

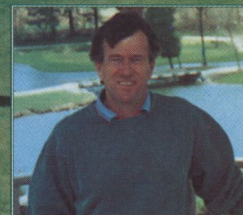
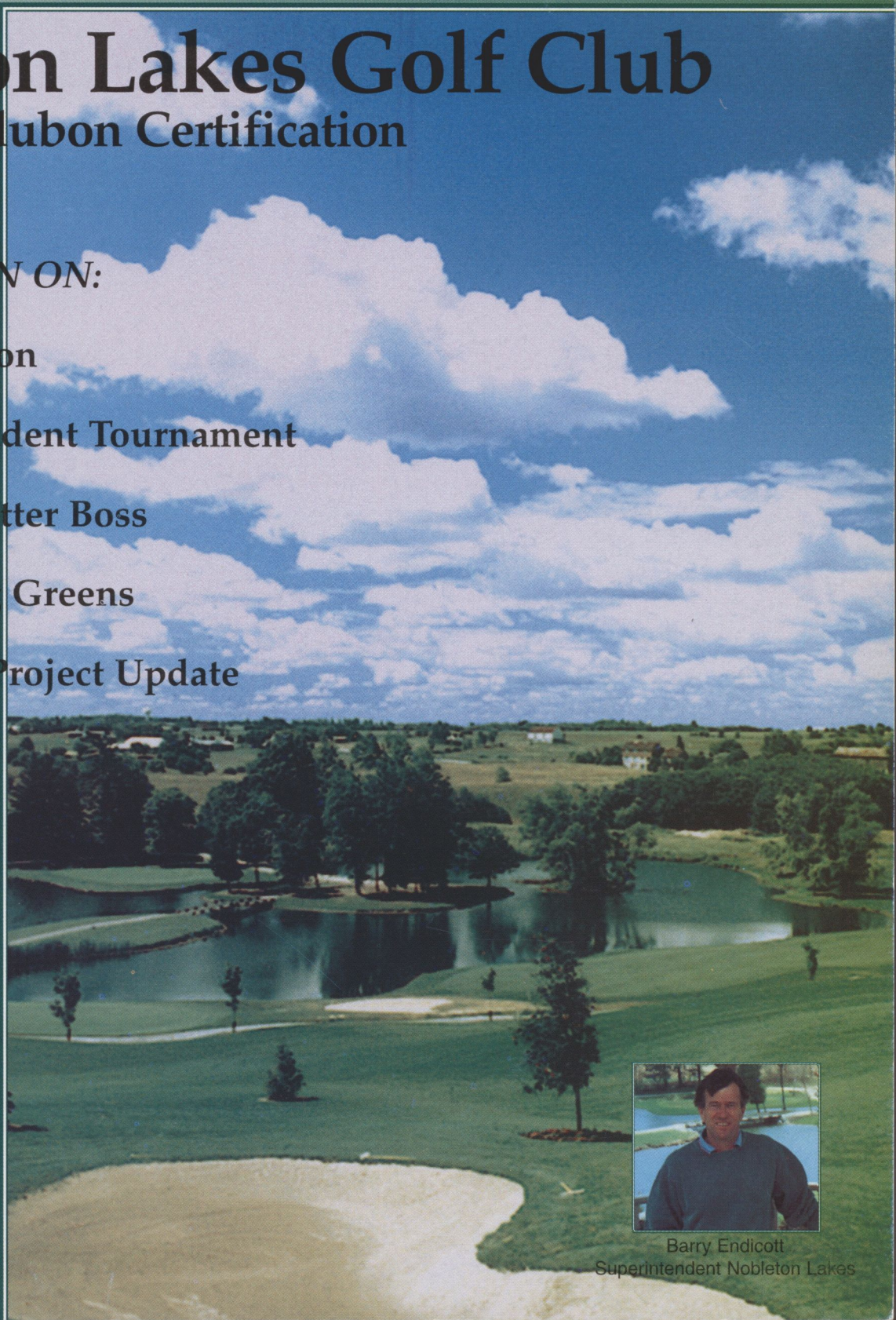
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Nobleton Lakes Golf Club Achieves Audubon Certification

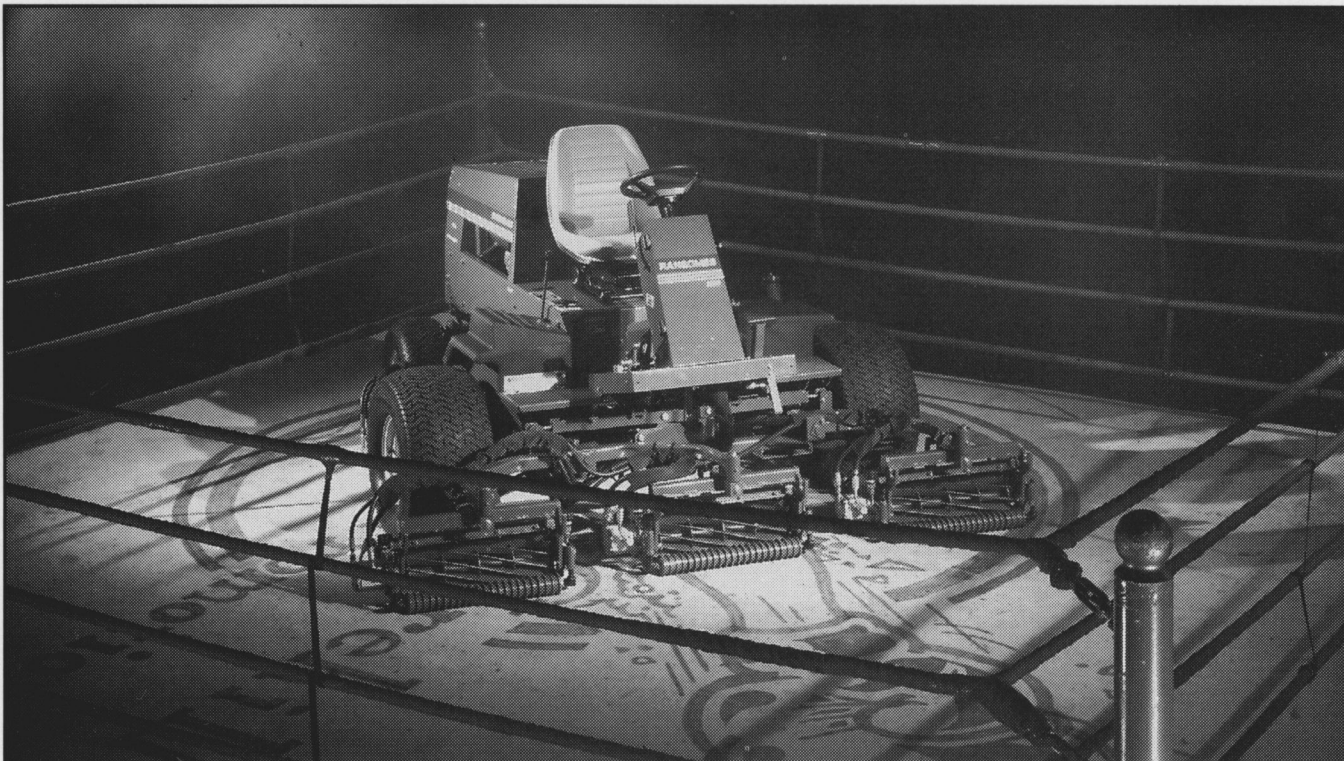
INFORMATION ON:

