



THE NEWSLETTER

November 2006

of the **Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England, Inc.**

Sponsors and administrators of the Troll-Dickinson Scholarship Fund – Awarded yearly to deserving Turf Management Students.

The Results are in.....

The GCSANE Superintendent Survey – Part 2

By: Mark Gagne, Andrew Eick and John Eggleston

This month our feature story is a continuation of last month's article outlining the results of a survey sent to all GCSANE superintendent members. We asked you how you manage your crew, how you manage yourself, and how you manage particular aspects of your operation. The types of questions we may not ask each other, but in always wanting to compare, would like to know the answers to.

The response exceeded our expectations; nearly 100 of our 300 superintendent members replied. Of those who responded, 71 gave their identity and offered commentary to their responses. The group includes private, public, 9, 18 and 36 holes facilities. The group is also geographically well represented, and includes members from throughout the northeast.

Thanks to all who took the time to complete the survey and contribute to this article. We are interested in your feedback as to this new style of feature article, and are asking for topics that we might survey the membership in similar fashion in the future.

Managing Daily Operations

1. Who manages the staff each day?

Superintendent only	48%
Superintendent & assistant	28%
Supt., assistant, 2 nd assistant	5%
Assistant only	15%
Assistant & 2 nd assistant	4%

Half of the group indicated that they handle the daily oversight of the crew, while the other half delegate that responsibility in whole or in part to their assistants.

2. Who communicates the daily schedule to the staff?

Superintendent only	42%
Superintendent & assistant	23%
Supt., assistant, 2 nd assistant	8%
Assistant only	26%

Less than half of the group hands out the daily assignments, while more than half delegates this job in whole or in part to their assistants.

3. How is the daily schedule communicated to the staff?

Verbally	24%
Written – paper	2%
Written – dry erase board	19%
Verbal and paper	12%
Verbal and dry erase board	43%

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Affiliated Chapter

PRESIDENT

Patrick S. Kriksceonaitis
4 Lakemans Lane, Ipswich, MA 01938-2505
978-526-4600 Fax: 978-526-8333
Email: Grounds@Essexcc.org
Essex Country Club

VICE PRESIDENT

Russell E. Heller, CGCS
41 Clifford Street, Melrose, MA 02176-0140
617-983-2786 Fax: 617-983-2786
Email: Rheller@gcsane.org
Franklin Park Golf Course

SECRETARY

Patrick J. Daly, CGCS
P.O. Box 2284, Framingham, MA 01703-2284
508-872-9790 Fax: 508-872-5393
Email: pat@framinghamcc.com
Framingham Country Club

TREASURER

Jason S. Adams
27 Cherry Street, Wrentham, MA 02093
781-326-3801 Fax: 781-326-3801
Email: Norfolksuper@hotmail.com
Norfolk Golf Club

TRUSTEE

Scott Lagana, CGCS
840 Oak Hill Road, Fitchburg, MA 01420-4899
978-342-6451 Fax: 978-342-0421
Email: grounds@oakhilcc.org
Oak Hill Country Club

TRUSTEE

Michael Luccini, CGCS
672 East Central Street, Franklin, MA 02038
508-520-3615 Fax: 508-528-1885
Email: mluccini@aol.com
Franklin Country Club

TRUSTEE

Ronald P. Dobosz
P.O. Box 541, Ludlow, MA 01056
413-589-9487
Ludlow Country Club

FINANCE CHAIRMAN

Michael W. Stachowicz
68 Westfield Road, Westwood, MA 02090
781-326-7860 Fax: 781-326-0664
Email: Mstach@dedhamclub.org
Dedham Country and Polo Club

GOLF CHAIRMAN

James A. Small III, CGCS
690 Pine Street, Bridgewater, MA 02324-2116
508-697-4816 Fax: 508-279-3355
Email: jasiii188@yahoo.com
Olde Scotland Links Golf Club

EDUCATION CHAIRMAN

David Stowe, CGCS
30 Western Avenue, Natick, MA 01760
617-789-4631 Fax: 617-789-4631
Email: Newtonmaint@aol.com
Newton Commonwealth Golf Club

NEWSLETTER CHAIRMAN

Mark Gagne
233 Baker Street, Walpole, MA 02081-0186
508-668-3859 Fax: 508-668-9969
Email: mgagne@walpolecc.com
Walpole Country Club

