The USGA Green Section Record



October 8, 2010 -- Volume 48, Number 18

All Aboard!

Working Together Has Never Been More Essential Part 3: Golf Course Superintendent's Responses

by <u>Keith Happ</u>, senior agronomist



This is the final article of a three part series that examines the views and perspectives of the three parties most involved with meeting the needs and desires of golfers. This article presents the responses of golf course superintendents (GS1-GS4) to the same questions posed to general managers and the golf professionals. Anonymity was provided to elicit open responses. Read the rest of this article.

Read Part 1 of this series
Read Part 2 of this series

Maintaining open lines of communication are essential. Regular meetings with the green chair, golf professional and general manager facilitate proactive communication with the golf course superintendent.

Putting Your Muscle Where Your Heart Is

A special golf course with an extraordinary mission is managed and maintained by a devoted "band of brothers."

by James F. Moore, USGA Green Section

Like all Green Section agronomists, I'm often asked of all the courses I have visited, which is my favorite. Although I have many, the top spot has to go to the American Lake Veterans Golf Course in Tacoma, Washington. You don't have to love golf to be moved and inspired by this course and the people who use and care for it.

A wonderful video about American Lake has been recently added to the USGA's Video Album. I promise you will enjoy the few minutes it takes to <u>watch the video</u>.

You might also like to read the article I wrote three years ago about this course and the volunteers that take care of it. Here is an excerpt that will hopefully prompt you to read the entire article.

On June 6,1944, Private Lyle W. Hanks, a member of the 1st Infantry Division, 18th Regiment Anti-Tank Company, landed on Omaha Beach (Easy Red) during the first wave. Almost immediately, Lyle was wounded and lay in a bomb crater the rest of the day awaiting evacuation to England. Lyle spent six months in a hospital and then rejoined his unit in time to fight the Battle of the Bulge. Lyle was awarded the Bronze Star, Combat Infantryman's Badge, and Purple Heart. Read on



The Friends of American Lake Veterans Golf Course provide instruction and encouragement to help disabled players find their swing.

On Course With Nature

Adding Culture to Golf at St. Eugene

by Joshua Conway and Graeme Douglas

What sets many golf courses apart is determined by playability and atmosphere. Whether it is impeccably manicured greens and fairways, or an inviting 19th hole, the unique aspects of each course contribute to its popularity. The St. Eugene Golf Resort Casino in Cranbrook, B.C., is no exception.

"We want to be more than a golf resort," says Dallas Ferguson, chief executive officer. "We want to be able to educate people about the Ktunaxa and aboriginal people as a whole. We see it as something unique we can offer as part of that whole experience you are just not going to find anywhere else."

Read the rest of this article



The Ktunaxa are an indigenous people of North America. The goals of the Ktunaxa Nation Council include preservation and promotion of Ktunaxa traditional knowledge, language, and culture. A coordinated effort by staff and Ktunaxa elders help golfers learn a few words in Ktunaxa as they play a round of golf. From left to right: Graeme Douglas, manager, Golf/Hotel Facilities; Dorothy Alpine, Ktunaxa nation; Richard Bellerose, Golf Course Turfgrass Department.

Regional Updates From Across The Country

Timely advice and important news

by the USGA Green Section Staff



The first real signs of fall are here, with reports of scattered frost in the North, the arrival of pumpkins, squash and cornstalks at road side stands, and the color changes taking place outside. Just about everything has been two weeks ahead of schedule this year. Considering the summer we just experienced, the shorter days and cooler nights, and a less intense schedule, provide an opportunity to heal from the summer grind and begin preparing for the winter.

Winter preparation on many northern golf courses has become more complicated with the recent loss of PCNB fungicide. As the backbone of many fairway management programs, the fungicide was a reliable and inexpensive option



The loss of PCNB will result in significantly higher costs for fungicides to manage microdochium patch, gray and speckled snow mold diseases.

to manage the snow mold pathogens. The recent restriction on PCNB pertains to product being sold, so any product on hand can still be used as in the past. The good news is there are a number of fungicide chemistries that perform equally, if not better, than PCNB formulations. The bad news is that the cost for those products may be 3-4 times higher, depending on the product and the applied rates. Read the rest of this update



The harsh temperatures of the 2010 season have faded into a fairly normal fall pattern - normal temperatures, that is. But rainfall continues to be deficient for a good portion of the lower North Central Region. Moderate to severe drought conditions exist over a large portion of the region. Although dry conditions makes it easy to complete course projects, it's difficult to restore good turf density in areas outside of sprinkler coverage. Trying to time seeding in front of a rainfall is the common default, but when the rainfall is lacking, so are the results. Cooling soil temperatures will likely add to the mix and require additional seeding in the spring, at least for some. Read the rest of this update

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Green Section Record (ISSN 2156-5813) is published weekly via electronic mail by the United States Golf Association, Golf House, Far Hills, NJ 07931.