- Pond Renovation
- Pro/Superintendent Tournament
- How to be a better Boss
- Hand Watering Greens
- GTI Research Project Update



Barry Endicott
Superintendent Nobleton Lakes

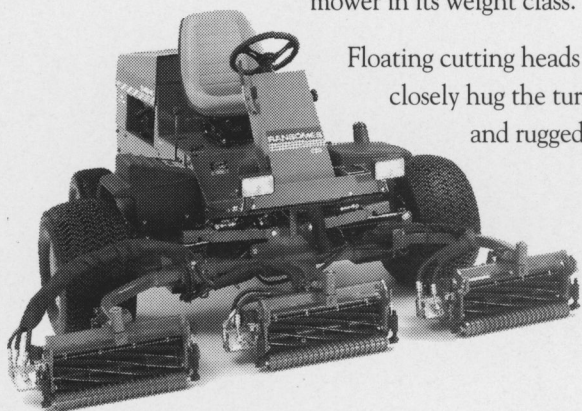




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The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents Association

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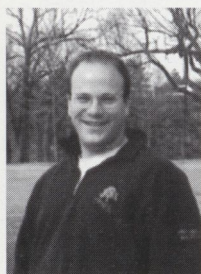
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Editors Report

Mark Piccolo

Its nice to finally see the leaves out on the trees. Soon we will all be complaining about the hot temperatures and wishing for the winter to come. In this issue we have some tips on how to be a better boss. We also have some interesting facts on hand watering, and Keith Bartlett gives us a rundown on Thornhills pond restoration project. Our Pro/Superintendent Tournament was the most successful in years and we welcome our new Office Manager to the OGSA. Rob Whitherspoon gives us a rundown of testing going on at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute.

Have a problem don't give up. Want to find out what other superintendents are doing, well ask them through Green Is Beautiful. It's our version of ask the expert. Help us to create a link between superintendents through the use of your magazine. Look inside for details.

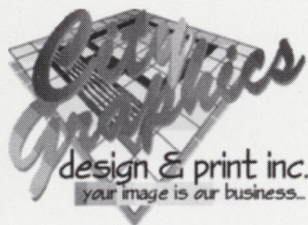
Again we ask members to support the newsletter with any material others may find interesting and informative.

OGSA Newsletter Director

Green is Beautiful 1997

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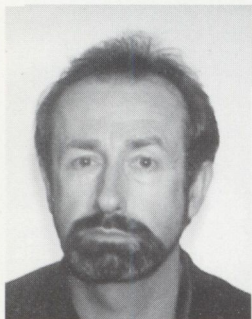
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president's message

O.G.S.A. President

Simon George



Over the last two months, the O.G.S.A. has been very busy. Discussion continues with the C.G.S.A. regarding cooperative conference

issues. Also the Board is looking at ways to make our educational programs even better and more successful.

The Pro-Supt. event was a great success. This year we had a full field for the first time. Thanks again to Dean Baker and the Glen Abbey

Staff for all of their efforts.

It is very important that we continue these events with our Pros and other groups involved with the Golf Club operation - we can all gain from these ventures.

The Golf & Meetings Committee has put together a very good, full slate of events. The President Greens Chairman Event at the Park Club promises to be our premiere event once again.

The miserable cold spring has not been good for our golf courses or for the revenue producing areas of



the clubs, but as I keep saying to my members, "Its can only get better."

I hope that everyone is having a good Spring in spite of it all and that we look forward to a fine season.

P.S. Beware of the Phantom Pumpkin Smasher...

the audubon cooperative

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Nobleton Lakes Golf Club Recognized for Environmental Excellence

NOBLETON, ONT. - Nobleton Lakes Golf Club has achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS), a program of Audubon International, and endorsed by the United States Golf Association. Nobleton Lakes is only the fourth in Canada and the ninety-fourth golf course in North America to receive this honour.

"Nobleton Lakes has shown a strong commitment to its environ-

mental program. They are to be commended for their efforts to provide a sanctuary for wildlife on the golf course property," said Lee Mangum, ACSS Manager for Audubon International.

To reach certification a course must maintain a high degree of environmental quality in Environmental Planning, Wildlife and Habitat Management, Outreach and Education, Integrated Pest Management, Water Conservation and Water Quality Management.

For more information contact: Audubon International, 46 Rarick Rd., Selkirk, New York 12158

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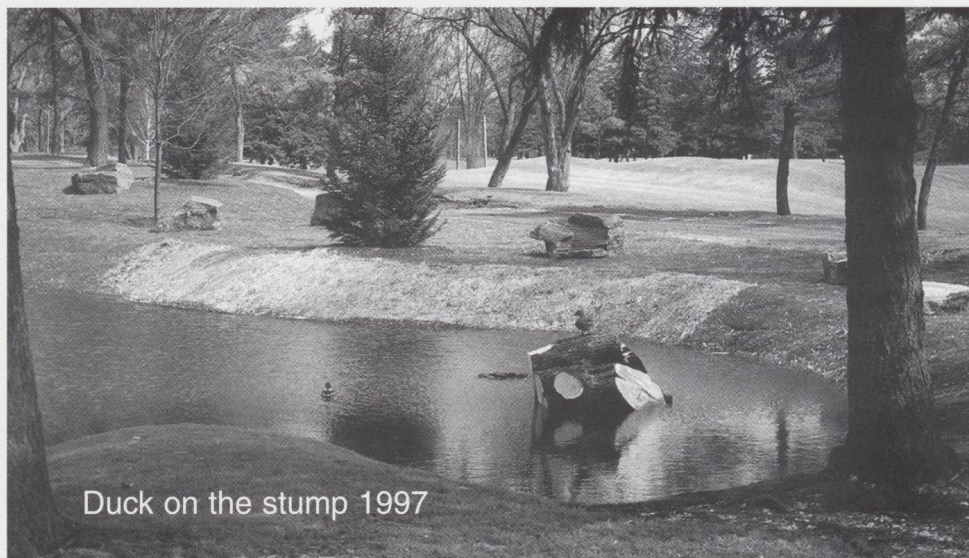
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pond renovation project

Thornhill Country Club Pond Renovation Project

By Keith Bartlett OGSA Director



Duck on the stump 1997

The 8th hole at Thornhill Country Club is called the "Pond" but for many years it looked like anything other than a pond. However, the problems associated with this pond is not that uncommon of many other golf courses' ponds. The water depth is too shallow, the water temperature is too warm, water circulation is poor, nutrient loading is high and the end result is a pond that is covered in algae and duck weed during the hot summer months. This problem has existed for many years and everything (chemically) has been tried but to no avail. The only solution was complete restoration but would require money, create some disruption to the golf course and require several trees to be removed.

