

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 1970



Golf Course Superintendents Association

OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

Sponsors and administrators of the Lawrence S. Dickinson Scholarship Fund — Awarded yearly to deserving Turf Management Students.

NEXT MEETING

Annual Husband and Wife Outing at Chestnut Hill

The next meeting will be the annual husband and wife outing. This year it will be held at the Chestnut Hill Country Club, Newton, Massachusetts on August 17, 1970. There will be a golf tournament for the men and also a nine hole scotch tournament for couples. Golf carts and caddies will be available. For those who don't wish to play golf, the swimming pool will be open from ten to six p. m. Lunch will be in the grill room from 11:30 a. m. to 2:30 p. m. and dinner will be in the main dining room at 5:30 p. m. — informal dress please. The host superintendent is Dean Robertson. Dean has been at Chestnut Hill since January, 1968.



Dean Robertson

In 1962 he was graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. Upon graduation he worked at the Belmont C. C. under Manny Francis, Jr., before taking over the reigns at the Bradford C. C. in Haverhill, Mass. Dean stayed there for four years, then moved to the Ould Newbury Golf Club in Newbury, Mass. where he stayed another two years before being drafted to Chestnut Hill.

During the off hours in the summer, Dean and his family enjoy boating and fishing along the Newburyport coast line.

DIRECTIONS TO CHESTNUT HILL

From Rt. 128 take Rt. 30 towards Boston. Follow for about six miles and Boston College will be on the right. Take your next left which will be a U-turn. Then take the next right, Algonquin Rd. Club will be short distance on right.

There will be a directors' meeting at Chestnut Hill at 4:45 p. m. just prior to dinner.

SUPERINTENDENT — GREEN CHAIRMEN TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Brian Cowan — L. Mahoney, Eastward Ho 68
Dave Barber — T. MacBurn, Wayland C. C. 68
Len Blodgett — D. Cassell, Kitansett 70

HYPERODES ON THE MOVE

The Hyperodes weevil, previously locked out of the lives of the New England superintendent, is creeping both north and east and in the process presents a new menace to the golf course.

Sightings of the pesky devil have been made as far east as the Tatnuck Country Club in Worcester. Other evidence of its spread from Long Island and Metropolitan New York have been found at the Holyoke Country Club, Orchards Golf Course and Westover Golf Club.

Who is this invader?

The Hyperodes weevil is a relatively new insect pest that feeds on grass, particularly on annual bluegrass. The damage it does varies from small yellow-brown spots on greens to the dying out of large portions of greens, tees and fairways.

What distinguishes the Hyperodes path of destruction from other familiar wielders of destruction is the complete or partial severing of the grass stems, often in areas about the size of a dime. This causes small bare spots with a few yellow blades surrounding each. When the weevils arrive in big armies, they can kill large areas of grass in just a few days.

Most of the dieout, caused by the Hyperodes, seems to have been discovered in spring and early summer with the shorter cuts of grass affected. The taller blue grass in such places as high rough areas didn't seem to attract this pest.

The adult Hyperodes weevil varies from a mottled brownish-black to shiny black and is about 3/16 inch long. The snout is about 1/5 as long as the body and wears elbowed antennae near the chewing mouth parts at its tip.

However, according to a report from the USGA Green Section and studies made by R. Scott Cameron, it has been found that the adult species do not do the damage. The larvae are the culprits and the adults only serve to verify identification of the pest.

Accordingly, treatment must be applied in a two-fold method. First it must be used as a check on the population of the adult and a gradual reduction of its numbers. Then, it must be repeated to attack the larvae.

Two distinct insecticides were called upon in experiments to perfect control of the pest. Dursban, applied at the rate of 2 1/2 pounds active ingredient per acre in April and again in May gave the best control.

Then, it was found that Diazinon, applied at a rate of five pounds active ingredient per acre in April and again in May, gave good control. A ratio of the same ingredient at two pounds proved to provide only fair control.

Thus, the Hyperodes has landed and measures have been discovered to protect areas from its ravages. The grass wrecker is on the move all right, so supers should be on their guard to check its spread.

— Gerry Finn

Golf Course Superintendents Association

NEW KIND OF CLINIC . . .

You think of a golf clinic and right away the natural reaction is a discussion of the proper grip, slow takeaway, lateral return et al. Or, it might touch on such things as not walking in a guy's putting line, playing shots in proper order keeping mouse-quiet while an opponent swings et al.

All of this is very nice, especially when younger players are exposed to it to get them off on the right foot. However, it comprises only about one-half of their golf education. So, what about a clinic for juniors on the appreciation of the golf course?