PAST PRESIDENT

Michael J. Hermanson
140 Ryan Street, Gardner, MA 01440-0145
978-632-2713 Fax: 978-632-2713
Email: herm068@hotmail.com
Gardner Municipal Golf Course

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Sharon K. Brownell
P.O. Box 566, Mattapoisett, MA 02739-0566
508-758-6474 Fax: 508-758-3688
Email: Sbrownell@gcsane.org

GCSANE Headquarters

300 Arnold Palmer Blvd., Norton, MA 02766
Tel: (800) 833-4451 Fax: (508) 758-6474
Web Site: www.gcsane.org

Newsletter Editor..... Mark Gagne
Business Manager..... Julie Heston
(401-934-3677; Email: jheston@verizon.net)

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4. When do you prepare the day's work schedule?

The day before	36%
The night before	16%
Morning of	15%
Day before & morning of	13%
Night before & morning of	13%
All three	3%

The group showed that there are many different styles when it comes to determining what will be done each day. However, 41% said that the morning of each day is at least part of the time that they look to prepare or

fine tune the schedule; no doubt in response to changing weather conditions and other factors. Chris Donato of Bass Rocks Golf Club starts his schedule the day before and typically tweaks it the night before and each morning. "Conditions fluctuate due to weather and staffing so much that it seems I end up varying things in the morning. Oftentimes it may only be one task." Brett Johnson, CGCS at The International faces the daunting task of scheduling 68 employees each day during the golf season. "It's not as difficult as you might suspect. We develop a schedule for the upcoming week based on the golf events and work around that. We have many tenured employees with set routines and assigning employees to specific areas, like the driving range or parking lots also helps."

5. Do you prepare weekly or monthly schedules?

Yes, both	43%
Weekly	21%
Monthly	8%
No	28%

Most of the group finds it beneficial to schedule at least the week in advance and almost half plan the month in advance as well. A small portion of the group said their weekly and monthly planning applied only to cultural practices. Brian Skinner, CGCS at Bellevue Golf Club likes to set goals for his crew. "I review the agronomic plan with my staff at least one week in advance, so they have a clear idea of what we are trying to accomplish."

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CALENDAR...

Jan. 31 **GCSANE Annual Meeting**
2007 Walpole Country Club
Walpole, MA
Host: Mark Gagne

Feb. 16-21 **GCSAA National**
2007 **Championship &
Golf Classic / Four Ball**
Palm Springs, CA

Feb. 19-24 **Golf Industry Show**
2007 Anaheim, CA

March 5-8 **10th Annual New**
2007 **England Regional
Turfgrass Conference
& Show**
RI Convention Center
Providence, RI

President's Message - Looking Towards the Future and Embracing the Electronic Era

The kids are finally put to sleep and I'm going over the minutes of the meeting held today at Woodland Golf Club.

There are a few things I'd like to share with all who weren't able to make it to Newton. As we are finishing this year's



projects and closing the books for 2006, there is quite a bit of planning underway for 2007 and beyond.

Mark Gagne, with the help of Julie Heston, have done a great job

with the changes to the newsletter and are now in the process of taking the next step of bringing it to us online. There will be one more issue after this one in a hard copy form mailed to all. After that, the newsletter will be delivered on the association website. This will keep the news more current and reduce costs. For those of you who do not have the ability to access the web, it will be possible to get a paper copy by notifying Sharon Brownell at our home office. For those of us with failing eyesight, the online version will also be available in large print format.

In addition to the newsletter there are other changes related to the website. The directory will be available online to members only. Hard copies will be available if desired. The internet will become the avenue for most of our

association communication. Mike Luccini, CGCS has done a great job with this transition for the association. With all the changes, there are likely to be some people who will have a little trouble with it. Please contact Sharon or Mike or any board member for help. It really will be a more useful means for information.

The winter injury study is still in our minds. The intention is to initiate a larger study than was done in the past. This year, Peter Hasak is working on different greens covering systems using his own funds. He is also working with Dr. DaCosta on a future effort with the university. As Dr. DaCosta gets things in order in Amherst, you'll hear more about the project. If you are interested in helping, please contact either Peter or Michelle, as they could always use more cooperators and funding.

A meeting will soon be held in Dedham with a number of industry people coordinated by RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment). Scott Lagana, CGCS and Russ Heller, CGCS will be representing us and learning how we can move forward in a united way to keep the tools necessary for healthy turf.

