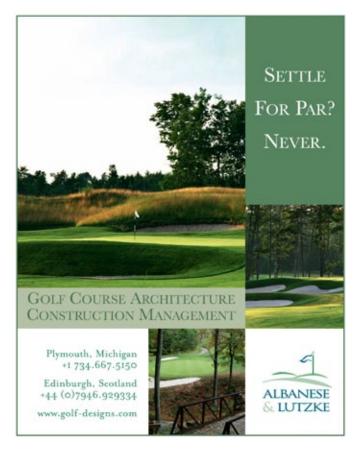
Knowing that turf is tougher than sand at the U.S Open, one should envision the greens at Olympic in a different way. Similar to how one might look at the negative of photograph. The bunkers were the safe zones, and the rough were penalty areas. Therefore, the greens with more bunkers around them, in the eyes of the professional, were less intimidating than the greens with fewer bunkers. Again, I found this strange, because I am rather confident that this was not the original design intent.

This silliness is partly to blame on Gene Sarazen, who invented the modern sand wedge, which has made getting out of bunkers much easier for four generations. But, a contributing factor to this dichotomy is how perfectly maintained bunkers are today. Bunkers are meticulously raked out to create perfectly smooth bottoms and lies that are flawless. Who would not want to be on a groomed beach versus in the gnarly jungle? Especially when armed with today's technology. Bunkers were meant to be hazards, not respites. What makes matters worse is that perfectly groomed bunkers make the difficulty differential between good and poor golfers even bigger. Pros would rather play

from the sand, and most amateurs would still rather play from turf, not matter how thick. So, it becomes quite a challenge to design for both.

From a golf design perspective, these pristine bunker conditions actually work against the designer's intention, and take away from the essence of the strategy. I understand the USGA's goal of trying to "guard" par, and provide the best golfers in the world a difficult test. So, why not simply "rough up" the bunkers so the architect's design strategy remains intact. There is precedent for this. The original bunkers in the golf world were rugged, not raked and groomed. A bunker is a hazard, which by definition is something that can be dangerous. Golfers in the old days had a tough time getting out of bunkers, or holding a green, much like a modern golfer playing from U.S Open rough. Therefore, to even the playing field, bunkers should be difficult for all, not just the average and below average player. Overall, less effort should be put toward keeping bunkers so perfect. (Which will have the added benefit of lowering costs as well.) The bottom line: bunkers should be the hazards, not the turf.

Paul Albanese, ASGCA is a principal with Albanese & Lutzke, Golf Course Architects/Construction Managers. They have an office in Plymouth, Michigan and are currently working in seven countries on small and large projects.





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A FULL ROUND



BRAD FRAD

When Brad Fry was in high school he ran a small lawn care business and enjoyed it enough that he decided to pursue the turf business as a career. A high school math teacher who happened to also be the golf coach knew of his interest and approached him about doing some work for the local golf course on the grounds crew. Shortly after he began working with the grounds he knew he wanted to be involved in this side of the business. Brad is married to his wife of nine years, Amanda Fry "A very supportive wife and great mother to our two children". He has two great sons, Lane Fry is five years old and Trace Fry is two years old. Brad started with Harbor Shores in June of 2008 during construction prior to seeding and opened the course in July of 2010.

WHERE WAS THE FIRST COURSE YOU WORKED ON AND WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB ON THAT COURSE?

Greensburg Country Club - My first job was weedeating hillsides which was also my favorite job.

WHERE DID YOU RECEIVE YOUR EDUCATION?

At Purdue University

WHAT COURSE DID YOU GO TO AFTER COLLEGE AND WHO WAS THE SUPERINTENDENT AT THAT COURSE?

The first course I went to was Broadmoor Country Club in Indianapolis, Indiana. Samuel C. MacKenzie, CGCS was the superintendant at that course.

WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THAT SUPERINTENDENT IN THE FIRST YEAR?

I was young and full of energy. I learned I had a lot to learn! I learned this business was not easy.

WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS FROM THE MICHIGAN GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION?

To provide educational opportunities, research, leadership and representation for the membership.

WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS FROM THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA?

Strive to be a leading golf course organization. Continue to advance the profession of golf course management. Work to improve golf's positive environmental impact.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE NON-GOLF SPORT?

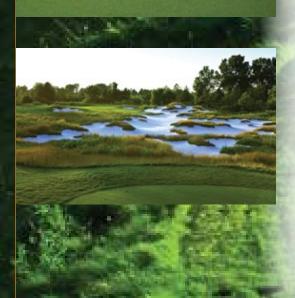
Stock car racing.

WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS FROM THE MICHIGAN TURFGRASS FOUNDATION?

Continue producing great research.

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ABOUT THE AUGUSTA SYNDROME?

I like it! It keeps you thinking and striving for perfection.



WHAT IS THE MOST DIFFICULT PART OF YOUR JOB?

Dealing with what mother nature is going to hand you.

WHAT IS THE EASIEST PART OF YOUR JOB?

Getting up and coming to work to see what plans are going to work or not work that day.

WHAT VEHICLE WOULD YOU DRIVE IF YOU HAD A MONEY TREE GROWING IN YOUR YARD?

Black F350 PowerStroke Diesel Crew Cab

WHO INFLUENCED YOU THE MOST ABOUT TURFGRASS MANAGEMENT?

There are three individuals. Sam MacKenzie, Golf Course Superintendent, Olympia Fields Country Club. Kyle Peigh, Golf Course Superintendent, Ocean Edge Resort and Golf Club. Dan Cunningham, Vice President of Development, KemperSports Management. They all taught me the art and science golf course management. I am very proud and fortunate to have spent time learning under these individuals.

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION OF THE ROLE OF AN ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT?