The pond was created many years ago because there was ground water seeping to the surface in the lowest area of the 8th hole approximately 100 yards from the green. The natural solution was to dig a pond about 4-5 feet deep with a surface area of 6000 square feet. The shape of the pond was creative and sexy but over the years organic matter collected in the pond eventually reducing the depth to 1.5 feet. The end product was water surface

covered in algae and duck weed with a less than pleasant odour during the hot, steamy days of July and

August. Those golfers unfortunate enough to hit a ball into the pond and find it would be handling a slime covered, smelly golfball. The complaints would be constant and at least once or twice a week, one person would wade into the pond and skim the algae out. We would try any chemical available such as hydrogen peroxide, or other organic pond aid chemicals but to no avail. Otterbine aerators would not work since the pond was too shallow and there was no colder water to draw from the bottom in order to cool the top portion of the pond.

After years of complaints and frustration, the Greens Committee made the pond renovation the biggest priority within our Long Range Plan for two reasons. The first would be to solve a long-standing problem and second it would be considered relatively non disruptive towards the membership that has been exposed to many capital improvements in the past four years. The pond was at the edge of



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Thornhill Country Club Pond Renovation Project



four years. The pond was at the edge of the hole located next to the road and the compound used to store the material was near at hand. The project was tendered out and W. Searle Ltd. started the project during the final week of September.

Carrick Designs Ltd. designed a pond that would meet the club's objective. These were to enlarge it to 25,000 square feet of surface area; make it as deep as possible (up to 12'); incorporate the pond into play, improve the aesthetics, health of the pond and maintain the original character. The first shovel was put into the ground and last was exactly 220 tandem loads later. To our surprise and disappointment 90% of the material was very wet clay that will not be available as fill for one or two years. There was an excavator backhoe, a D-3 bulldozer and three dumptrucks constantly digging and shaping for five days.

The slope of the pond was 1:1 below the water line to reduce the chance of algae forming along the edge of the pond. After spreading the required topsoil, the entire area was sodded and eight trees planted around the back right edge of the pond. The right side of the pond is very close to the road and granite rocks were arranged with various ornamental grasses and native shrubs to create a natural area that would attract songbirds. A stump from our winter tree work approximately 3.5 feet in diameter was placed in one of the shallow bays to create fish and duck habitats. It was gratifying to see two ducks enjoying this stump within one hour of it being in the pond. There will be aquatic plants placed along the waters edge and in the two shallow bays for further beauty but also to help remove nutrients and oxygenate the pond. Also, an Otterbine aerator was set in place to continuously circulate cold bottom water to the top and increase oxygen levels. The pond can be filled from the irrigation system but the May showers have maintained an adequate water level.

The true test will be during the summer months on whether algae will form but the improved aesthetics, and added difficulty to the hole has already met the committee's objectives and received rave reviews from members.

new O.G.S.A. office manager

Introducing The New Office Manager



On May 20th, Jacqueline D'Amato became the new Office Manager of the Association.

Jacque brings to the position an extensive background in administration and marketing in both the private and public sector. Most recently she held the position of office manager of Guelph 2000, a non profit organization sponsored by The Ministry Of Environment & Energy. As a result the City Of Guelph gained provincial recognition as the first "Green Community" in Ontario. A native of England, Jacque moved here in 1977 and now resides in Guelph with her husband John and cat Winston. Jacque can

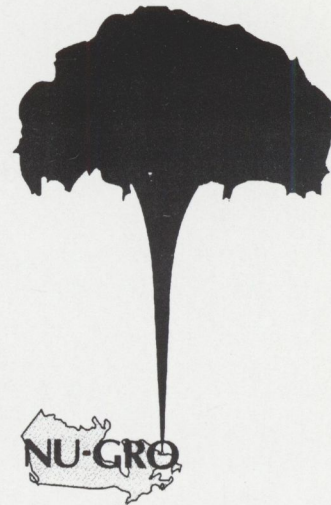
be reached at the O.G.S.A. office @ 519-824-6472 and thanks everyone for the tremendous support she has received during her first week on the job.

playing golf

Why is it important for a golf superintendent to play golf? GCSAA Leader Board

There are a number of reasons, but the most important is being able to see the course through the eyes of a golfer. This perspective helps you to understand how your maintenance practices, such as mowing heights and water management, affect the game. Since golf course playing conditions change daily, playing the course regularly helps you to see those changes, then adjust course set-up and maintenance for optimum playability. Playing golf is part of the job. I recommend that superintendents play with their owners to keep communication open. You might even make playing golf an element of your employment contract. Playing golf frequently also allows the golf course superintendent an opportunity to check the quality of their employees' work, and take a closer look at turf conditions in all areas. It is important to play with different people - your crew, other superintendents, seniors, women, juniors, and good golfers, and high handicappers, to gain an understanding of their needs and expectations. The result is a course that is fun and challenging for all levels of golfers.

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GTI UPDATE: THE 1997 RESEARCH SEASON

Rob Witherspoon

During the summer, the Guelph Turfgrass Institute faces challenges similar to those experienced by most golf courses in the province. The grass is growing and maintenance staff are pushed to the limit to keep up with the growth. The only difference is that instead of shutting down the throttle to allow a golfer to make a swing, GTI staff throttle down to allow researchers to apply a treatment or record an observation. Rather than complaining about less than pristine conditions, the scientists cherish a weedy patch of turf or dollar spotted green as it provides optimum playing conditions for their favourite game - investigative research.

One of the most exciting developments at the GTI this summer is the construction of a new 16,000 ft² USGA green. This project, funded in part by the Ontario Turfgrass Research Foundation along with significant contributions from the industry and suppliers, will greatly expand our capacity to evaluate bentgrass cultivars and conduct research under putting green condi-

tions. Research demand for bentgrass putting green turf has increased significantly in recent years. The two current USGA greens at the GTI are fully occupied this year.