Pat Daly, CGCS is working on another family night at the Brocton Rox. Last year's game was a lot of fun. If you have any ideas for future activities, give Pat a call.

Bob Ruzala has coordinated the hospitality suite at the GCSAA confer-

ence in Anaheim. The Nor'easter hospitality room will be at the Hilton (GCSAA headquarters) on Thursday February 22, 2007 from 6 to 10 pm. The UMass hospitality room will be in the same hotel from 5 to 6 pm. Plan on attending both of these events to catch up with some old friends and meet some new ones.

There are changes at the MGA. Tom Landry has resigned to accept a position with a commercial real estate firm. The MGA is in the process of looking for a new executive director and hope to have one on board before springtime.

There is growing sentiment on having a commercial representative be a part of our board. There is nothing concrete on how this should be done. As of now it is only an idea. Our association will always be a superintendent's organization but we would all be better off with some input from our venders on different matters which come before us. It is time to be more inclusive. If done properly, we will be better informed and more united. Let's start the discussion and see what's possible.

This is the time of year to reflect on many things, both personal and professionally. Take the time and recharge your batteries, as April will be here before you know it.

Sincerely,
Pat Kriksceonaitis
President, GCSANE

UMass Turfgrass Program Honors Ted Horton

By Heather Wood

To Edward "Ted" Horton, CGCS, the word "retirement" is open to interpretation.

Horton, a well-known longtime golf course superintendent, remains active in the golf industry, currently serving as a consultant for Calabasas, Calif.-based ValleyCrest Golf Course Maintenance. Recently, he was recognized by the industry when he was presented the University of Massachusetts Turfgrass Alumnus of the Year Award.

The award, part of a fund-raising effort for the school's turfgrass program,

is in its third year and gaining momentum, Horton says. The money will be used to help fund the new research center, including fields with turfgrass plots to perform studies.

The first award was given to Joseph Troll, a retired director of the turfgrass program. Troll was honored during the grand opening of the new center, which was named after him.

Last year, the event honored Sherwood Moore, CGCS, at Cape Cod National Golf Club in Brewster, Mass.

"Sherwood was a mentor to many—

myself included," Horton says.

Horton delivered a speech about Moore at that reception, and that's when some of the alumni at the event found their recipient for the award in 2006.

"The dynamic between the two of them speaking together was fantastic," says Steve Curry, president of UMass' Turfgrass Alumni Association. "When we sat down to make plans for this year's event, it seemed unavoidable to select Ted. He was the obvious choice."

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6. Do you pitch in to help get the course ready for play?

Yes	94%
No	6%

With everything else that superintendents need to manage and tasks to complete each day, a surprisingly high number said they also find time to help to prepare the course for play. Pat Daly, CGCS at Framingham Country Club said, "I don't have the time to pitch in that often, but my 2nd assistant accepted a 1st assistant position this year, so there were times when I changed cups, sprayed or mowed. I do whatever it is that is needed to get the job done; you can't be afraid of getting your hands dirty."

If you do pitch in to help the course, what jobs do you perform?

Course Setup (Csu)	15%
Miscellaneous	10%
Csu and spraying	18%
Csu & miscellaneous	11%
Spraying & miscellaneous	8%
All of the above	38%

Course setup was the most popular choice, no doubt for the ability to multi task by managing the crew and seeing the course at the same time. Almost as many don't hesitate to hop on the spray rig. John LeClair, CGCS of Warwick Country Club said he does "whatever it takes". David D'Andrea of Sunday River Golf Club echoed that sentiment stating he performs, "course setup, spraying and whatever else it takes to put forth our desired product." Brian Skinner considers himself a "hands on" superintendent. "I like to get out there with my crew in the morning and help set the pace for the day."