I am very fortunate to have two great assistant superintendents, Rusty Willard and Scott Wilkinson. Their role is very important. They are my go to guys. They bring it all together and make sure our operation is running smoothly on a daily basis.

WHAT ONE PIECE OF ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO A NEW SUPERINTENDENT?

Work hard and ask a lot of questions. There is never a stupid question.

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION OF THE ROLE OF THE GOLF COURSE MECHANIC/TECHNICIAN?

I am very fortunate to have a great equipment technician in Doug Veine. His role, like the role of an assistant superintendent, is very important. He, along with my two assistants, are my go to guys. He is entrusted with managing and maintaining the tools you need to get your job done and does a great job at it.

WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST PET PEEVE CONCERNING GOLF COURSE ETIQUETTE?

Not repairing ball marks and or divots.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SPORTS RELATED MOVIE? Hoosiers

HOW MANY CREW MEMBERS DO YOU HAVE ON YOUR GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE STAFF?

Thirty-one

WHAT TYPE OF IRRIGATION SYSTEM DO YOU HAVE AND APPROXIMATELY HOW MANY IRRIGATION HEADS?

Toro Irrigation with approximately 1610 heads

WHO IS THE GREATEST INFLUENCE IN YOUR PERSONAL LIFE?

My father, he taught me to always be respectful, work hard, and to always support your family. He never says a lot, but always leads by example.





Connecting Buyers and Sellers of Turf Equipment, Golf Cars and Accessories

The Golf Asset Marketplace is the golf industry's only dedicated auction site designed to better facilitate the buying and selling of turf equipment, golf cars and related accessories coming off lease, repossessed or in surplus inventory. The marketplace is restricted to qualified buyers and sellers of golf course equipment. Register today to enjoy the benefits of buying or selling in our marketplace at www.golfassetmarketplace.com!





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MID GOLF EVENT RECAP

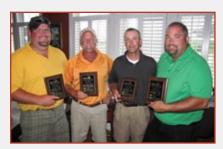


Great Lakes Field Staff John Miller, CGCS updates the group on the GCSAA.

Forty six members came out to the Captains Club at Woodfield in Grand Blanc

on July 10th to play in the Mid Golf Event hosted by MiGCSA Vice President Greg Pattinson. This event was a team scramble with individual prizes for two proximity markers on par 3's and a long drive. There was a \$20 per team skins game as well. The proximity prizes were won by Doug Spiller on hole #15 and Joe Singles on #6, Andy Gilroy won the long drive on hole #9 great shots by all. The third place team was GCSAA Field Staff john

Miller, CGCS, Chris Wilczynski, and John Helms. Second place went to the team of MiGCSA Board Member Dave Pawluk, CGCS, Paul Kolbe, Jim Smart, and Gary Johnson. The winning team with a scorecard playoff at 10 under par was the host Superintendent Greg Pattinson, Doug Spiller, Dave Yates, and Jeremy McAbee, this team also took home all of the skins game. After the event Dr. Kevin Frank and Dr. Thom Nikolai gave an update on the MSU Turf program and the upcoming Field Day. Then GCSAA Great Lakes Field Staff John Miller, CGCS briefed everyone on the current state of the GCSAA. Thank you



to all who came out, and to Greg and the staff at the Captains Club for making it such a great event.

Jeremy McAbee, Doug Spiller, Greg Pattinson and Dave Yates fill in Jay Eccleton, CGCS.



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Legislative Golf Day

BY ADAM IKAMAS, CGCS, MIGCSA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The roll out putting green in front of the Capitol.

June 13th was the Legislative Golf Day in Lansing on the lawn of the Capitol building. It was a beautiful cool morning that started with an address from Senator John Proos, who represents the 21st district of Berrien. He spoke about the impact of golf state wide and especially in his County with the Senior PGA Championship at Harbor Shores Golf Club in Benton Harbor. The Senator also presented the proclamation to the Michigan Golf Alliance that June is golf month in Michigan. Greg Lyman from the GCSAA and EIFG also spoke about some of the issues that are or may affect golf in Michigan. One of the most urgent issues is H.R. 872, the Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2011.

After the presentations MiGCSA President lay Eccleton, Steve Randall, and Greg Lyman and I headed off to visit Senator Debbie Stabenow's office on Lake Lansing road thankfully Greg has a really cool green and white bus we were able to use for transportation. We were able to get a meeting with Kali Fox the Regional Manager for the Lansing office. Senator Stabenow is the chair of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry and will be very involved with the H.R. 872 farm bill. We made our support clear to help reduce the amount of regulations needed to apply pesticides on golf courses. Kali, an avid golfer, noted our support and will pass the information on the Senator.

Then we got back on the bus to head back to the Capitol lawn for lunch on the turn. Over 400 legislator's and their staff came to lunch that was served by Eagle Eye Golf Course. Spartan Distributors one of the event sponsors brought a 4700-D Rough mower and an EZ-Go Beverage cart to serve drinks at lunch. The PGA had blow up hitting nets to give legislators a quick lesson, and a roll out putting green on the sidewalk.

After lunch Greg Lyman had set up meetings at the DEQ and Agriculture Department. So we met up with Jeff Spencer, Stewardship Specialist with the DEQ at lunch and got back on the bus to head over to Constitution Hall where the DEQ and MDARD are housed. Greg, Jay, Jeff and I met with Bryce Feigner, Chief of the Office of Environmental Assistance and Assistant Chief Richard Alexander. This meeting was meant to introduce the MiGCSA and our new structure to the DEQ and to discuss the Michigan Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship Program. This was a very fruitful meeting and the DEQ is excited about our new direction and the streamlined system to be able to work with Golf Course Superintendents in Michigan. We decided to set up a meeting at a future date to discuss all of the ways the MiGCSA can work with the DEQ, MDRAD and possibly the DNR to promote the environmental stewardship of Golf Courses and the Superintendents that care for them.