That's where the superintendent comes in . . . that is, if he gets the co-operation of college, high school coaches and advisors and, of course, interested parents of budding golfers.

You all know the scene. Take the typical junior foursome. They race out of the clubhouse, pockets full of candy bars and maybe a soft drink clutched in their hands. Halfway down the first or tenth hole the fairway suddenly takes on the appearance of a giant litter bag. This doesn't have to happen.

Okay, you get the point. Now, switch out to the field of battle where young and foolish hearts often get carried away with the moment of severe competition. The reaction might come in the form of a swipe on the green with a putter or maybe a jump into the air with an elephant-like landing on the putting surface.

These and other forms of course abuse will never be completely eliminated, but a course maintenance appreciation clinic could help cut it to a minimum. It does take concentrated cooperation, though, and maybe a planned program to bring about such a relationship between player and superintendent.

So, what is being suggested here is a new kind of clinic . . . one with the welfare of the course in mind. It could be set up very easily by superintendents at clubs where organized junior programs are part of the golfing schedule.

Before the season starts coaches, advisers, parents and supers could get together in discussion of the importance of a junior or student golfer appreciating the part everyone must play in maintaining the condition of the course.

Then, too, groups could be invited to the superintendent's office for a direct seminar on the subject.

Naturally, there will be cases where the advice will be ignored. But, on the other hand, exposure to the situation to others might very well mean the difference between a pock-marked, scuffed-up green and a pool table surface.

A new kind of clinic. Why not? It's worth a try.

— Gerry Finn

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS OF NEW ENGLAND TOUR

Beginning on November 7, 1970, touring England, Scotland and Ireland. Historic St. Andrews, Trafalgar Square, Fleet Street, Abbey Theatre, Dublin and many more. Contact Leon V. St. Pierre, 51 Fenwood Rd., Longmeadow, Mass.

SOUND OFF!!!!

(Here it is.....that time again for Newsletter readers to come out with pens flailing for another edition of Sound Off. The Newsletter reminds one and all that they are eligible to make their contribution to this column. You may have a gripe, crisp comment or even a pat on the back for someone or something. Whatever it is, we would like to hear from you. Send them along to Newsletter Mail Box, 2A Riverview Drive, Newbury, Mass. 01950. The Newsletter reserves the right to comment on all letters published.)

* * * * *

"There probably is a good reason for my complaint, so please don't take offense because I'm just a little, old ignorant lady.

"Anyway, I have been noticing the attire of some of the golf course workers around our club and if I do say so . . . it's appalling.

"You people, as supervisors, certainly should take pride in the appearance of your crew members. I know that I certainly would if I were in your position.

"Am I talking out of line, or can this situation be remedied? The other day I had a guest in my foursome and she told me the workers at her club wear a special uniform and always look neat. Is my club behind the times?"

MRS. CRAIG JENKINS
Newport, R. I.

Your club could be ahead of the times if workers' clothing allowance were made part of the budget.

* * * * *



1970 AVCO CLASSIC

AUGUST 20-23 PRO-AM AUGUST 19

PLEASANT VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB SUTTON, MASS. 01527



July 2, 1970

Richard C. Blake, President
Golf Course Superintendents
Association of New England, Inc.
211 Sewall Street
Boylston, Massachusetts 01505

Dear Mr. Blake:

The 1970 Avco Classic Tournament Committee will be glad to grant members of your association a complimentary daily ticket during Tournament Week.

If you would be kind enough to notify your members of this in your next mailing, upon request from them, we will be happy to send them a ticket for the day they would like to attend.

Sincerely,
Edward J. Farrell
E. J. Farrell
General Chairman

NTC:hep

Tournament Office: AVCO CLASSIC, P.O. Box 991, Worcester, Mass. 01601 Tel. (617) 865-4411

- | | | | | | | | | |
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|---|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|---|



New Hampshire Golf Course Superintendents Association, Inc.

Editor — John J. Barry, Supt. Abenaki Country Club, Rye, N. H.

NEXT MEETING

Bob Flanagan did it. Bob is the first N. H. G. C. S. A. Champion. The championship which was initiated this year, had a field of 16 vie for the trophy.

Three new members were voted in at the last meeting. They are:

Winfred B. Davis
Newport, N. H.
Assistant Superintendent
John H. Cain Golf Club
Unity Rd., Newport, N. H.

Bernard A. Godfrey
Eastford, Vt.
Grounds Foreman
Dartmouth College
Hanover, N. H.
Associate

Robert E. Wirta
Box 332, Contocook, N. H.
Grandliden-on-Sunapee
Sunapee, N. H.
Associate

Next month is the annual husband and wife bash held at the Kingswood Country Club in Wolfeboro, N. H. on August 3. (That is a Monday) This promises to be the hi-light of the year. Bob and Anita Hale host and hostess for the day are notorious for their hospitality.