7. Who schedules the daily irrigation?

Superintendent	78%
Assistant	2%
Superintendent & Asst.	20%

Most superintendents are not willing to delegate one of the most important decisions made each day; if and how much to irrigate. However, 20% of the group "push the button" together with their assistants. Included in that group is Glenn Misiaszek, CGCS at Cohasset Golf Club. "We typically schedule based on ET and will adjust off of that. I don't feel the need to have complete control over nightly irrigation. I will discuss my thoughts with my assistant

each day and rely on him to setup the program, which we each review before leaving for the day." At Bass Rocks Golf Club, Chris Donato likes to schedule the irrigation. "We have some challenging terrain that makes irrigation a little tricky. As I make my way around the course each day I determine where and where not to water that night as I like to keep the turf on the dry side and barely alive." Ken Crimmings, CGCS at Marlborough Country Club starts to finalize his thoughts on irrigation when he loops back through the course in the afternoon. "I schedule based on run times as opposed to ET. I've been here long enough that I have a pretty good idea how the turf will respond. Even with valve in head control, I know that on some greens, 4 minutes keeps it dry, while 6 minutes may put it over the edge and make it too wet."

8. Who does the office/clerical work?

Superintendent	73%
Superintendent & Asst.	21%
Secretary	6%

As clubs become more sophisticated in managing the business, the office and administrative tasks we are required to complete have expanded. Ten years ago, the need for a superintendent to employ a secretary would have been quickly dismissed. Today, 6% of the group employs some form of administrative assistance and 21% delegate at least in part that job to their

assistants. At White Cliffs Country Club, Lianne Larson employs a full time, year round secretary. "Originally, the position was only 10 hours a week, but the workload has increased over time. In addition to the golf course, we are now responsible for managing the landscape maintenance and snow removal for 435 homes, a large sewer treatment facility, as well as the tennis, pool and beach operations. I also attend regular meetings of 7 different advisory committees relating to all aspects of the operation. The secretary position is critical in my situation, given the scope of administrative tasks."

Landry to Step Down as Executive Director of the Massachusetts Golf Association

After more than 13 years of service to the Massachusetts Golf Association (MGA), Tom Landry has resigned as executive director of the 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Effective January 2007, Landry will join the team at TA Associates Realty, a Boston-based real estate advisory firm.

"We are sad to see Tom resign as he has led our organization through some momentous changes and expansion efforts," said Richard Osborn, president of the MGA. "There is no doubt that Tom will be successful in all future endeavors. We wish him the best with his new position, and we thank him for his loyal and dedicated service to the MGA and the game."

As the MGA's Executive Director, Landry has led the organization through tremendous growth and change. Over the course of his career at the MGA, the

organization has experienced a 20 percent increase in the number of member clubs and individual golfers and has seen its asset base more than triple over the past eight years. Perhaps the most notable achievement during Landry's tenure as Executive Director was the organization's successful \$6 million capital campaign that resulted in the construction of the William F. Connell Golf House & Museum and the opening of MGA Links at Mamantapett.

A former collegiate baseball player who now carries a 5.4 handicap index as a member at The Kittansett Club, Landry was recognized for his contributions to amateur golf on both the local and national level by being named the president of the International Association of Golf Administrators (IAGA) in 2004. Prior to his appointment as president, Landry had previously served as IAGA board member for six years and was

instrumental in the development of the IAGA's Annual Conference program, which brings together more than 200 golf administrators from around the world.

The MGA will begin its search to replace Landry this month with a replacement likely to be named in the first quarter of 2007.

Source: MGA Press Release

"There is no doubt that Tom will be successful in all future endeavors. We wish him the best with his new position, and we thank him for his loyal and dedicated service to the MGA and the game."

*Richard Osborn
MGA President*

Winter Injury Study Update

By: Mary Owen, Turf Extension Educator and Specialist, UMass

The Winter Injury Initiative group met recently to discuss plans for the winter of 2006/2007. Cooperating superintendents have been asked to continue monitoring troubled or covered greens for temperature, severe weather events, and snow or ice cover. USGA Agronomist Jim Skorulski will be monitoring the data over the course of the winter. Dr. John Roberts at UNH will be working with Peter Hasak of Tedesco Country Club and John Clark of Rochester (NH) Country Club to conduct a trial of an ingenious and simple covering scheme that will allow passive air flow over the turf canopy and under impervious covers. They will be monitoring for temps, CO₂ and O₂ levels under the cover over the winter. Dr. Michelle DaCosta at UMass plans to begin work on physiological studies regarding winter injury and will be collaborating with Dr. Roberts on more in-depth projects regarding the prevention of winter injury. The group plans to meet again in the spring to review this winter's data and findings.

