



TURF TIMES

H I D D E N V A L L E Y

OCTOBER 4, 1989

Gaylord, Michigan

5th ANNUAL "TUCK TATE" CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT

Volume 17 No. 9

The October meeting of the N.M.T.M.Ass'n will be held Wednesday, the 4th, and will be the 5th Annual "Tuck Tate" Championship Golf Tournament, open to all members. Guests are also invited however they will not be able to participate in the actual championship. They will be able to participate in other prizes. The tournament will be an individual stroke play, with handicap event, so bring your handicap with you. Your official handicap should be attested by the Pro at your club or it should be official U.S.G.A. or G.A.M. In other words, no sand bagging as this is a gentleman's game. Starting times will be from 11:00 A.M. thru 1:00 P.M. and the number to call for starting times is 517/732-4653 or thru the main switch board of Hidden Valley which is 517/732-5181. Steve Lewis is the Host Superintendent and Mark Hogan is the Head Golf Professional. Cocktail or Happy Hour will start at 5:00 P. M. and Dinner will be served at 6:00 P.M. in the River Cabin. To get to the River Cabin, a bus will take all who are enjoying the beauty and food of Hidden Valley. Speciality will be a New York Strip Steak. After dinner, Mr. Terry Moore of The Michigan Golfer will be our speaker. He will just be returning from England where he has seen the Ryder Cup golf tournament. His talks at previous superintendents has brought excellent acclaim and responses to come back again to speak. We are very fortunate in having Mr. Moore.

Cost of this entire package will be \$27.00, dinner \$15.00, cart \$10.00 and \$2.00 for golf prize in Pro Shop. No handicap over 36 will be accepted for the championship and you must have proof of that. We must advise Hidden Valley of the number that will be present, so please return the postcard and indicate yes or no, on the question of a permanent registration list.

Where is Hidden Valley? It is on M-32, east side of Gaylord, entrance on north side of M-32. Bear left as you come in, park and the pro shop is in front of you. Lunch will be available in the Pro Shop.

This will conclude our golf outings for 1989 and none others are scheduled until spring. "Turf Times" will however continue to come to you during the winter months bring you up to date with what is new in our green industry. If you would like to write an article to be included in a future edition, it would be most welcome. We are also interested in someone interested in becoming the "Historian" of this Association. ----- We are about to start into our 18th year of being and it would be nice to see someone put together all that has transpired since August 1971 when we started at a meeting at Interlochen Golf Club.



NORTHERN MICHIGAN TURF MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

3733 APOLLO DRIVE • TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN 49684 • 616-943-8343

"BEHIND THE GREENS"

A message from your Board by W. Brent Nelson

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With October comes thoughts of snow mold protection and fall leaf cleanup. But October also brings shorter hours which allows more time to renew old acquaintances. More often than not our jobs are all consuming, leaving little or no time for the really important things that makeup our lives.

No it's not your job, your house, or your car--it's your family. That right, IT'S YOUR FAMILY. The past several years I've never really had enough time to spend with my wife and kids; never taken that extra minute to answer that question or take out the trash. Instead, I figured it was their problem because I was too busy. That was last year, but this year was different. I had a good assistant who would cover me if I wasn't there. Even though I worried about the course, I knew it would still be there in the morning.

By giving your employees all the information you can possible can give them from equipment useage, to fertilizing, to spraying diseases, you can have them carry on without you. I treat everyone like they are training to be a Superintendent and I don't hold anything back. When you start doing this, it's amazing to hear the questions that start rolling in and sometimes it made me dig pretty deep to find the right answer.

With a well trained crew, who can think by themselves, spot diseases, make suggestions for improvements to the course your job will beacome alot easier. You know they're the ones in the trenches and if your smart, you'll train them well and they'll return your investment of time ten fold.

Well it's getting late and the kids and I are going fishing--(my assistant is watching my course). See you in GAYLORD at Hidden Valley for the annual TUCK TATE MEMBERSHIP TOURNAMENT.

Wm. Brent Nelson
Golf Course Superintendent
"THE LEGEND"
Shanty Creek Resorts

This summer has been a very busy one for golf course construction in Northern Michigan. When I last counted there were 6 golf courses under construction with 9 more planned to start construction in the spring of 1990.

Some of the courses being built will rival the best any where for breath taking views. The little Traverse Bay Country Club is just one of the many. Charlie Menefee is the superintendent there. Charlie took me around this spring. The view of the bay is stunning from the club house site. There are also some beautiful panoramic views of Crooked Lake from different tees on the course. Jeff Gorney has set up this great layout. Charlie and the owner, Ted Fry, have been helping Jeff fine tune the details of the design work, and they are going to have something to be really proud of when the course is completed. With construction on schedule they will be open in the spring of 1991.