A golf tournament for the couples is planned as well as a steak Bar-b-que and dance. The antique shops in the area are always nice to visit if you don't golf.

There will be no business meeting at this affair and the entire day will be dedicated to fun and games.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

If you have not already done so, would you please send the money collected from Super-Day Tournaments to:

Len Chace
Charmingfare Country Club
Candia, N. H.

Unjust Criticism

It has become increasingly more apparent in the past decade that the American golfer has become spoiled. This fact was emphasized recently in the U. S. Open by Dave Hill.

If anything doesn't suit their game (even the weather), they become quite indignant. I believe foreign players on the tour have developed a better frame of mind, namely to conquer the course rather than the players.

There is no doubt as to the quality of American Golf Courses where even an unraked trap can send the club members into mass hysteria.

With the advanced technology in both the equipment and chemicals we use, there is little excuse for not having a well maintained course. If these materials are made available to the Superintendent through an adequate budget.

Unfortunately for the Superintendent, many problems incurred on the golf course is not because he has been negligent in his position, but rather because he was not given the proper tools with which to work.

I believe Mr. Hill's complaint was about the layout and its many doglegs. The course was laid out taking full advantage of its surrounding terrain. Excellent. Whether a course be difficult or easy every player must play on the same tees, greens and fairways.

THE SHORT END OF THE DEAL

In the old days, when horse power was supreme, not every team was evenly matched. The bigger horse was put on the off, or right, side. In plowing, the stronger horse had to pull in the furrow while the lighter horse got to walk on the firm sod. In the barn the horses were always stabled the same way. Big horse on the off side, same as when harnessed.

Sometimes the double-tree was set over against the bigger horse, with the length shortened on his side, so that he took more than half the weight of the load.

From this practice of old-time farming came the saying — which you still hear used by people who never handled a team — "He got the short end of the deal," meaning that someone had taken advantage of him in a business transaction.

GERALD CARSON
The New England Galaxy



Maine Golf Course Superintendents Association

Editor — Norman Pease, Supt., Purpoodock Club, Cape Elizabeth, Maine

AUGUST MEETING

August meeting of the M. G. C. S. A. will be held August 4th at the Penobscot Valley C. C. in Orono. Vaughn Holyoke of the U. of M. will be the guest speaker

Date	August 4
Time	11 A. M.
Education	11:30 A. M.
Lunch	Noon

NEW MEMBER

Clyde Jones
Boothbay Region C. C.
Boothbay

There are still a few members who have not paid their dues. Please get them in.

For He's a Jolly Good Fellow

No matter how high an executive may climb, and how aware he is of public relations, he still may be guilty of personal quirks that annoy the people he deals with. And unless he pauses for an occasional stocktaking, these can become more and more ingrained as years go by.

For instance: Does he talk too fast? This is apt to give people the impression that what he's saying can't bear logical analysis.

Does he have "a million of 'em"? He'd better get a good idea of the other person's tastes before he tells that earthy joke.

Is he a fixer—who picks the lint off the jacket of the man he's talking with? Or a poker, who jabs his companion in the chest with a forefinger? Or perhaps he's a peeker, and can't resist stealing a glance, either secret or open, at the papers on another man's desk.

As he becomes one of the older boys, an executive would do well to remember that the good old days are gone forever. A constant reminiscer is one of the world's greatest bores. In the same vein, he should beware of ridiculing a new approach simply because it's never been done before. And, finally, he should avoid becoming a glory-hog, who takes credit for his subordinates' ideas—unless they prove unworkable.

Any man with all these shortcomings would be the office terror. But even one or two can sabotage a man's success with others.

Sound Off (continued)

"Recently, I was on vacation and decided to take in a few of the Connecticut courses. I was surprised to see something there that I haven't seen around home. In the particular instance of my playing three different courses I discovered the score card contained the name of the golf professional AND the course superintendent. I think it a good gesture on the club to follow this practice. Why can't you promote such a practice?"

SIDNEY CONKLIN
Washington, Mass.

Good observation, Sid. Let this be the first step in promoting a little recognition on the scorecard.

* * * * *

"Please do not label me a 'disgruntled member'. Rather this is sent only in a moment of inquisitiveness. I was wondering what this 'top dressing' bit is all about. My club superintendent has his top dressing crew out about twice a season. Naturally, it doesn't help my putting when those plugs and things are all over the green. But someone says it is a necessary inconvenience and actually helps my putting in the end. Is he kidding?"

JOE MILANO
Jersey City, N. Y.