The list accompanying this article outlines the research work at the GTI this year. Unfortunately, space limitations do not allow for complete details of each project but the project title, researcher's name and primary funding agencies have been included. Most of the projects, and the early results, will be on display at the GTI-OTRF Research Field Day on Thursday, August 14th. The research day will have a new look this year with an expanded program at the GTI. This will allow for a later starting time to give participants a chance to stop by their workplace on the way to the field day or allow more time for travellers to arrive from outlying areas. Additional time is being allocated for participants to interact with researchers and the afternoon will feature a series of hands-on workshops in turf management with Pam

Charbonneau, Jack Eggens and other GTI faculty and staff. A plaque recognizing the support of Hutcheson Sand and Mixes will be unveiled beside the existing USGA greens and our new green should be near completion by the field day. OGSA members are also being invited for a special program at the GTI on the morning of the OGSA Summer Golf Day at the Cutten Club on Monday, August 25th. Superintendents in the Guelph area may be interested in inviting their members to attend the free GTI Public Open House on Saturday, August 16th. A variety of attractions are planned including informal tours, free lawn and garden advice, a putting contest and children's activities.

All members of the turfgrass industry are welcome to visit the GTI at any time to look over the research plots. Please call ahead to insure that one of our staff will be on hand to direct you to the appropriate area. A list of contact information is also included should you wish to communicate directly with any GTI faculty or staff member. We look forward to seeing you at the GTI this summer.

Continued...



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1997 research projects

GTI Report Continued

Weed Control:

Application Safety Interval for Pendimethalin - Dr. Chris Hall (Cyanamid Canada) Biological Control of Dandelion Using Fungi - Dr. Greg Boland (NSERC) Evaluation of Broadleaf Herbicides in Fine Turf - Dr. Chris Hall (various herbicide companies) Non-Chemical Alternatives to Herbicides for Weed Control in Turf - Dr. Chris Hall (OMAFRA) Effect of Fertility and Mowing on Broadleaf Weed Infestations in Various Species and Mixtures in Turf - Dr. Chris Hall (OMEE, OMAFRA) The Effects of Species Combinations and Nitrogen Fertility Regime on Weed Infestation in Fine Turf - Dr. Chris Hall (OMEE, OMAFRA)

Turfgrass Management:

Evaluation of Various Amendments for Turfgrass Rootzones - Dr. Ken Carey (OMAFRA and various companies) Evaluation of Various Turfgrass Species as Mown and Unmown Golf Course Roughs - Rob Witherspoon (GTI) Stress Response of Kentucky Bluegrass/Perennial Ryegrass/Fine Fescue Monocultures & Mixtures - Dr. Ken Carey (OMAFRA) Stress Response of Single and Multiple Cultivar Populations of Bentgrass - Dr. Ken Carey (CTRF, OMAFRA) Water Budget Irrigation Scheduling - Dr. Terry Gillespie and Dr. Bob Sheard (LRS) Disease Management: Biological Control of Grey Snow Mould - Dr. Tom Hsiang (CTRF, URIF, OTRF) Development and Management of Necrotic Ring Spot

of Kentucky Bluegrass - Dr. Tom Hsiang (Fairlawn Sod, Compact Sod, OTRF) Disease Forecasting System for Dollarspot - Dr. Greg Boland (OTRF, NSERC) Fungicide Control of Snow Mould Diseases - Dr. Tom Hsiang (various chemical companies) Fungicide Control of Dollar Spot - Dr. Tom Hsiang (various chemical companies) Leaf Wetness Sensors for Turfgrass - Dr. Greg Boland (NSERC)

Environmental Research:

Ammonia and Nitrogen Gas Losses - Dr. George Thurtell (OMAFRA) Nitrogen Balance of Turfgrass - Dr. Claudia Wagner-Riddle (OMAFRA) Speciation and Fractionation of Lead and Arsenic in Former Orchard Soils - Dr. Les Evans (OMAFRA, NSERC) Microcosm Studies on Pesticides and Other Environmental Pollutants - Dr. Keith Solomon (CNTC, CT, UG, EC)

Turfgrass Fertility:

GTI 1997 Fertilizer Performance Trial: Kentucky Bluegrass - Dr. Ken Carey and Rob Witherspoon (GTI, OMAFRA and private companies) GTI 1997 Fertilizer Performance Trial: Bentgrass Putting Greens - Dr. Ken Carey and Rob Witherspoon (GTI, OMAFRA and private companies)

Ornamental Plant Research:

Shrub Pruning and Evaluation - Dr. Glen Lumis (OMAFRA) Controlled Release Fertilizers for Nursery Trees - Dr. Glen Lumis (Plant Products, Vigoro, OMAFRA)

Turfgrass Breeding and Variety

Evaluation:

Bentgrass, Bluegrass, Perennial Ryegrass, Fine Fescue and Tall Fescue Variety Trials - Dr. Steve Bowley (OMAFRA and various seed companies) Genetic Transformation of Creeping Bentgrass to Enhance Environmental Stress Tolerance - Dr. Steve Bowley, Dr. Bryan McKersie and Dr. Ken Kasha (CTRF and other sources) Turfgrass Mixture Trial - Dr. Steve Bowley (OMAFRA, OPAC) NTEP Bluegrass Variety Trial, Medium-High Input Test - Dr. Steve Bowley (OMAFRA, NTEP) NTEP Bluegrass Variety Trial, Low-Input Test - Dr. Steve Bowley (OMAFRA, NTEP)

Key to Funding Sources:

CNTC - Canadian Network of Toxicology Centres
CT - Centre for Toxicology
CTRF - Canadian Turfgrass Research Foundation
GTI - Guelph Turfgrass Institute
EC - Environment Canada
LRS - Department of Land Resource Science (University of Guelph)
NSERC - Natural Science and Engineering Research Council
NTEP - National Turfgrass Evaluation Program
OMAFRA - Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs
OMEE - Ontario Ministry of the Environment & Energy
OPAC - Ontario Pesticide
OTRF - Ontario Turfgrass Research Foundation
UG - University of Guelph
URIF - University Research Incentive Fund

Significant support is provided to turfgrass research through equipment loans from G.C. Duke Equipment, Ontario Turf Equipment Company, Podolinsky Turf Equipment and Turf Care Products.

Turfgrass contact information

Guelph Turfgrass Institute:

GTI Direct Line (519) 767-5009

Fax (519) 766-1704

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GTI Consulting Agronomist - Rootzones

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Pam Charbonneau

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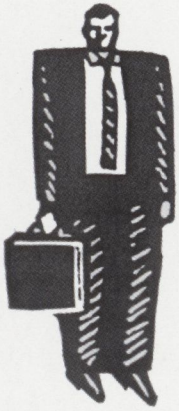
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9 ways you can be a better boss



Leader Board GCSAA

1. **Communicate openly and honestly.** Good communication is essential to building strong employer/employee relationships.
2. **Give employees responsibility and control.** Loosen the reins of control by encouraging initiative and empowering with

decision-making.

