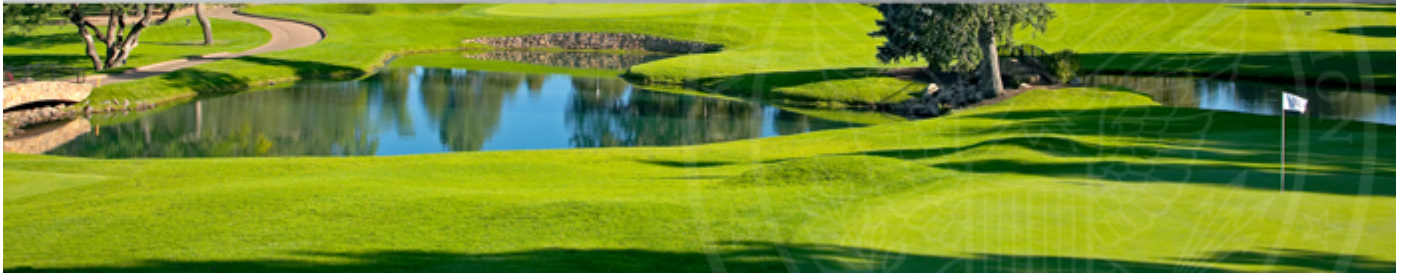




GREEN SECTION RECORD



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Student Internships: Moving Beyond the "As Seen On TV Mentality"

How we can improve internship programs and why the industry benefits

by [Ty McClellan](#), *agronomist*

Internships mark one of the single most important and exciting experiences for a turfgrass student's education. It is their opportunity to put classroom training into practice, achieve new experiences, further develop a network of professional contacts, and ultimately begin advancing their careers. For superintendents, it provides an opportunity to mentor the next generation of turfgrass professionals, and, in doing so, serves as a screening process to identify potential assistant superintendents.

Given their significance, the topic of student internships is common during Turfgrass Advisory Service visits and at many educational conferences throughout the year. Sadly, many well respected and notable golf facilities have become frustrated with the recruiting process. As a result, they now lack internship programs or have given up on the idea of interns altogether because too few students showed an interest. Although some top-tier, nationally recognized courses that post internship openings will be inundated with dozens or hundreds of applications, other high-quality facilities that are not as prominent on a national level will fail to receive more than one or two, if any at all.

The intent of this article is to summarize key points and areas of concern with respect to internships that have been prominent in discussions with superintendents and university personnel. In doing so, it will, to some degree, outline what a quality student internship program at a golf facility could look like. This article does not provide a detailed checklist of goals, objectives, and activities that make up a successful internship experience. For this and a reference list of excellent resources about successful implementation and ideas for internships, please note the resources section near the end of this article.

[Read the rest of this article.](#)



An investment is required on both ends to ensure success, and a superintendent must invest just as heavily in mentoring interns as the intern must invest in making the internship a well-rounded learning experience. This investment can pay great dividends in the future when looking to fill open positions at your facility.

Fore The Golfer

"The hardest greens to read that I have ever puttied in my entire life." - Mike Davis, USGA Executive Director

by the USGA

The greens on the East Course of the Broadmoor Resort promise to test some of the best players in the world during this week's U.S. Women's Open Championship.

[Watch the video.](#)



How do the mountains influence putting at the 2011 U.S. Women's Open Championship? (Photo: John Mummert, USGA)

2011 U.S. Women's Open Championship Behind-The-Scenes at the Broadmoor

A USGA Green Section podcast with Derf Soller

by the Green Section Staff

The U.S. Women's Open Championship is underway at the historic Broadmoor Resort in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Derf Soller, USGA Green Section agronomist for the event, is working closely with the Broadmoor maintenance staff to help prepare the East course for the world's best women golfers.

Few people realize the amount of effort that goes on behind-the-scenes to get a course ready for a national championship. In this 22 minute podcast Derf shares some of the challenges facing the staff and the players.

[Listen to the podcast.](#)

Survey Results From Last Week's Question, "Are Your Bermudagrass Greens Mutating?"

100 turfgrass managers shared their experiences regarding "off" types of bermudagrass in their greens.

by the Green Section Staff

1

* What type of bermudagrass greens do you manage? (If you have more than one type, please complete a separate survey for each group of greens you are managing.)

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
Champion	<div><div></div></div>		19	19.0%
Emerald	<div><div></div></div>		3	3.0%
MiniVerde	<div><div></div></div>		11	11.0%
TifEagle	<div><div></div></div>		42	42.0%
Tifdwarf	<div><div></div></div>		20	20.0%
Tifgreen 328	<div><div></div></div>		3	3.0%
Other (View all)	<div><div></div></div>		2	2.0%
No Responses			0	0.0%
Totals			100	100%

2

* How old is the current stand of bermudagrass on your greens? (Note - this does NOT refer to the age of the greens but rather to the number of years the existing turf on the greens has been maintained.)

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
Less than 1 year	<div><div></div></div>		2	2.0%
1 to 2 years	<div><div></div></div>		5	5.0%
2 to 4 years	<div><div></div></div>		11	11.0%
4 to 6 years	<div><div></div></div>		20	20.0%
6 to 8 years	<div><div></div></div>		17	17.0%
8 to 10 years	<div><div></div></div>		15	15.0%
10 years or more	<div><div></div></div>		30	30.0%
No Responses			0	0.0%
Totals			100	100%

3

* How would you characterize the purity of your bermudagrass greens?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
No "off" types visible at this time	<div><div></div></div>		42	42.0%
Some "off" types visible but most golfers unaware it is a concern. Not having a major impact on putting quality or appearance.	<div><div></div></div>		41	41.0%
"Off" types are highly visible and having a significant impact on appearance and putting quality.	<div><div></div></div>		17	17.0%
No Responses			0	0.0%
Totals			100	100%

[See the rest of the survey results](#)

Regional Updates



Northwest Region

And Now For Something Completely Different

by [Larry Gilhuly](#), director

There have been several articles written that discuss the importance of differentiating between regular golf course conditions and course conditions at national championships. However, the recently completed APL Championships at Bandon Dunes on the southern Oregon coast displayed some completely different sets of circumstances not usually seen at our other national championships.

[Read the rest of this update.](#)

Research Update

The Colorado Golf Carbon Project

by [Dr. Mike Kenna](#)

Golf courses provide many environmental benefits, such as wildlife habitat, soil erosion prevention, rain infiltration, and improved air quality. Turfgrass plants remove carbon dioxide from the air during photosynthesis, and a significant amount of the carbon removed from the air is stored within turfgrass soils. To examine carbon storage on golf courses more closely, the Colorado Golf Carbon Project was created by the Allied Golf Associations of Colorado, Colorado State University, and the US Department of Agriculture. The goal of this project is to determine the carbon footprint of golf courses in Colorado through evaluating energy consumption versus the amount of turfgrass carbon storage. This project also has a fundraising effort through the sale of the estimated carbon stored on golf course acreage in Colorado. The Broadmoor was one of the first golf facilities in Colorado to donate the carbon stored on its turfgrass acreage.

[Read the rest of this article.](#)

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by the *USGA Green Section Staff*

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The USGA Green Section Portal

A Valuable, Free Resource

Take a minute to visit the Green Section's portal at <http://gsportal.usga.org> to find information regarding upcoming live webcasts and links to recordings of more than 30 previously-delivered webcasts and announcements of upcoming USGA Green Section activities, education conferences, and meetings.

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