We then headed upstairs to visit the Michigan Department of Agriculture and drop off information for Keith Creagh the Director of the MDRAD. Most of the staff were at a retreat so we were not able to meet in person with the Director. But we have tentative plans to meet at a future date possibly at The Emerald in St. Johns to play golf and introduce the MiGCSA to this very important department.

It was a great day to bring awareness of golf and the MiGCSA to the decision makers in Lansing. This is a great event and will continue to grow, hopefully we can get more MiGCSA members to attend and visit legislators in the upcoming years. As Greg Lyman told the attendees it is hard to measure the effect of these events, as it is hard to measure the lack of regulations in the golf industry.



Jay Eccleton, Greg Lyman, and Adam Ikamas in front of the Green Bus



L to R: Members of the Michigan Golf Alliance, MPGA Executive Director Kevin Helm, Senator John Proos, MGCOA President Bob Koutnik, ASGCA Representative Chris Wilczynski, MiGCSA Executive Director Adam Ikamas, GAM Executive Director David Graham, and MTF Executive Director Gordie LaFontaine with the proclamation from Governor Snyder that June is Golf Month in Michigan.

2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tues./Wed., August 14&15

Monday, August 20

Friday, September 7

Monday, September 17

Monday, October 8

Monday, August 20

Monday, August 20

MTF Field Day (MSU Hancock Center, East Lansing)

MiGCSA State Championship (Lakelands Golf & Country Club, Brighton)

Assistant & Student Networking Golf Outing (College Fields Golf

Club, Okemos)

Western Golf Day (Wuskowhan Players Club)

Tuck Tate Championship (Cedar River at Shanty Creek, Bellaire)

The Big Event (Birmingham Country Club, Birmingham)

MiGCSA State Championship (Lakelands Golf & Country Club, Brighton)

Equipment Tech. Meeting (Crystal Mountain Resort, Thompsonville)

MiGCSA State Championship (Lakelands Golf & Country Club, Brighton)

Superintendent Roundtable (Birmingham Country Club, Birmingham)

Please visit www.MiGCSA. org for all of the latest and most up to date information. You can quickly and easily register for events, view past issues of Course Conditions, browse and post items for sale, post and browse classifieds, and so much more. If you need help logging in email us at info@migcsa.org.

3rd Annual Wee One Outing Raises \$45,000



Country Club of Detroit Superintendent Bob McCurdy welcomes golfers to the Wee One Foundation outing.

More than 120 golfers showed up in support of the Wee One Foundation at Country Club of Detroit on May 21, then heard first-hand accounts of how the charity impacts the lives of fellow turf industry professionals.

This was the 3rd annual Michigan fundraiser for the Wee One Foundation and it raised a record \$45,000 for the Wee One Foundation, an organization that helps turf industry professionals who have experienced financial challenges because of medical hardship.

"I hope you realize just how much your support (of the Wee One Foundation) means to others," Jason Tyson told the group. Tyson, equipment manager at The Wyndgate, and Mike Fatke, superintendent of Manistee Golf Club, spoke of their personal experience as recipients of Wee One assistance at the dinner and awards portion of the event following golf.



Other speakers included Pat Jones, editorial director and publisher of Golf Industry Magazine, who made a \$2,500 contribution to the Wee One, and Greg Pattinson, Vice President of MiGCSA. who presented a check for \$1,250

Steep bunkers and pure bentgrass greens had golfers talking. Fritz McMullen (retired) blasts out of a greenside hunker

that matched contributions from individual members of the association. Steve Cook, Golf Manager of Oakland Hills CC and a Wee One Board member, accepted the donations on behalf of the Foundation.

A big draw for this event was the chance to play a newly updated classic golf course. Country Club of Detroit, established in 1897, underwent a major renovation in 2010-11. Under the direction of Tom Doak, one of the leading golf architects in the industry today, the greens, tees, fairways and bunkers at Country Club of Detroit were updated and restored to more of its original design. Superintendent Bob McCurdy, who oversaw the renovation, had the course in great shape for the event.

Foursomes competed for prizes using a 2 best ball net format. Winning teams were:

- 1st place Tom Gill and Jim Higgs (Spartan Distributors), Scot Gardiner (Boulder Pointe GC) and Justin Peckens (The Majestic).
- 2nd Place Tim Dark (Barton Hills CC), Jim Dark, Dave Dark and Tom Jevert.
- 3rd Place Tim Osburn (Osburn Industries), Carey Mitchelson (College Fields), John Krispen, and Steve Anderson (Inverness CC).

Closest-to-the Pin prizes were won by:

- Hole #5 Mike Tichvon (Angels Crossing)
- Hole #8 Jim Granfield (Tullymore Golf Club)
- Hole #13 Mike Hirvela (Bayer Environmental Science)
- Hole #16 Dan Billette (Bloomfield Hills CC)



The winning team, from left: Tom Gill, Justin Peckens, Jim Higgs and Scot Gardiner.

Numerous volunteers assisted with the event, including two representatives from the recently formed Wives of Turf organization -- Laurie Mitchell (Ed Mitchell, The Legacy GC) and Emily McCurdy (Bob McCurdy, Country Club of Detroit).

The event would not be successful without the generosity of the sponsoring companies and organizations listed below:

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Spartan	Leibold Irrigation, Inc. (Lunch)	
Syngenta	Rainbird Irrigation (Prizes)	
Valent	The Toro Company (Prizes)	

A date and location for the 2013 event will be announced later this year. For more information about the Wee One Foundation or to become a member, please visit www. weeone.org.



Wives of Turf representatives Laurie Mitchell (left) and Emily McCurdy (right) manned the check-in table and greeted golfers with a smile.