3. **Provide employees with a clear sense of vision and direction.** Formulate a plan of action and stick to it. Nothing is more frustrating than a boss who sets priorities and goals, only to change them later.
4. **Keep employees informed about their performance.** Good managers do not wait until the annual performance appraisal to tell employees about their strengths and weaknesses. Frequently schedule brief meetings to

offer information that employees can use to improve their work performance.

5. **Admit mistakes.** Employers who openly admit their mistakes and shortcomings create an atmosphere in which employees feel comfortable in acknowledging their own faults and errors they can be corrected.
6. **Be open to change.** The best bosses look for ways to improve and learn from the experiences of others. Pinpoint the successes and failures of others and adapt your own management style accordingly.
7. **Treat employees with respect.** Respect employees for their contributions and also for their worth as individuals.
8. **Provide daily encouragement.** Employees feel successful and put forth a great effort when you recognize their achievements.
9. **Solicit employees' opinions and ideas.** Build trust and receive respect by asking your employees for their input on issues that concern them.

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How Do You Measure Up?



To see how your employees view your management abilities, take this self-audit. If you answer "yes" to most of the questions, you might benefit from management coaching and training.

- Is low morale zapping your department's productivity?
 - Do you yell or reprimand your employees?
 - Do you feel as though things will fall apart in your absence?
 - Are your employees afraid to face you with their problems or concerns?
 - Do you set aside specific times to communicate with your employees?
 - Do you fail to provide important information to your employees?
 - Is your day spent fighting workplace fires?
 - Do you give more negative than positive feedback?
- Source: Manager's Legal Bulletin, Alexander Hamilton Institute, Ramsey, N.J., November, 1996.

announcements & special dates

Western Ontario Golf Superintendents Association

- May 27 Willo-Dell Country Club
Host: Angelo Toto
- June 24 Dundee Country Club
Host: Denis Jones
- July 28 Brookfield Country Club
Host: Henry Schmitz
- August 25 Bridgewater Country Club
Host: Steve Sherwood
- Sept. 29 Cherry Hill Golf Club
Host: Cecil Hoekstra

Georgian Bay Superintendents Association

- May 27 Springwater Golf Club
Contact: Ed Lange - 705-728-1855
- June 17 Perry Sound Golf and Country Club
Contact: Jeff Alexander - 705-342-5262
- July 22 Hawkridge Golf Club
Contact: Bruce Dodson - 705-329-4553
- August 19 Bonaire Golf and Country Club
Contact: Randy Fielder
- Sept. 25 Blue Mountain Golf and Country Club
Contact: Jim Malley, Jay Lewis
(11:30 am Crossover) 705-445-3911

Ottawa Valley Turfgrass Association

- TBA OVTRF
Camelot Golf Club
- July 28 Executive Day
Brockville Golf and Country Club
- Sept 22 Fall Field Day
Hylands Golf Club

Nothern Ontario Golf Superintendent Association

- August 26 Pro/Super/Directors Day
IDYLWYLDE Golf Country Club
- Oct TBA
- Jan. TBA

Greater London Area Golf Superintendents

- June 26 Wardsville Golf Club
- July 23 Greenhills Golf Club
- Aug 14 Echo Valley Golf Club
- Sept 11 ST. Marys Golf Club
- Oct 2 Hickory Ridge Golf Club
- Contact: Mark Hagen 519-471-1400

Ontario Golf Superintendents Association Events

- President/Greens Chairman/Director Event
June 16, 1997
Park Country Club, Buffalo N.Y.
Host: Scott Dodson
- Summer Field Day
August 25, 1997
Cuttan Club
Host: Richard Creed

Toronto Society of Golf Course Superintendents

- July 7 Credit Valley Golf Club
- Sept (Date TBA) Donalda Club
- Oct (Date TBA) National Golf Club



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CGSA Benefits

CGSA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS ENHANCED

Submitted by Bill Fach, CGSA Ontario Director

CGSA believes that environmentalism is not a trend. There has been an overwhelming response from members indicating their strong support for the need to develop an Environmental Management Resource Manual. The manual is in development and is scheduled to be available in late fall 1997. Mark Scenna of Environmental Investigations in Ontario, and Kirk Morrison of Bel - MK Engineering in Alberta have been contracted to put together the information required to produce this manual. Jay Leach and his steering committee are doing the peer review and the material contained will be applicable nationally as well as highlighting information pertinent

to the various regions of the country. Once completed, this manual is expected to cover over 20 issues and may contain over 300 pages that will include appendices and a glossary.

CGSA's second major project involves the development of National Occupational Standard. At CGSA's board meeting held last September in Montreal, it was agreed that CGSA should enter an agreement with Human Resources Development Canada to pursue the first step to develop National Occupational Standards. The goal of Rob Officer and his national steering committee is to complete

an Occupational Standards Document by March 1998. These standards, when completed, will be presented to Turfgrass Educational Institutions to be used in the development of their curriculum. As well, it will help to create a specific job description for the golf course superintendent and a more defined career path.



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Pro/Superintendent event

Glen Abbey's History

by Ian Bowen, OGSA Director

Glen Abbey's unique Swinging Monk symbol has an interesting history. Glen Abbey was originally a large country estate and when its owner passed away, he bequeathed the property to some Jesuit priests for use as a retreat. After several years, the priests moved on as the estate was too large for them to care for. However, their stay left its mark and The Abbey is reported to be haunted by the ghost of a friendly monk. A group of Oakville businessmen purchased the property and turned it into Upper Canada Golf and Country Club. It subsequently became the Clearstream Golf and Country Club, and finally Glen Abbey. This course was the first public golf club in Canada to be specifically designed for major tournaments with the spectator in mind. The Abbey, designed by Jack Nicklaus, serves as the annual host to the Canadian Open Golf Championship and more than 100 corporate golfing events. Course Superintendent Dean Baker is no stranger to Glen Abbey. Dean has worked on the greens staff since it's opening in 1977. After graduating from the University of Guelph in 1985, he worked his way up the ladder obtaining the Head Superintendent position in 1989. Dean has enjoyed 16 years at Glen Abbey, taking part in 15 Canadian Opens and numerous corporate events

each year. In 1994, the Nicklaus organization recognized Dean by naming him their Superintendent of the year, a rare honour that encompasses all superintendents working within the Nicklaus organization.