Another beautiful golf course is "The Rock" on Drummond Island. One trip around it and there will be no question about the name. Harry Bowers designed the course, and Kathy Antaya is the superintendent. The course is on some of the prettiest wilderness Michigan has to offer, but construction is very tough because of all the rock on the island. With huge rock out crops around it, the 15th tee is typical of the beauty and the problems encountered during construction. Harry is very happy with the course growing in, and he gives Kathy much of the credit for it. Helping Kathy is her assistant, Michelle Holcomb. Together they'll have "The Rock" in great shape for limited play this fall.

Michelle was 1989 N.M.T.M.A. Scholarship recipient. This was awarded at the Michigan Turfgrass Conference last January.

Aerial Hazards

by PATRICK M. O'BRIEN

Director, Southeastern Region, Green Section

TREES ARE important features on many golf courses. The tree-lined fairways that follow the natural terrain of these courses provide beauty, challenge, and tranquility for the golfer. In general, golfers prefer a course with lots of trees, but most of them do not realize the deleterious effects trees have on nearby turf areas. More serious consideration toward tree placement and dealing with existing trees is essential.

The greatest error in tree placement is planting too many trees around greens and tees. Trees are desirable for framing a putting green or for producing the chute effect at a tee, but they shouldn't be allowed to cause major turf problems. Adequate sunlight and air circu-

lation are necessary for proper turf growth, and when these conditions are not available, the turf can become thin and weak. Both bermudagrass and bentgrass greens are more susceptible to disease and more expensive to maintain in these tree-pocketed sites.

In addition, tree branches, debris, and roots can significantly affect the golfer's game and add to the cost of maintaining a golf course. It is frustrating to discover your golf ball in an unplayable situation under tree branches just a few feet from the edge of a fairway. Shrubs used as yardage markers can cause the same problem. Trees that produce litter and surface roots are best planted well away from the playing areas of the course.

Club officials are often reluctant to remove a tree that interferes with maintenance of an important turf area. The golfer who complains about the poor quality turf on a green is often the same one who will put his body between the chain saw and the tree. A choice must be made, and in all but the most unusual circumstances it should be made in favor of the turf.

Trees are great, but let's use some common sense about them on the golf course. Trees that interfere with the health and vigor of the turf in important playing areas should be thinned, pruned, moved, or removed. When new trees are planted, give careful consideration to how they will affect nearby turf in the decades ahead.



LANSING, MICHIGAN

November 8, 1989

Co-hosted by
Michigan & Border Cities Golf Course
Superintendents Association
and
Golf Course Superintendents
Association of America

GOLF COURSE SAFETY, SECURITY & RISK MANAGEMENT

Dr. Michael J. Hurdzan, noted golf course architect, presents risk management techniques, including the identification of hazards to golfers and non-golfers, the potential for accidents and types of negligence and liability. Safety procedures to minimize risk will be described and adequate and appropriate insurance coverage discussed. This course is designed not to provide legal advice but to expose managers to potential litigious situations as encountered in the personal experience of a golf course architect. Former students comment:

"Keep having this seminar as often as possible."

"Very good refresher on just what liability means."

". . . pertinent to every golf course's real-life situations."

This 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. seminar will earn participants who pass the examination at the conclusion .7 Continuing Education Unit (CEU) and a certificate of achievement from GCSAA. A luncheon is included in the registration fee as are excellent take-home reference materials. Site of the seminar is the Holiday Inn Lansing--Conference Center and Holidome. Space is limited and registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, so register early. Refund Policy: Refunds are allowed only for **WRITTEN** cancellations received at GCSAA Headquarters by October 25.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Seminar registrants are responsible for their own overnight accommodations. The Holiday Inn Lansing offers special rates of \$54 for a double or single. Reservation information will be sent with a letter of confirmation to seminar registrants.

REGISTER NOW!!

Complete the form enclosed, include your check or credit card information and return to:

GCSAA Regional Seminars
1617 St. Andrews Drive
Lawrence, Kansas 66047-1707



TELEPHONE REGISTRATIONS BY CREDIT CARD ARE WELCOME!

CALL 800/472-7878 or 913/841-2240. FAX: 913/841-2407.



LANSING, MICHIGAN

November 7-8, 1989

Co-hosted by
Michigan & Border Cities Golf Course
Superintendents Association
and
Golf Course Superintendents
Association of America

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS IN GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT

"This particular program fills a real void."

"Excellent information. . . a good, thought-provoking seminar."

"Most worthwhile. . . were the explanations of federal regulations and laws."