The next time you hole one of those curlers to clinch your Nassau bet, Joe, tip your hat to the trueness of the green, then top your hat to your super for his top dressing job

* * * * *

"I have been experiencing a problem at my course and wonder if I'm alone in my trouble. I can only guess that it's a gang of youths. Anyway, my flags and tee markers have been disappearing at every turn of my head. The other morning I found a four-letter word burned into one of my greens. Does this happen because of me or is it a case of country-wide vandalism? I wish I knew."

STEVE SULLIVAN
(Club Withheld)

You call them vandals. We call them animals.

* * * * *

TRANSPIRATION

is the loss of water vapor from plants into the air. The vapor passes out chiefly through the stomata, small openings in the surface of leaves. Most plants transpire a great deal of moisture on a hot, dry, windy day; much less in the cool of night, or when the humidity is high, as just after a rainstorm. The quantities of water given off are often very great. A single corn plant may transpire 50 gallons (about 400 pounds) in a 100-day life span; an acre of corn plants may lose 1200 tons of water in a 100-day growing season. Desert plants must be adapted to survive high temperatures and dryness, when transpiration would normally be rapid. Why are deserts so hot and dry?

"Mark me down as another confused member of the tribe.

"There have been occasions at my club when I don't know whether I'm coming or going. But some of my members could take lessons from me in that direction.

"One of my jobs is to place the tee markers. Recently, under conditions when the course was soft and playing extremely long, I moved the tee markers up front to make up for the difference in distance the members would experience off the tee.

"Well, sir, I still don't know where I'm at. Some of the members came up to me and shook my hand, congratulating me for my 'quality of heady thinking'.

"On the other hand, there were a few members (most of them the better players at the club) who wanted to wring my neck instead. They claimed I made the course too easy and took away their advantage of being able to play shorter irons to the greens. Who's crazy? Me or them?"

JACK FINLEY
Champion, N. D.

That's a leading question, Jack.

* * * * *

(That leaves another edition of Sound Off at a precarious shutoff point. All the letters were interesting and we invite more of same. Please remember to sign them. Naturally, when requested, names or affiliations will be withheld).

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND • KINGSTON, RHODE ISLAND 02881
College of Agriculture Department of Agronomy and Mechanized Agriculture

April 9, 1970

Mr. Dean Robertson
24 Riverview Drive
Newbury, Massachusetts 01950

Dear Mr. Robertson:

We have set the dates for our thirty ninth annual turfgrass research field days. They are: Wednesday, August 26, 1970 - Golf Course Superintendents Field Day. Thursday, August 27, 1970 - Lawn and Utility Turf Field Day.

The field days are held at the turfgrass fieldhouse, College of Resource Development, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island. I will be happy to answer questions anyone might have relative to these activities.

We would appreciate the inclusion of these dates in the announcement section of your publication.

Sincerely,

C. R. Skogley
C. R. Skogley
Associate Professor

CRS:jw

Golf Chairman —
JULIUS AKSTEN
6 Main Street
Southboro, Mass. 01772
Phone 485-8885
Club Affiliation
St. Mark's Golf Club

Educational Chairman —
ALBERT AUGER
6 A Fort Hill Street
Hingham, Mass. 02113
Phone 749-2272
Club Affiliation
South Shore Country Club

Newletter Chairman —
DEAN ROBERTSON
24 Riverview Drive
Newbury, Mass. 01950
Club Affiliation
Chestnut Hill Country Club

Past President —
ANTHONY CARANCI, JR.
22 Hillview Drive
No. Providence, R. I. 02900
Phone 723-1688
Club Affiliation
Ledgemont Country Club

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Arthur Curran
Rock Driller Supply Equipment, Inc.
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Hyde Park, Mass. 02136

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Foxboro, Mass. 02035

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Grounds Equipment Co., Inc.
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East Providence, Rhode Island 02914

Sil Paulini, Inc.
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Natick, Mass. 01760

Richey & Clapper, Inc.
28 Rutledge Road
Natick, Mass. 01760

*Sawtelle Brothers
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Danvers, Mass.

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Merion Blue Grass and Pencross Bent
200 Sullivan Ave., So. Windsor, Conn.

Stur-Dee Rake Co.
P. O. Box 1087, Woonsocket, R. I. 02895

Philip A. Wogan
Golf Course Architect
21 Budleigh Ave., Beverly, Mass.

Wyandotte Chemical Co.
709 Salada Bldg., Boston, Mass.

Yerxa's, Inc.
Golf Course Equipment
740 Broadway, S. Portland, Me.

* Contributors to the Lawrence S. Dickinson Scholarship Fund

NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents Association
OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.



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FIRST CLASS



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