Gracious Hosts

Glen Abbey Golf Club, served as gracious hosts for our annual Pro/Superintendent Event, on May 13th. Host Superintendent Dean Baker insured the course was in excellent condition for all those who attended. Hospitality, was the key word of the day. Jack McClellan, Club House Manager/Head Pro and all his excellent staff are to be congratulated for making this truly an excellent event.

Individual winners for the day were as follows:

Low Gross Super: Thom Charters 78
Low Net Super: Ken Wright 69

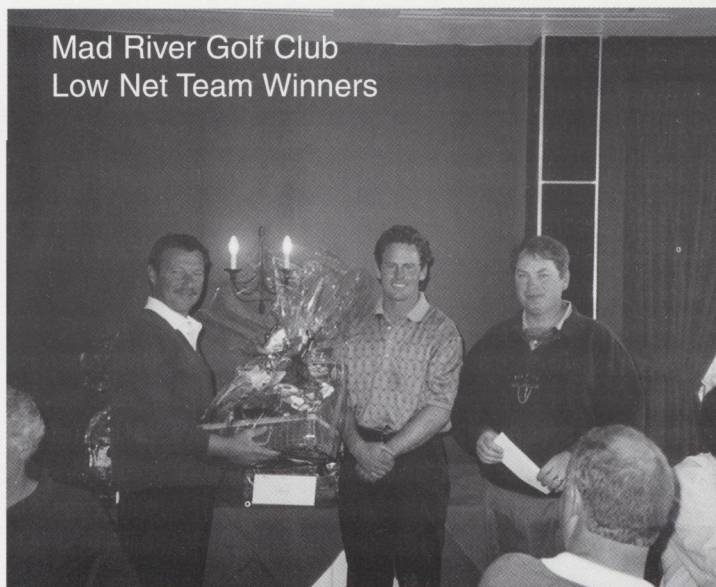
Low Gross Pro 1st: David Miller 73
Low Gross Pro 2nd: Gar Hamilton 73

Team winners for the day were as follows:

Team Low Gross 1st: Saugeen Golf Club
Gary Gravett 68
Joe Rettinger

Team Low Gross 2nd: Mississauga Golf Club
Terry Magee 69
Gar Hamilton

Team Low Gross 3rd: Blue Springs Golf Club
Ted Ellis 71
Bob McClure



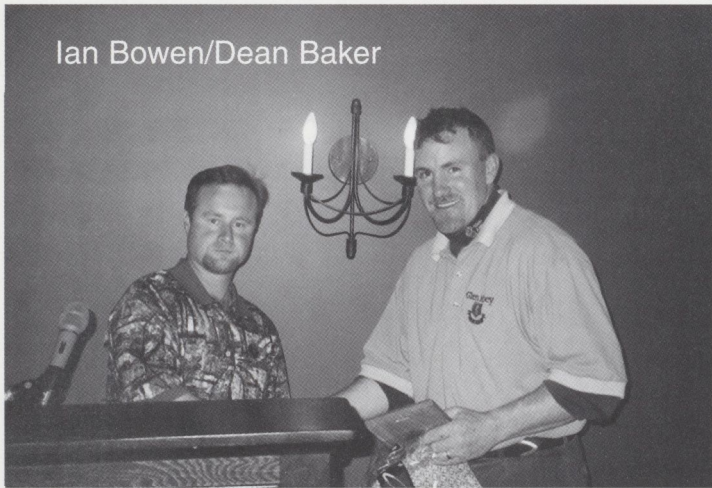
Team Low Net 1st: Mad River Golf Club
Ray Richards 68
Brian French

Team Low Net 2nd: Galt Golf & Country Club
Mark Piccolo
Dave Smallwood 68

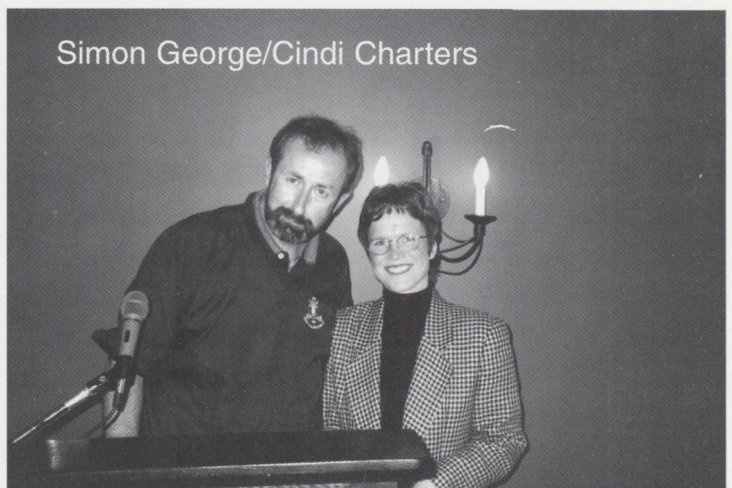


pro/superintendent event

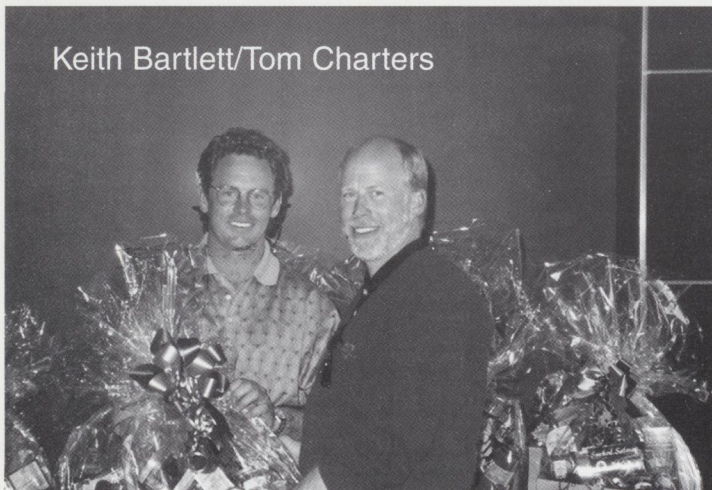
Ian Bowen/Dean Baker



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Keith Bartlett/Tom Charters



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Microscopic Diagnosis of Turfgrass Diseases Workshop

Tuesday July 15, 1997

This workshop has been designed to make you comfortable with using a microscope for disease diagnosis and to teach you some of the key diagnostic features of the main turfgrass diseases. By the end of the workshop you will:

- be able to prepare disease samples for microscopic examination
- distinguish mycelium of different pathogens
- identify spores of different pathogens
- be provided with a reference manual with the key pathogen diagnostic features included
- know where to purchase a second hand microscope and know what features to look for in a microscope.

Who should attend?