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Essential Plus Soil Amendment and Root Stimulator	3 fl oz Apply 2x per Month	4 fl oz Apply 1x per Month
"TKO" Phosphite 0-29-26 100% Phosphite	3 fl oz Apply 2x per Month	4 fl oz Apply every 14 days
X-Xtra Iron 9% High Iron - Low Nitrogen	2 fl oz Apply 2x per Month	4 fl oz Apply 1x per Month
Magnesium Chelate 3% Organic Chelate	-	1 fl oz Apply 1x per Month



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MARK LAURET

EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN AT TREETOPS

Mark Lauret was laid off in early 2002 due to company downsizing. A few months later he saw an ad from Treetops looking for a mechanic; he applied and was offered the job. 10 years later he is still there. Mark is engaged to the love of his life, Holli. He has a son and daughter, Mark 25 and Cynthia, 20, he also has a grandson, Karsyn, who's two months old.

I. WHERE DID YOU RECEIVE YOUR EDUCATION?

Well it started off when I was 10yrs. old, my Mother would get a bit upset with me when she'd find lawnmower engines torn apart and stuffed in boxes in my bedroom. From there I took automotive classes all through high school, enlisted in the Army right out of high school for 6yrs., where I trained to be a track vehicle mechanic. Did a stint with appliance, refrigeration and electronics repair, was a service manager at an RV dealership, so mechanical and electrical, is just part of me. When I was hired at Treetops, I had a great mentor, Tim Ross, who taught me hydraulics, diagnostics, repair, and rebuild.

2. WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS FROM THE MICHIGAN GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION?

To continue to promote the importance and need for qualified and educated turf equipment technicians and managers. Also to continue the equipment tech/managers meeting, it's great to get with everyone to share info.

3. WHAT IS THE MOST DIFFICULT PART OF YOUR JOB?

Trying to make things work within the budget can be quite challenging at times. However we're all in the same golf cart with that issue. Oh, one more thing, getting the operators to "Check the OIL!"

4. WHAT IS THE EASIEST PART OF YOUR JOB?

You know, your job is only as hard as you make it. So work smarter, not harder.

5. WHAT PERCENTAGE OF YOUR TIME IS DEVOTED TO NON-EQUIPMENT RELATED TASKS? Not much, on occasion I get to go out and run equipment, like walk mowing greens, I love it!

- 6. WHAT TYPE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION DO YOU FEEL IS VALUABLE TO EQUIPMENT TECHNICIANS? Electronics, computer and satellite technology.
- 7. WHO INFLUENCED YOU THE MOST ABOUT EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT? Tim Ross, Mark Wildeman, and Scott Pulaski, oh and of course, Doug Hoeh.

8. WHAT IS YOUR FUNNIEST STORY FROM ALL OF YOUR YEARS MAINTAINING EQUIPMENT?

Wow, there've been many, but this one happened just this year, a new operator took a walk mower out to mow greens, mowed a whole green and could not understand why his basket wasn't filling up with grass. Another operator stopped by and the new guy asks why he wasn't getting any grass in his basket, he showed him exactly how he was mowing, he didn't engage the reel. Well, you had to be there.













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MSU WELCOMES DR. EMILY MEREWITZ TO THE TURFGRASS TEAM

The MSU Turf Team is very excited to announce that Dr. Emily Merewitz has been hired for the Turfgrass Molecular Physiologist position. Dr. Merewitz will begin her appointment at MSU on August 16. Dr. Merewitz received her PhD from the Department of Plant Biology and Pathology at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey in 2012. Previously, in 2005 she earned two Bachelor of Science degrees from Rutgers University in Plant Science and Plant Biotechnology.

Dr. Merewitz has conducted research related to environmental stress physiology of turfgrasses under the direction of her thesis advisor Dr. Bingru Huang. Her primary research focus has been on understanding the responses of cool-season grasses such as creeping bentgrass and Kentucky bluegrass to abiotic stresses

such as drought and heat stress. Her research experience has allowed her to gain skills in both a laboratory and field setting. She has used multiple research methods such as physiological, genomic, proteomic, and metabolomic analysis to understand abiotic stress tolerance mechanisms. This research has allowed her to publish 10 journal articles and 1 book chapter and she has actively participated in presentations during the annual conferences of the ASA-CSSA-SSSA and American Society for Horticultural Sciences. Her teaching experience includes being a teaching assistant for an advanced biotechnology course, Methods in Recombinant DNA at Rutgers, and she has also served as a head instructor of a Turfgrass Stress Physiology course in the Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School.

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FROM NATIONAL



GCSAA REGIONAL ROUNDUP

BY JOHN MILLER, CGCS - GCSAA MIDWEST FIELD STAFF

IOHN MILLER, CGCS

What a difference a year makes, for that matter, what a difference a couple of months makes. Great weather for most of us in March and a normal April turned into extreme heat and once again a few areas getting torrential downpours while many are approaching or in drought conditions. I am

seeing this scenario play out throughout the Great Lakes Region. Many courses in the region were affected by strong storms in late June that ripped trees out of the ground and scattered debris all over entire properties and the rain that accompanied them when coupled with the extreme heat was a breeding ground for disease outbreaks. Superintendents are seeing their already stressed budgets pushed to the max by the extreme weather conditions. The good news is that many golf courses are also receiving good revenues that may help offset some of the added expenses.

GCSAA is also here to help. On the website www.gcsaa.org there are resources that will help superintendents deal with the weather extremes and help them explain how these conditions affect the turf to their golfers, owners and board members. These resources are:

- Heat stress resources
- Flooding resources
- Information to share with golfers
- Communication tips
- Watch how frying an egg illustrates turf decline from heat

I would encourage all superintendents to use these resources as needed and if you need additional information or help please feel free to contact me at jmiller@gcsaa.org.