Turf Management Products

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UMass-Stockbridge Turf Club Members Enhancing Their Experiences as Students

By: Ryan Avery and Stephen Hicks

Despite the onset of winter, the UMass-Stockbridge Turf Club is green and growing. With the leadership of current officers Stephen Hicks, Joseph Gikis, Dan Vetere, Ryan Avery, and other members, the Turf Club has been able to establish an active membership and foster a renewed interest in the club. The club has attracted approximately 30 new members this year. The members have been very active so far this fall and have a lot planned heading into the winter.

The Turf Club recently returned from the Dr. Joseph Troll Turf Education Fundraiser at Westchester Country Club. Members assisted the Alumni Turf Group with the tournament, while holding a closest-to-the-pin competition to raise funds for the club. The event was a great opportunity for club members to network with superintendents and leaders in the industry.

The main goals of the UMass-Stockbridge Turf Club are to increase the knowledge base of the members, promote professionalism, and provide networking opportunities for members. The club accomplishes these goals through various activities including field trips, volunteer projects, speaking engagements with superintendents and industry professionals, and attendance at regional and national conferences. We also wish to enhance the image of the UMass Turf Program and prove to the golf industry that graduates of the program are highly knowledgeable and well prepared for their careers.

The club is able to participate in activities that enhance the knowledge of its members through fund-raising and support from turf-related businesses. Some of the opportunities made possible by fund-raising included a field trip to Fenway Park, Longwood Cricket Club, and The Country Club. While

touring these facilities, members were able to gain insight as to how each operation is managed to create the best possible playing conditions. Also, volunteer projects have included tee construction at local golf course Cherry Hill and the renovation of Lorden Baseball Field on the UMass Campus.



UMass Turf Club supports the Troll Fundraiser Tournament at Westchester Country Club

The goal has been set to represent the University of Massachusetts with at least two teams that will compete in the 13th Annual Collegiate Turf Bowl Competition.

*UMass-Stockbridge
Turf Club*

The UMass-Stockbridge Turf Club would like to send members to the GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry Show in Anaheim, California. The goal has been set to represent the University of Massachusetts with at least two teams that will compete in the 13th Annual Collegiate Turf Bowl Competition. With the assistance of the Turfgrass faculty, Turf Club members involved in the competition are busy studying in order to prepare for the Turf Bowl. The University of Massachusetts has not had much student representation at the national conference in recent years, so the Turf Club is determined to place highly in the competition and become a perennial contender for years to come.

The club was started to create the opportunity to advance the knowledge of our membership through activities held beyond what is offered in the classroom. The members of the club have set themselves apart through their hard work and dedication to the turfgrass management profession.

For more information, or if you would like to make a donation, please contact Stephen Hicks via email shicks@student.umass.edu or by phone at 978-501-6929. You can also learn more about us at www.freewebs.com/umassturfclub.

9. Do you make use of the USGA Turf Advisory Service or do you use a consultant?

Neither	48%
USGA	35%
Other	10%
Consultant	7%

A bit of a surprise here that more of the group does not call on outside sources for advice and perspective. However, as budgets in recent years are increasingly scrutinized, this area may be one of the first to cut. The majority of the 12% "other" category said they use the USGA service every other year, perhaps to reduce costs.

Mike Hermanson of Gardner Municipal Golf Course added, "I tend not to use either because of 35 years of experience at this golf course and because of the cost factor

on a tight budget. However, I do value such services and am supportive of the USGA program. I tend to call on the University and chemical reps if I need help with a particular problem." Brett Johnson uses consultants on an as needed basis, "If we are experiencing a particular problem or disease, I will call on the top university researcher in that area to visit my club and provide advice."

Modes of Communication

1. How do you communicate with your assistants?

Verbal	62%
Verbal& Written	21%
Verbal, Written And Computer	8%
No assistant	9%

"I use all three forms of communication with my assistants", said Lianne Larson. "I have an 'open door' policy with my staff and I am very accessible. I believe that frequent communication with my assistants is critical to our success."

2. Do you write articles for your newsletter?

Yes	58%
No	42%

3. Do you provide input for your web site?

Yes	55%
No	45%

If you provide input, how often?