- golf course superintendents/assistant superintendents
- consultants
- technical advisors for pesticide companies
- lawn care professionals
- anyone involved in turf disease diagnosis

Workshop Format

This workshop will consist of both lectures and a laboratory session. Emphasis will be placed on hands-on laboratory identification of turf pathogens. The workshop will be held in room 3308 of graham Hall at the University of Guelph from 12:30 pm to 5:00 pm, July 15, 1997.

Registration Fee

The registration fee is \$99.00 + GST. The fee will include tuition, laboratory supplies, an identification manual and Publication 162, "Diseases and Insects of Turfgrass in Ontario". To register, please complete the attached registration form and return it with payment to

Pam Charbonneau at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute by July 4, 1997. Registration will be on a first come first serve basis. Enrolment is restricted to 20 participants.

Cancellation

If you are unable to attend, please send a colleague in your place. However, if you must cancel, please notify Pam Charbonneau as soon as possible at (519) 824-4120 ext. 2597. Cancellations must be received at least seven days prior to the course for a full refund.

The Instructors

Pam Charbonneau is the Turfgrass Specialist with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

Marilyn Dykstra is coordinator of the Pest Diagnostic Clinic, Laboratory Services Division, University of Guelph.

Agenda

12:30 - 1:00 Registration and coffee

1:00 - 1:10 Welcome and introductions

1:10 - 1:30 Environmental and Cultural Considerations on Turf Disease Diagnosis

1:30 - 2:15 Introduction to Fungal Pathogens The Microscope

2:15 - 2:30 Break

2:30 - 4:30 Laboratory section - looking at samples; stations with microscopes and different turf diseases

4:30 - 5:00 Wrap-up, questions and answers, useful references, where to purchase microscopes and other supplies.

Contact Pam Charbonneau for details (519) 824-4120 ext. 2597

architects conference

Submitted by

Jim Flett OGSA Director

For the first time in their 50 years of existence, the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) met in Canada for their annual meeting and conference. Architects from all over North America were in attendance including some of the well known American architects Michael Hurdzan, Pete Dye, and Rees Jones.

While in town for the week stationed at the International Hotel, the architects also were able to take time to play some of our superb courses throughout the city area including, St. Georges, Toronto Golf, Rosedale, The National, Beacon Hall, Devils Paintbrush and Angus Glen.

At St. Georges, in the morning before golf on the putting green, superintendent John Gall, discussed the history of the course

and how it became one of the highest ranking courses in golf.

The architects agreed that Stanley Thompson had in fact created a masterpiece that is timeless and would be enjoyed by many in generations to come. Bob Brewster, superintendent at Toronto Golf later did the same by presenting the history of his course before the group teed off.

Another morning, Gord Witteveen was called upon to address the architects with a presentation of his best slides displaying life behind the scenes on the golf course.

Canadian architect, Doug Carrick, who had apparently done a lot of the organization for the event, must have been feeling extremely proud when his peers played his top Canadian ranked Angus Glen layout near Unionville on what was a testy day for golf with dry and windy conditions.

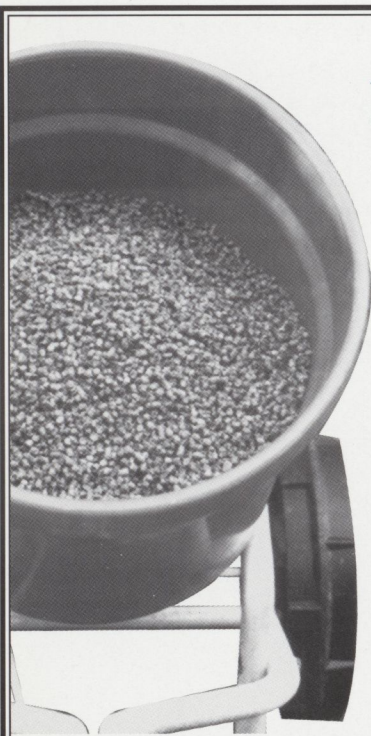
Unionizing Golf Courses: A Sleeping Giant?

Union organizing was fairly active during the 1970's and early 1980's and has appeared to be slumbering, until now. **Significance to golf courses:** Golf courses may provide a fertile ground for unionizing. **Why?** Golf course maintenance and clubhouse workers usually aren't well payed, don't receive significant benefits, and often lack respect from their customers and employers.

Strategies to maintain Union-Free Status Conduct a review of your current personnel policies and practices. Be sure practices are not discriminatory an you are not violating federal and state wage and hour laws.

Create a trusting and respectful environment. Communicate face-to-face regularly. Recognize employees' achievements.

Educate golfers. Insist that golfers treat your employees with dignity and respect. Set the example by being the role model for the way employees should be treated by your customers and their peers.



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I give up

I Give Up

Mark Piccolo

Well Don't. The answer you're looking for might be just around the corner. Ever have a question asked and you're not sure what the answer is. Or you're interested in what other Superintendents are doing but are afraid to ask. Here's your chance!

With the help from the membership we wish to create our own communication link among Superintendents. Submit an idea, question, or method of doing something golf course related for the newsletter and we will publish it in the following issue, and ask other Superintendents to voice the experiences back to the newsletter.

Here are a few examples to stimulate your mind. Don't be shy, your first deadline is July 1, 1997. Fax material to the OGSA Office.

Question: What do you and your staff do all winter? Commonly asked of superintendents at courses with cold winter climates. Answered by Dick Stuntz, CGCS, Alvarado Golf Course, Lawrence Kan.

Our off-season goal is to improve and enhance our in-season performance and efficiency. Everything is done to produce the best possible playing conditions, year after year, for our golfers.

Here's a brief "to-do" activity list for winter operations:

Superintendent

Long and short-term planning

Budgeting

Personnel evaluation and training
Governmental and environmental compliance and updates

Evaluation and planning of fertilizer, chemical and cultural programs

Purchasing and pricing

Equipment evaluation and purchase

Evaluation and update to the irrigation system planning

New product introduction and familiarization

Continuing education

Maintenance Staff

Tree trimming and removal

Equipment servicing and rebuilding

Snow removal

Facilities maintenance and improvement

Course accessories repair and painting

Course preparation in good weather

Irrigation system repair, bunker repair and sanding

Numerous course repairs and improvements

The weather largely dictates the priority in which we tackle these tasks, but there is plenty of work to keep us busy, even in the worst weather.

Question: Our golf committee has had a running debate on the proper positioning of bunker rakes. Is there

a rule? If not, what is the USGA's policy on the subject? (Maine)

Answer: Just remember "down and out." There is no specific rule regarding placement of bunker rakes; however, for the USGA's championships we request that the bunker rakes be placed outside of the bunker, lying down (not stuck in the turf vertically), and parallel to the direction of play. In most cases, this arrangement has the least objectionable impact on play. However, for regular play, the best placement is the one that the majority of golfers prefer.