One area you will be hearing a lot more about is Rounds for Research. You may have already heard about this program from the Carolinas chapters but GCSAA is taking it national. Superintendents can donate rounds of golf from their clubs to Rounds for Research, the rounds will go on an auction website so that anyone can bid on the rounds, and once the auction closes the money will be divided up with the local chapter getting 80% of the proceeds and GCSAA getting 20%. This money can then be used to fund research through the chapter or any way they deem necessary. There will be more information coming very quickly on this as GCSAA is hoping to go live with the auction in the month of September. I would encourage you to talk to your club and line up a donation so you can be one of the first to be listed on the auction site when it goes live. If you have any questions please let me know or contact GCSAA directly at 800-472-7878.

The Environmental Institute for Golf (EIFG) has undergone some changes on its website and are reminding superintendents that the EIFG is here for you. The EIFG fosters sustainability through research, awareness, education, programs and scholarships for the benefit of golf course management professionals, golf facilities and the game. The EIFG needs your help! Please consider donating to the EIFG, no donation is too small and there are programs available so that you can pledge an amount and pay it over time if that better fits your budget. If you already donate to the EIFG, thank you so much and if you have not again please consider it and please use the resources the EIFG provides.

Have a great summer and remember fall is just around the corner, John



Premium Plant Nutrition

"I'm trying Turf Fuel for the first time this season in a head to head comparison with the foliar plan I have always followed. The Turf Fuel products are performing great and are significantly more affordable than the products I've always used."

~ Steve Bock, Willow Run GC, Columbus, OH

"I've used two other foliar product lines in the past and neither of them has been able to create greens that hold up to extreme stress like Turf Fuel. I'm amazed how my color, rooting, and overall plant health is this good in a season that has been this stressful."

~Mark Pappas, Whispering Willows GC, Livonia, MI

"To summarize how I feel about Turf Fuel, it is the best group of products I've used in 15 years. I love it so much I've expanded my program to tees. I cannot stop talking about how much better my greens are with Turf Fuel on them."

~Mike Seaton, Country Club of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN

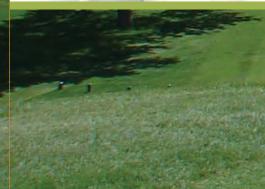
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THE BETTER







Victor Morales is the Assistant Superintendent, Birmingham Country Club. He has been happily married for 5 ½ years to his wife Jennifer and they have been together for about 8 years. They have two children, Viviana who is 2 ½ years and Marcelo, who is 11 months old. Victor became involved in the golf business in 2001, he was on his way to Canada to play college football and pursue a MBA when he decided to take a work visa to be a waiter at Oakland Hills Country Club to help save some money to pay for tuition. When he arrived, all waiter positions were filled so they offered him a position on the grounds department for the summer. Now 11 years after his desire to be a waiter he has moved into his current position at Birmingham and is in his second year there. Victor is also a member of the MiGCSA Assistant Superintendent Committee.

WHEN DID YOU KNOW THAT THIS WAS A JOB YOU WANTED TO DO AS A CAREER?

After the 2004 Ryder cup, I moved to Montreal and landed a job as a Commercial Manager. One sunny afternoon I was sitting in my office, which was in a confined spaced within a dark building, wishing I could be outside working at a golf course.

- WHERE DID YOU RECEIVE YOUR EDUCATION? Rutgers University
- WHAT COURSE DID YOU GO TO AFTER COLLEGE? Back to Oakland Hills, I was taking the winters off to attend school.
- WHAT DO YOU DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME? I do Projects around the house but most important I try to spend some quality time with my family.
- DO YOU PLAY GOLF? WHAT IS YOUR HANDICAP? I have been learning the sport for several years. My handicap is too high to be published in this magazine.
- WHAT GOLF COURSE WOULD YOU LOVE TO EXPERIENCE ONCE IN YOUR LIFETIME? St. Andrews.
- 7. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE GOLF CLUB IN THE BAG?

The putter because is the only one where everyone else is safe around me.

- 8. IF YOU COULD CHANGE ANY GOLF HOLE ON YOUR GOLF COURSE WITHOUT REPERCUSSION, WHICH ONE WOULD BE THE FIRST? Hole #6, a "perfect" combination of crappy soil and a bottle neck for traffic.
- 9. WHAT IS THE CULTURAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICE YOU COULD NOT DO WITHOUT?

Verticut and topdressing greens.

10. WHO IS THE GREATEST INFLUENCE IN YOUR PERSONAL

My dad, who has been an example of dedication, hard work, loyalty and honesty, among other important values. My wife Jen is also a great influence in my life since she is a perfect example of dedication, patience and caring plus she is the one that make things happen at home.

II. NAME ANY THREE PEOPLE WHO WOULD MAKE UP YOUR "DREAM SCRAMBLE TEAM"

Charles Barkley, who will make my swing look like a pro. Bill Murray, who will make us all laugh. Ian Poulter, so I am not the only one with a weird accent.

12. WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS FROM THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA?

They are doing a good job but more support is needed to some local chapters who are struggling to support their members. Free education would definitely help.

13. WHAT IS THE MOST DIFFICULT PART OF YOUR JOB?

To deal with employees who either are not willing to change or they do not want to try. It is hard to deal with bad attitudes.

14. WHAT IS THE MOST VALUABLE THING YOU HAVE LEARNED IN THE GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT PROFESSION?

You can always do a better job, and never look at what you did not accomplish that day but at everything that was accomplished!

