



GCSAA AFFILIATE

# Turf Times

Update  
June, 1992  
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The newsletter from the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association

## Important Survey Enclosed

On pages 3 & 4 of this month's newsletter you will find an important survey prepared by the Cooperative Extension Agency.

Please take the time to read the information provided by Andy Norman. Also, please detach, fill out, and return the survey to the address on the form.

It is important that all Northern Michigan Golf Courses participate in this survey. This is a big part of the planning, fundraising, and implementation of this program.

These surveys will be kept confidential.

Please do your part for the environment and the NMTMA and participate in our pesticide disposal day.

## Next Meeting

July 7th  
Spruce Run  
(Grand Traverse Resort)  
watch *Turf Times*  
for details.



## MTF Fundraiser June 15th

Enclosed is an entry form for our 16th annual Turf Benefit Day. Please return this form promptly to assure your space in this event. Proceeds will go to the Michigan Turf Foundation's research fund.

Invite friends and members from your clubs to participate in this fun and worthwhile event. Prizes will be awarded for various team and individual games.

Mark Skop is the host superintendent and Brian Sanderson is the golf professional. The course was built in 1987 and is in excellent playing condition. The course offers a variety of shots and memorable views.

The theme of the Monument Golf Course has been to honor some of the game's all time greats through the years.

Several of these important players, or if deceased a close relative, have participated in exhibitions while choosing their favorite hole. To date: Sam Snead, Kathy Whitworth, Gene Sarazen, Paul Runyon, Byron Nelson, Chuck Koscis, Chick Harbert, Bobby Jones, Walter Hagen and Everett Kircher have all had holes named in their honor.

Hope to see you there!

## Notice of Bylaws Change

At our July 7th meeting at Spruce Run (Grand Traverse Resort), Class A & B Members will vote on the following Bylaws change:

Under "Membership Classes," the current laws read – "A. Class 'A', golf course owner-superintendent."

will be changed to read – "A. Class 'A', golf course superintendent."

Golf course owners will be classified as Class F.

## Who Closes the Course?

*Editor's Note: Here is a handy tip if you or your golf course does not have a policy on closing the course.*

A Member Club has asked who should be charged with the responsibility for closing its course to play because of weather conditions.

There is no uniform policy on this matter, but the advice of Richard S. Tufts, Chairman of the USGA Green Section Committee and formerly Chairman of the USGA Championship Committee, may be interest-

ing to many Clubs.

The first is when play might be injurious to the course. The Green Committee and the golf course superintendent usually are in the best position to assess this point. Since they are responsible for the condition of the course, they should have authority to protect it from undue damage. Whether the responsibility of the golf course superintendent should be final or advisory is a matter for the club to determine. There is no reason to vest the same

authority in individuals who have no responsibility for the maintenance of the course.

The second is when weather conditions might make the course unfit for play during a competition. The Golf Committee usually is in the best position to assess this point, although the professional might well advise it. The Green Committee and the golf course superintendent need have no voice in this decision.

Credit: *USGA Journal and Turf Management: April, 1953*

**"Represent your organization with class. Nice sport clothes are required for all golf outings no blue jeans, t-shirts and the like. Sweaters or jackets with ties are recommended for all dinners and meetings. Good golf etiquette, fairness and sportsmanship are expected at all golfing events."**

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Dear Superintendent,

A third Agricultural Pesticide Waste Collection Program is being planned for the five-county area of Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Leelanau for late summer of 1992.

The success of the 1988 pilot program resulted in a program in 1990 at 10 sites with 24 participating counties throughout Michigan. The 5-county area was one of the 1990 sites. The 5 NW MI counties were selected to evaluate participation of growers who had on earlier opportunity to get rid of old unusable pesticides. "Over 1,235 gallons and 18,024 pounds of pesticides were collected from 105 growers in the 5 county region". The cost of providing this service was \$76,146.60 or an average of \$725.21 per grower, not including administrative time, volunteer time, and mailing and promotion costs. In 1988 the average cost per participating farm was \$555.00 for the NW MI Pesticide Collection Program.

The cost and risk of retaining old, and/or unlabeled pesticides can be great. The liability and clean-up cost of a "incident" can be high.

To properly dispose of chemicals through a licensed waste hauler has been expensive too, i.e. \$2.73 per pound for the 1990 NW MI Pesticide Collection day.

For 1992 the MICHIGAN CLEAN SWEEP program will focus on eliminating outdated and/or suspended pesticides from 16 west Michigan counties to help protect Lake Michigan from possible future contamination.

The program is a cooperative effort between MI Department of Agriculture (M.D.A.), Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service (C.E.S.) and local health departments. The effort has received the support of the Inter-Tribal Fisheries Council, which is concerned about pesticide residues currently found in Great Lakes fish, and the Northern MI Turf Managers Association (N.M.T.M.A.).

The 1992 collection program will include nurseries, and lawn care firms and golf courses, along with member courses of the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association which have offered to assist in funding the collection.

With this letter we are asking interested golf courses to fill out the attached form and return it to, **L. Andy Norman, CED and District Turfgrass Agent, Cooperative Extension Service, P.O. Box 307, Beulah, MI 49617.** The information will be kept confidential and will not be shared with anyone, with the exception of the CES staff and grant coordinator involved in planning the program.

Sincerely,

L. Andrew Norman  
CED/District Turfgrass Agent