Daily	2%
Weekly	17%
Monthly	51%
Yearly	21%
Other	9%

Has internet communication replaced the printed newsletter at our facilities? Not entirely, but the trend is in that direction. Chris Albrecht of Ipswich Country Club commented, "I no longer write for the newsletter because it has to go out too far in advance to provide up to date info. My assistant and I send out weekly email updates to all members. We are also starting to put info on the member only section of the web site regarding specific things such as aerification, bunker washouts, mowing after rain events, etc." Pat Daly also likes to communicate frequently with his membership and believes this is a critical aspect of the job. "I write an email every Friday to the entire membership with updates on things such as aerification or the problem of unrepaired ballmarks. I also write a monthly article for the newsletter, and having done so for 6 years, I find I can cut and paste old information into new articles. I feel that communication with the membership is the key to success and that I must be able to do that effectively. The job has changed so much over the past years and the days of just cutting the grass are over."

Job Satisfaction

1. On a scale of 1 to 5, how much do you enjoy your job?

1(hate it)	1%
2(don't like it)	2%
3(it's ok)	9%
4(like it)	59%
5(love it)	29%

Despite the extended summer hours, the demands on course conditions, being at the mercy of mother nature, club politics and assorted other challenges, the group clearly has a favorable view of their job. Brian Skinner added, "Most days, I can't imagine doing anything else. I really enjoy the variety and change of pace with everything I do."

2. What part of your job do you enjoy the most?

Preparing for tournaments	20%
Course conditioning	34%
Working with people	12%
Managing the environment	14%
Managing projects	18%
All of the above	2%

As you might suspect, the challenge of creating great course conditions and preparing for tournaments peaked the group's interest. "Of all the different facets of my responsibilities, I enjoy managing the golf course the most," Lianne Larson said. "I enjoy the immediate gratification that comes from making improvements. I have a competitive nature and our approach to preparing for tournaments is to produce conditions that are better than the previous year's event."

The Boss

1. Who do you report to?

Club President	8%
Green Chairman	40%
Owner	31%
Management Company	8%
General Manager	9%
Other	4%

2. How many times per week do you communicate with your boss by email, phone, or in person?

0-5	49%
5-10	33%
10-20	14%
20+	4%

3. Who is your biggest supporter at your facility?

Green Chairman	24%
Golf Professional	9%
General Manager	8%
Members/Golfers	29%
President/Owner	22%
Other	8%

Even though we have to please our boss, our employees are critical to our success. Jonathan Burke of The Ranch Golf Club cited "my staff" as his biggest supporters.

Editors Note:

We would like to thank Scott Niven of the Stanwich Club, Greenwich, CT and former editor of the Met GCSA newsletter, "Tee to Green", for permission to borrow the concept of this article, which Scott published in the September/October 2004 issue of "Tee to Green."

Thank you to all the GCSANE members who contributed to and participated in the survey.

2007 Advertising Rates for The Newsletter

Member	Monthly Rate	4 Times Per Yr.	6 Times Per Yr.	8 Times Per Yr.	Annual Rate
1/6 page... (vertical; 2.375" wide x 4.5" deep)	\$125.00	\$475.00	\$675.00	\$900.00	\$1250.00
1/6 page (horizontal; 5.06" wide x 2.125" deep)	\$125.00	\$475.00	\$675.00	\$900.00	\$1250.00
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Non-Member Rates: (All payments must be received in full before the ad appears in The Newsletter.)

	Monthly Rate	4 Times Per Yr.	6 Times Per Yr.	8 Times Per Yr.	Annual Rate
1/6 page... (vertical; 2.375" wide x 4.5" deep)	\$150.00	\$570.00	\$810.00	\$1080.00	\$1500.00
1/6 page (horizontal; 5.06" wide x 2.125" deep)	\$150.00	\$570.00	\$810.00	\$1080.00	\$1500.00
1/3 page (horizontal; 5.06" wide x 4.5" deep)	\$240.00	\$912.00	\$1296.00	\$1728.00	\$2400.00
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Full Page (vertical; 7.75" wide x 9.25" deep)	\$600.00	\$2280.00	\$3240.00	\$4320.00	\$6000.00

Contact Julie Heston for more details (401) 934-3677

USGA News: Stirring the Pot

By Jim Skorulski, Senior Agronomist

A contentious issue bubbles to the surface about this time each and every year, bringing with it the usual debate and the call for information and letters of support. It typically involves a small but obstinate group who choose or are forced to winter in the northern climes, and who prefer playing golf to skiing or other traditional winter activities. By now you probably realize I am talking about winter golf and the demand to play on the regular greens. The calls of dissension are beginning to be heard, so let's take a closer look at several of the more common impacts winter traffic can have on putting greens.