USGA Greens section record.

Question: Our greens seem to become hard and unreceptive to golf shots, especially during the summer months when the golf course dries out. We encourage our superintendent to water more frequently to soften the surfaces, but he refuses, saying that heavy watering will only make the greens harder and hurt turf quality.

Answer: The irrigation system should not be used to keep greens soft, as this method will result in excessive water applications that can lead to further soil compaction, a reduction in surface quality, and conditions that favour weaker grass plants. A long-range program of aerification and topdressing with a good quality topdressing material is the best approach for creating a surface that will accept a properly hit golf shot. Dry firm surfaces generally are the most desirable for maintaining high quality turf and good playing conditions.

USGA Greens section record.

hand watering greens

There is a correct way

by Pat Gross USGA Green Section



Summer is here, and there is nothing an overheated maintenance staff member would rather do than hand water greens on a hot afternoon. After all, it's an easy job - grab a hose, hook it up to a quick coupler, and soak the grass. Right? Think again. That employee may be doing more harm than good if he or she is not familiar with the proper way to hand water greens.

A 1992 survey of the Green Section staff indicated that over-irrigation of greens was one of the top 10 maintenance pitfalls. Over-watering contributes to disease development and inconsistent playing conditions. Even the best-designed irrigation system cannot produce a green with perfectly uniform moisture content throughout. Occasional hand watering is necessary, therefore, to compensate for localized dry spots or to cool the turfgrass canopy, and to maintain consistent playing conditions.

A couple of basic tools are necessary to do the job right - a soil probe and hose-end nozzle that

applies water in a gentle showering fashion. If regular soil probes cannot be purchased, effective probes can be made by cutting down a broken golf club shaft and cutting out a view port using a bench grinder. Staff members should be trained to check the greens with the soil probe to determine soil moisture levels before applying any water. Many disease and insect problems display symptoms similar to localized dry spots. Watering these areas will often make the situation worse. If the turf is wilting and adequate moisture is present, staff members should report this condition to the superintendent immediately. Hand watering the wrong way can do as much damage to the playing surface as no watering at all.

Puddles on the surface of the green can promote the development of pythium or a condition known as "wet wilt." If the soil is dry, water should be applied gradually, in a showering manner, so that puddling or runoff is avoided. The goal

should be to match the water application rate with infiltration rate of the soil. It may take several minutes and several light applications of water to wet the soil. For hydrophobic areas, spiking the area first can improve water penetration. Spot applications of wetting agents also have been successful in treating localized dry spots; however, don't overuse these products to compensate for excessive thatch accumulation, compaction, or poor irrigation system coverage. In many cases, an aerifier will do a better job than a barrel of wetting agent.

Putting surfaces may wilt during the summer due to high temperatures, high winds, and hours of intense sunlight. In these cases, syringing the greens with a light application of water can help revive the plant. The idea is to reduce the moisture stress of the leaf tissue and allow the plant to continue a balanced transpiration rate. Syringing is a very misunderstood operation. It is important to remember that you are only trying to sustain the grass plant with a very light application of water, not wet the soil.

Hand watering greens should not be forgotten on weekends. A superintendents worst nightmare is to return from a well-deserved weekend off only to find the greens scorched due to lack of water.

(Actually, this is only one of several nightmares that superintendents have!) It is a good idea to schedule one or two people to come in on Saturday and Sunday afternoon to check the greens and hand water as necessary. As a final note, check into the reason for the localized dry spots.

These areas could be the result of poor sprinkler head coverage, worn nozzles, tree root encroachment, compaction, or excessive thatch accumulation. Be sure to treat the cause and not just the symptoms.

Pat Gross is an agronomist in the USGA Green Section's Western Region.

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Turfgrass Specialist

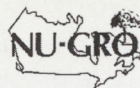
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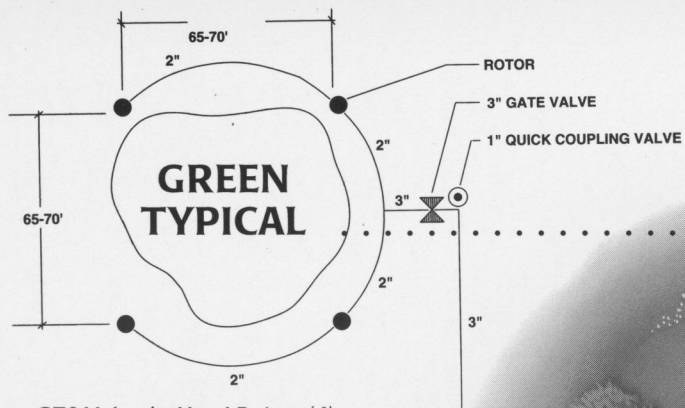
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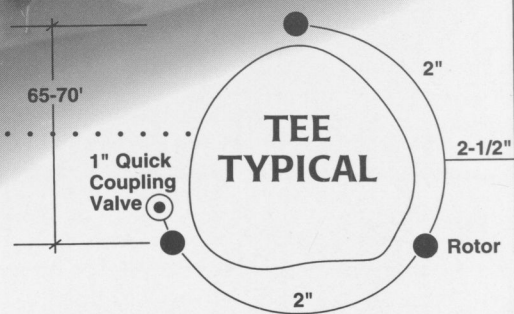


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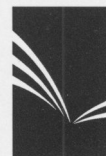
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- *To ensure that respect is accorded our profession, our Association and our individual members, these ethical standards are to be observed and practised..*
- *Maintain courteous relation with your employer, employees and fellow superintendents, while practising sound business and turf management.*
- *Continue to broaden your knowledge through formal education channels and by exchanging experiences and ideas with fellow members.*
- *Endorse products or practises only when completely satisfied through personal experience..*
- *Refrain from corresponding either verbally or in writing, with a Director, member or official of another club, regarding its affairs, without the prior knowledge of that club's superintendent.*
- *Apply only for a position that is vacant, and, if possible, talk to the person who held the job last or other local superintendents.*
- *Offer employment to another club's employee only after advising that club's superintendent.*
- *Notify the superintendent of the club you are visiting directly, and, whenever possible, do so in advance.*
- *Misrepresenting the Association and yourself by lending your membership card will not be condoned..*
- *It is the responsibility of each member to abide by these standards and to report any violations to the Board of Directors, in writing.*



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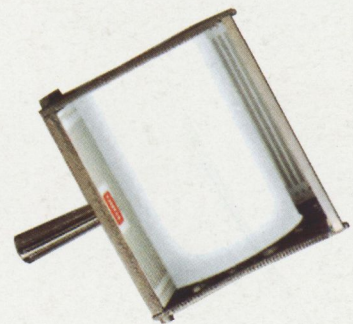
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