15. HOW DO YOU RATE IMPORTANCE OF THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S ROLE AND INFLUENCE IN THE **GOLF INDUSTRY?**

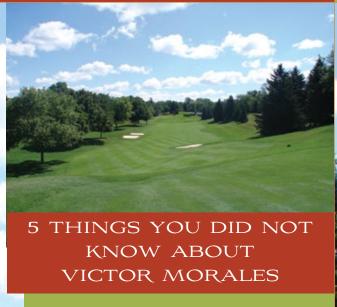
Those days where just growing grass was enough are gone. Now we have to manage the crew; serve as human resources people; public relationships with the members; and sometimes, serve as counselors and psychologists when dealing with crew members. We need to evolve with the industry and continuing providing with the best playing conditions we possibly can, in few words, whatever it takes to get the job done.

16. WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST PET PEEVE CONCERNING GOLF **COURSE ETIQUETTE?**

There are few that really irritate me but I now realized it has been a while since I have heard a "fore" at the golf course. This part of the golf course etiquette has been replaced with shrubs and trees near greens and tees as protection. During my first year on the job, I got hit on the head by a "flop" hit by a ranger, the person in charge of pace of play and golf course etiquette, who never yelled "fore".

17. PLEASE DESCRIBE IN DETAIL ONE TRUE FUNNY STORY FROM YOUR CAREER THAT YOU SHARE WHEN IN THE COMPANY OF OTHERS IN THE INDUSTRY.

The Spanglish syndrome: An assistant at a course I previously worked at gave some instructions to one of our Hispanic workers. Several minutes later here he comes driving a heavy loader thru the middle of the fairway with the bucket full of pea stone. In his mind he had said "Use the loader to fill your car with pea stone. Do not drive on the fairway with it".



- I. I PLAYED COLLEGE FOOTBALL CAPTAIN. AMAZINGLY, COLLEGE FOOTBALL IS BIG IN MEXICO, MAYBE BIGGER THAN SOCCER. ALSO PLAYED SEMI-PRO FOOTBALL HERE IN MICHIGAN COUPLE OF YEARS AGO.
- BEFORE COMING TO UNITED STATES, I USED TO BOWL AND HAD AN AVERAGE OF 217.
- 3. RECIPIENT OF THE: "ITESM BEST SPORTSMAN" AWARD IN 1998. ITESM IS MY COLLEGE SCHOOL NAME.
- AT ONE POINT, ALL OF MY PARENTS LIVING OUTSIDE MEXICO.
- I HAVE NEVER SEEN "CADDY SHACK"



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Your strategy for controlling grubs this summer

syngenta

Meridian® insecticide is a broad-spectrum insecticide that is effective for curative white grub control in amenity turfgrass. White grub mortality in the soil profile occurs from direct contact or ingestion of the insecticide. Meridian is most effective when applied between egg hatch and the 2nd instar life stage (grubs less than half their adult size). Meridian insecticide's relative solubility and soil stability offer excellent curative control. Additionally, Meridian is registered for use on turfgrass on golf courses, lawns, commercial grounds, parks, playgrounds, sod farms, and athletic fields.

Table 1. Meridian White Grub (larvae) Spectrum

Aphodius spp.	Black Turfgrass Ataenius	Japanese Beetle
Asiatic Garden Beetle	Chafers: European, Southern, Northern	May and June Beetles
Billbugs	Green June Beetle	Oriental Beetle

Table 2. Comparison of Grub Insecticide Efficacy by Time of Application

Average percent control (no. of tests)				
Insecticide	Rate (lbs ai/A)	July	to Aug 16	to Sep 10
Meridian	0.2 0.26	95.6 (25) 99.8 (5)	92.9 (15) 94.6 (9)	85.2 (12) 89.7 (6)
Dylox®	8.0	38.5 (1)	62.2 (5)	77.2 (25)

Data from Entomological Society of America publications (1977–2008) & Ohio State University testing using masked chafer and Japanese beetle data where label timing recommendations were used and at least 4.0 grubs per ft2 were found in checks.

- For curative white grub control, apply Meridian July-September. (See Table 3 for rate recommendations).
- Avoid mowing turf until the treated area has been irrigated to allow for maximum and uniform uptake into the turfgrass.
- For optimum curative activity, water in Meridian within 24 hours of application (within 7 days for preventive).
- For turf with heavy thatch (more than 0.75"), use the higher Meridian rate.

Table 3. Equivalent Rates

Product	Active Ingredient/Acre	Rate/Acre
Meridian 25WG	0.2 lbs	12.7 oz
	0.26 lbs	17.0 oz
Meridian 0.33G	0.2 lbs	60 lbs
	0.26 lbs	80 lbs
Dylox 6.2G	8.0 lbs	130 lbs

36TH ANNUAL CAN-AM RECAP

The 36th annual Can-Am was played at the TPC of Dearborn on April 30th. This event is a long standing match that started with the Greater Detroit Golf Course Superintendent's playing the Ontario Golf Course Superintendent's Association members. Now this event is open to all MiGCSA members and this year there were 20 groups and a total of 80 players. Last year the MiGCSA had won the Can-Am cup and this year they defended with a 40 to 20 point win to retain the cup. A special thank you to John Kulka, Superintendent at TPC of Michigan the course was in fantastic early season shape. Stay tuned for the site next year as the event heads to the other side of the border, this is a great event with a fantastic group of Superintendents from both sides.



Secretary Treasurer Gregg Matthews, OGSA President Doug Breen and MiGCSA Vice President Greg Pattinson with the Can-Am Cup.





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MEMBER DISCOUNTS

Did you know your MiGCSA Membership comes with some great discounts and deals around the state in golf and lodging? Here are the current discounts for all MiGCSA Members, if you would like to offer a discount to members please let us know and we will update the Member Only Discounts section of our website.