Impacts on Turfgrass— The grass essentially ceases top growth and enters a period of dormancy after several heavy freezes. There may be some short spurts of growth during warm weather periods in late fall, but for the

most part it is over until spring. The dormant plants can not recover from foot traffic and ball marking during this period of dormancy. Allowing play on frozen, brittle turf above frozen soils will cause the greatest injury, but the effects of even light traffic accumulate over time, leading to thinned surfaces in cupping area(s) and an opportunity for annual bluegrass to become more widely established. The extent of surface damage will depend upon the volume of traffic, and the size and design of the greens.

Impacts on Soil— Traffic on partially frozen soil has long lasting impacts. Unfortunately, this condition is most likely to occur when the warmer weather periods that are most desirable for winter golf. The potential for damage is highest when the surface soils thaw while underlying soils remain frozen.

The softer soils are compacted, the surfaces become bumpy, and there is a good chance the turf roots will be sheared. Not all of the impacts will be noticed immediately, but often come back to haunt the greens later in the summer.

The debate will continue as long as there is open ground in winter. But, this is a good time to respect your superintendent's recommendations as to when the regular greens should be closed to winter play. Who else has a better knowledge of the greens? After all, the greens are the bread and butter of any golf course. It seems reasonable then to take every conceivable measure to protect those surfaces so they will be at their best when it counts the most.

Source: USGA web site
(www.usga.org)

continued from page 3

This year, the event was at Westchester Country Club in Rye, N.Y., where Horton worked for several years and hosted 12 PGA events, initially as golf course superintendent and ultimately as the director of sports and grounds. Horton came to Westchester from Winged Foot Golf Club in Mamaroneck, N.Y., where he had the title of golf course superintendent when he was just 23 years old, right after attending MacDonald College of McGill University in Montreal, Canada and the University of Massachusetts Stockbridge School of Agriculture.

Horton worked for two years as vice president of agronomy for The Fairways Group before moving to the West Coast to become vice president of resource management for Pebble Beach Co. for eight years. In the position, he supervised numerous projects designed to renovate and upgrade golf facilities.

Horton, who describes himself as "semiretired," says he's finding enjoyable ways to pass the time.

"I tell everyone I'm retired, but my wife doesn't believe it," he says.

Horton works as a consulting superintendent for ValleyCrest Golf Course Maintenance. In addition, he's the executive director of the California Golf Course Owners Association and vice president of the California Golf Alliance. He also serves on the *Golf Course News* editorial advisory board.

Even though a long list of accomplishments fills his resume, the Ted Horton one sees on paper is different than the Ted Horton one will meet in person.

"When we sat down to make plans for this year's event, it seemed unavoidable to select Ted. He was the obvious choice."

*Steve Curry, President
UMass Turfgrass Alumni
Association*

"For somebody who has achieved so much, you sort of expect an air, and he's not like that at all," Curry says. "He's very personable and easy to talk to."

Horton continues to serve the industry because he can't get enough of it. He's struck by the camaraderie, high sense of integrity and dedication to the job he sees everywhere.

"I don't know anyone who feels as though it's just a job," he says. "No one looks at it as 9-to-5 job. We jokingly – and maybe to our chagrin – refer to the hours as banking hours in reverse – from 5 to 9."

Horton (not to mention his wife, Nancy) is pleased his hours now more closely resemble banker's hours. Now that Nancy is retired as well, she often travels with her husband while he lives out retirement attending various golf industry meetings.

Next year's UMass Turfgrass Alumnus of the Year Award will honor Geoffrey Cornish and will be held at the International Golf Club in Bolton, Mass. For more information, visit www.alumniturfgroup.com.

Source: Golf Course News web site
(www.golfcoursenews.com)

DIVOT DRIFT ... announcements ... educational seminars ... job opportunities ...tournament results...and miscellaneous items of interest to the membership.

GCSANE NOMINATIONS

Per association bylaws, the following candidates have been selected by the Nominating Committee to serve on the 2007 Board of Directors:

President: Russell Heller, CGCS
Vice President: Patrick J. Daly, CGCS
Secretary: Jason Adams
Treasurer: Michael Stachowicz
Trustee: Peter Hasak
(Government Relations)
Trustee: Scott Lagana, CGCS
(Membership)
Trustee: Ronald Dobosz
(Scholarship&Benevolence)
Finance: Michael Luccini, CGCS
Education: David Stowe, CGCS
Golf: James Small, CGCS
Newsletter: Mark Gagne
Past President: Michael Hermanson

Submitted by:
Patrick J. Daly, CGCS
Chairman, Nominating Committee

PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGE

Due to the GCSAA requirement that chapter Superintendent Member classifications must be consistent with GCSAA classifications, the following bylaw amendment will be presented for vote on by the membership at the GCSANE Annual Meeting:

GCSANE Bylaws

Article IV, Membership, Section 3:

Add the following: A golf course superintendent is one who is entrusted with the management and operation of the tract of land defined as a golf course, including involvement in construction and maintenance of golf courses and related equipment.

Submitted by:
Michael J. Hermanson
Chairman, Bylaws Committee

GCSANE NEWS

Web Site Update:

As you may or may not be aware, we recently launched the newly revamped GCSANE web site, <http://www.GCSANE.org>. With the implementation of this new web site, our goal is to provide every GCSANE member with a powerful tool that can be used for purposes such as planning, communicating, researching, e-commerce, and advertising within our membership, as well as our allied associations.

With a shift towards fully electronic delivery of our association's information, we expect to become primarily an internet based source of information for our membership effective January 1, 2007. What this means is that the GCSANE newsletter, as well as membership directory and bylaws, will be available only on the web site, GCSANE.ORG. As a result of this shift, you will no longer receive the newsletter and membership directory in the mail, but will have the capability to access, search, download and print them out from our web site. Provisions will be made for those members who do not have internet access. We will continue to offer advertising space in the newsletter for Friends and Affiliates. Information on advertising elsewhere on the web site can be obtained by contacting me at at: mluccini@aol.com.

Our first full month of the new GCSANE web operation experienced nearly 900 unique visitors, 3500 visits, and approximately 40,000 individual page views based on our research data thus far. We expect this trend to continue, and anticipate increased traffic to the site once we go fully electronic.

Again, please make note of this impending change to our information delivery system, and enjoy your new web site. I hope you will all take advantage of everything your new site has to offer.

Michael Luccini, CGCS, Web Site Chairman

SPECIAL NOTE:

Members without internet access or email service may contact Sharon Brownell at 1-800-833-4451 to request that *The Newsletter* be mailed to them.

Please place your request with Sharon prior to January 1st to ensure you do not miss an issue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Paul Miller, CGCS of Nashawtuc Country Club. Paul recently completed the renewal process for maintaining his CGCS status, which he first earned in 1987.

Our condolences are extended to Joe Lazaro and family on the recent passing of Joe's mother, Evelyn Lazaro, who passed away in Florida after a long illness.

Our condolences are extended to Manny and Bess Mihailides on the recent passing of their niece.

GOLF RESULTS

Harmon Club, November 6, 2006

Host: Kurt Calderwood

Format: 4 Man Scramble

1st Place: Chris Tufts, David Stowe, Garrett Whitney
2nd Place: Chuck Bramhall, Mark Gagne, Glen Misiaszek, Matt DeAvila
3rd Place: Charlie Downing, Jeff Stouffer, Robin Hayes, Bob Healey
4th Place: Ed Gianni, Joe Piana, Dennis Friel, John Paul Jones

POSITION OPENINGS

Head Golf Course Superintendent at Pease Golf Course, Portsmouth, NH Full Time; Year Round

Pease Golf Course is a 27-hole public facility located in Portsmouth, NH less than 1 hour drive from Manchester, Boston and Portland. The facility averages 46,000+ rounds a year. Candidate must possess an Associate Degree in Turf Management or related fields, a five year working knowledge of golf facility construction principles, practices and methods and hold a valid drivers license and all NH state required chemical/pesticides licenses. Salary is commensurate with experience and includes a complete benefits package. Position is open until filled. Please send resume to: Pease Golf Course, Attn: Scott DeVito, 200 Grafton Road, Portsmouth, NH 03801, Phone: 603-433-1331; Email: s.devito@peasedev.org

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Rick Forni - (413) 534-8896

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John Bresnahan - (413) 374-4102

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Kristen Patneau - (617) 788-4437

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Jack Borden - (978) 897-2571

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110 Codjer Lane, Sudbury, MA 01776
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Steven Burnett, Michael Wende - (800) 521-5585

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