- Special MiGCSA Member rates 20% off at Crystal Mountain Resort and Spa using promo code NMI34H9IX. http://www.crystalmountain.com/
- Special MiGCSA Member rates 20% off at Boyne Resorts using promo code GCSA. www.boyne. com
- Special MiGCSA member rate of \$229 for each Kno-Mark Ball Mark Repair Tool Purchased. In addition. Kno-Marks will also contribute \$20.00 to

- the MiGCSA Foundation for each unit purchased. Use promo code MiGCSA for the discount and donation www.knomarks.com
- Special MiGCSA Member rates 15% off at Manistee National Golf & Resort using promo code MiGCSA, www.manisteenational.com









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A CALL FROM CAMPUS

THE BASICS OF THE NEW PHOSPHORUS LAW

By Kevin Frank, MSU and April Hunt, MDARD

In December 2010, statewide phosphorus application restrictions were added to the Michigan Fertilizer Law (1994 PA 451, Part 85, Fertilizers). Public Act 299 of 2010 prohibits the use of phosphorus fertilizers on residential or commercial lawns, including athletic fields and golf courses statewide beginning Jan. 1, 2012. The Michigan Fertilizer Law restricts phosphorus fertilizer applications by both homeowners and commercial applicators. Phosphorus applications for new turfgrass establishment, based on soil test results, for certain types of manure, and by golf courses that complete an approved training course are not included.

The general rule in Public Act 299 of 2010 (Act 299) is no phosphorus fertilizer on turfgrass, unless it meets an exemption. The sale of phosphorus fertilizers in the marketplace is not impacted. Phosphorus applications for agriculture, gardens, trees, and shrubs are exempted; the other exemptions are identified below.

Highlights of Act 299:

Starting January 1, 2012, a person shall not apply any fertilizer with available phosphate (P2O5) to turf. Available phosphate (P2O5) may be applied at specified rates under the following instances:

- 1. When a soil test within the past 3 years indicates phosphorus is needed. Application rates based on soil test results can be found at www.turf.msu.edu (under Hot Topics for Summer click on Phosphorus Restrictions Resources).
- 2. For new turf establishment using seed or sod. Establishment does include reestablishment activities such as interseeding into an existing turf stand. Areas on a golf course that would qualify as new establishment include driving range or other tees on the golf course that are constantly being seeded. Although tees qualify under this exemption, divots throughout the golf course do not qualify the entire golf course as being under establishment. Application rates for establishment based on soil tests are included in the recommendations found at www.turf.msu.edu. If you don't have a soil test, for establishment you can apply 2.5 lbs. P2O5/1000 ft.2/year with a maximum single application of 1.5 lbs. P2O5/1000 ft.2.
- 3. A finished sewage sludge (biosolid), organic manure or a manipulated manure (like compost). The application rate is limited to 0.25 pounds of phosphorus per 1,000 square feet. Please note this rate is in pounds of phosphorus not available phosphate. Also be aware that this exemption does not include all natural organic products. For example, natural organic products derived from bone and feather meal are not included.

 On golf courses whose manager(s) have completed a MDARD approved training program. At this time, only golf courses certified in the Michigan Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship Program are exempt.

Additional items of interest that apply to all fertilizer applications, not just those applications containing phosphorus include:

- I. Fertilizer cannot be applied to frozen soil or soil saturated with water.
- 2. Any fertilizer released onto a hard surface, such as a sidewalk or driveway must be cleaned up promptly.
- 3. Maintain at least a 15' application buffer from surface water (lake, river, stream)
 - a. If a spreader guard, deflector shield, or drop spreader is used, then maintain at least a 3' buffer
 - If a continuous natural vegetative buffer separates the turf and surface water, then maintain at least a 10' buffer from the water.





In the beginning...

It all started in the summer of 2011 with one frustrated wife of a golf course superintendent. It was a record hot summer and this wife was left to explain to her young sons, yet again, that daddy would not be home as promised. Knowing that there had to be other women out there like her, she took to the internet to find them.

There were no active communities of women who had married into the turf superintendent lifestyle. How could that be? So this frustrated wife did the only thing she could think of, she started a Facebook page.

With a little help from her husband and Golf Course Industry Magazine, the word slowly made it out that there was a community for the wives of turf professionals. The Wives of Turf Facebook page quickly became a place where these women could interact with other women who knew, and more importantly understood what they were going through. Let's face it, the turf lifestyle isn't always easy.

A Community was born...

Fast forward to today, Wives of Turf consists of over 630 members in 18 countries, sharing their challenges, and rewards. Wives of Turf has grown far beyond our Facebook page, we have our very own website, Twitter account, Google+ and will be expanding in the near future.

One of our main staples is the Question of the Day on Facebook. The questions are not always turf related, but they always spark great conversations. These questions are often submitted by our members. We've asked things like: Is your lawn the nicest on the block or how many golf shirts are hanging in your husband's closet? One of our favorite questions was, what do you find in your husbands pockets when doing the laundry? Let's just say we could have written book with that

Through almost a year of great conversation, it is clear, if your husband is a golf course superintendent, his career is truly a family affair. With that, last month we opened a sister page on Facebook called Kids of Turf that is specifically for sharing the challenges of raising kids in the turf lifestyle. Just for fun we change the cover photo on the page every Monday to feature new Kids Of Turf.

It is comical to hear the men chime in from time to time about some of our ladies comments, but we recognized the ladies truly needed a place of their own. Recently we started a closed group page on Facebook. This has been a great addition to Wives of Turf. The closed group allows the ladies to really share feelings about being married to the turf lifestyle. While everything that is shared in that group is kept confidential, the topics of conversation range from turf to books. The women love having that private group, a place just for them where they can talk to other women who go through the same challenges.

Helping our Turf Family...

More than a group to socialize with, we found we are much more than that. In early 2012, Wives of Turf partnered with the Wee One Foundation to help raise money and awareness for their cause. So far this year we have been able to donate \$1,200 to Wee One with more to come. It's a great feeling to be able to help an organization that does so much for our Turf Family.

At this year's Golf Industry Show, we held the 1st Annual Sip & Social, an event that was fully sponsored and free for all who attended. The Sip & Social is the first event to specifically honor the wives at GIS. The ladies were treated to an open bar, hors d'oeuvres and door prizes. We were able to raise more money than we needed to run the event and all proceeds were donated to Wee One. We are looking forward to hosting the Sip & Social each year at the Golf Industry Show. Golf Course Superintendents have many resources to support them in their career, but the wives are often the unsung heroes.

What started out as just one wife looking for others like her has turned into a community of hundreds of women from all over the world who are united in the Turf Lifestyle. The goal is to make Wives of Turf a household name, for every wife, fiancé and girlfriend to join the community and share her story. We don't have to live this life alone, we can band together to get through the difficulties and celebrate our successes.



The actual wives of turf members at the first annual sip and social gathering in Las Vegas, look for another gathering at GIS in San Diego this winter.

Links:

http://wivesofturf.org www.facebook.com/wivesofturfgrass https://twitter.com/#!/wivesofturf



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ASSOCIATION UPDATE



In your shoes

Has anyone noticed how hot it is...? I did not think it could get worse than last year for Superintendents but so far 2012 has seemed to take the cake. Hopefully as this hits your desk in print you are bathed in a slow all day soaker and not another day in the scorching sun. As a former Superintendent I can honestly say I feel your pain as I have been in your shoes. I wish anyone else could, especially the members, players and other staff at your facilities. We all know it so well, it is almost impossible to explain the realities of the job to anyone who has not done it. I see many of the usual problems associated with this weather pattern expressed by the many MiGCSA members I follow on Twitter (@MiGCSA) and they all have a resounding message of the golfers and others in the industry don't get it. From running over ground under repair signs to the pro shop sending off those back nine tee times right as the crew makes the turn and right down to the physical and mental exhaustion that comes with the seemingly un-ending and oppressive heat and pressure of the job. As all of you see this as a challenge the Board and I see this as an opportunity to add another benefit of our Association. How can we better communicate the real cost of the job to the people that hire and fire Superintendents at golf facilities? I know we have made headway just by having the MiGCSA as a unified voice and part of the golf community in Michigan. The other associations know who we are, now we need to make sure their members do too. Not only who we are but why the Superintendent is so critical to the success of any facility. The MiGCSA has applied for an outreach grant from the GCSAA for this specific reason; we hope to match funds with the GCSAA to promote our members to the end users, golfers. To try and lift some of the veil we have with regular public play golfers and even many members at private facilities. The job of a golf course superintendent is too challenging and too important to golf to be miss-understood, so we will continue to strive to communicate this.

On another note you can see our membership numbers are on the rise 622 this summer vs. 567 last year, and close to the level we had in 2009 our high water mark of 642. The membership committee is working hard to get some 90 members who have not yet renewed from 2011 to keep their membership current.

Our 2012 events have also been well attended, I know it is hard to get away but if you can't get at least one good tip or new contact to take back to your course after and MiGCSA event you just aren't doing it right. These are so much more than golf events; they are by far the best way to learn about new and innovative ways to manage your property. It is a fantastic way to touch base with your fellow members, sign up as a single and get paired up with what are sure to be 3 new advocates and allies. Most of the events are scrambles or handicapped so it does not matter how you play. So stay tuned to email and our website and sign up for an event this fall or late summer.

Good luck with getting to the finish line in 2012, hopefully we are due for a nice cool 2013. Until then please let me know where the MiGCSA can improve or if there is anything we can do for you. We can't always help but we usually know who can if it is not us.

Adam Ikamas, CGCS MiGCSA Executive Director







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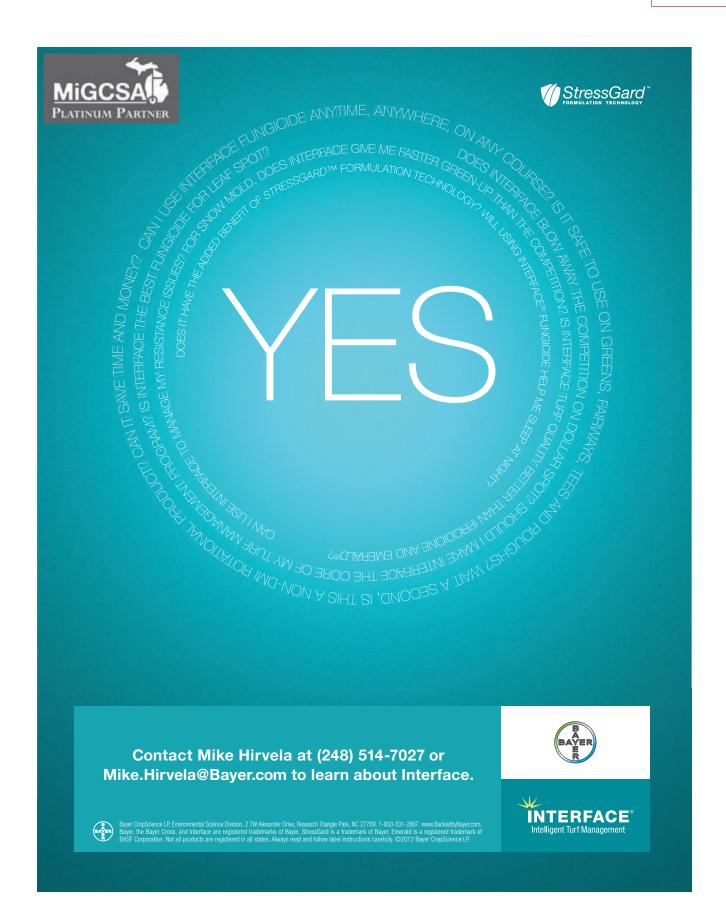




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