A practical introduction to ecological concepts and environmental issues, this seminar provides perspectives on the management of land as a coordinated system. Participants will study the interrelated consequences of various management practices, with emphasis on pesticide use, water conservation and species diversity. Discussion topics will include legal and public relations issues encountered by golf course superintendents.

Seminar instructors are Dr. Winand K. Hock, coordinator of the pesticide education program at Pennsylvania State University, and Dr. William A. (Tom) Thomas, director of development and quality at Oak Ridge Associated Universities. Site of the seminar is the Holiday Inn Lansing--Conference Center and Holidome.

Registrations in this two-day seminar will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Course materials and luncheons on both days are included in the seminar registration fee. GCSAA will award 1.4 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and a certificate of achievement to participants passing the examination at the conclusion of the seminar. **Registrants are responsible for their own lodging.** The Holiday Inn Lansing offers rates of \$54/night for a single or double to seminar participants.

REGISTER NOW

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1617 St. Andrews Drive
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CALL 800/472-7878 or 913/841-2240. FAX: 913/841-2407.

REGISTRATION FORM

(Please print clearly!)

GCSAA Member No. _____

Please enroll me in:

☐ **Environmental Considerations in Golf Course Management**
in Lansing, Michigan on November 7-8, 1989.

(GCSAA Member Fee = \$150.00 Non-Member Fee = \$180.00)

☐ **Golf Course Safety, Security & Risk Management**
in Lansing, Michigan on November 8, 1989.

(GCSAA Member Fee = \$80.00 Non-Member Fee = \$100.00)

Name _____ Title _____

Club/Company/Institution _____

Check if Certified (CGCS) _____

Please complete preferred mailing address:

HOME

BUSINESS

(Street Address)

(Club/Company/Institution)

(City, State, Zip)

(Street Address)

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(Telephone)

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GCSAA accepts the following credit cards:

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Your Signature _____

Mail to: GCSAA Regional Seminars
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Lawrence, KS 66047-1707

For additional information, call 1-800-GSA-SUPT

NEWSNOTES

SUMMER, 1989

Revisions Of Pesticide Law Require Your Compliance

By Tim Doppel

After several years of work, the first major revision of the Pesticide Control Act of 1971 was passed in the waning hours of 1988. The various provisions of this law went into effect in April and you should be aware of what is now required of you.

First, there is a requirement that all persons applying pesticides in the course of their employment pass a test to become a Registered Applicator. This will be a lesser test than the Certified Applicator test and will focus primarily on pesticide safety. A Registered Applicator Certificate is primarily for those who apply only general use pesticides. The Registered Applicator will be able to apply Restricted Use Pesticides (RUP), but only under the direct



supervision of a Certified Applicator. That means the Certified Applicator must be physically present at the time of the application. At this time the Department of Agriculture is writing the rules to administer this portion of the law and what will be on the test. This will not be completed until April of 1990, and then we will have 90

days to come into compliance. Although your applicators do not have to become registered this season, you should begin thinking about how you will make arrangements for the necessary training next spring.

For those who have a Commercial Applicators License, it is noteworthy to know that new licenses will be granted only to individuals who have at least two years experience or a four year degree in a field that teaches pesticide safety. This does not affect those who have their license prior to April, 1988.

As with most things in this day and age, the cost of our Certification and Licenses has gone up. The new fee is now \$50 for both the renewal of a Certification or a License. However, the fees go directly into a special Pesticide Fund that will be used for enforcement of the new law and for Pesticide Issue Education. It is important to know that the fees that we pay will come back for our benefit.

Finally, you need to know that the fines for violations of the Pesticide Law have been increased. If you knowingly violate the law you may be liable for a fine of up to \$5,000 for each offense. If malicious intent can be shown, the fine goes up to \$25,000. The Department of Agriculture has also been given authority to levy an administrative fine of up to \$1,000 per offense. As you can see, this is quite an increase from the old slap on the wrist of only \$500 per offense. Be sure you know what your applicators are doing and be sure you are complying with the law.

There are many other parts of the law that do not affect outdoor applicators so they will not be reviewed here. There are two main areas that you need to keep in mind because of this revision in the law: One, do not violate the law or be ready for some hefty fines. Two, be aware of the Registered Applicator requirement. *NewsNotes* will keep you current with the latest developments in this area over the next year. Stay tuned.

If you have a wood burning stove or fireplace, this should interest you:
Beechwood fires are bright and clear
If the logs are kept a year.
Chestnut's only good, they say
If for long it's laid away.
Birch and Fir logs burn too fast.
Blaze up bright and do not last.
Elm wood burns like churchyard mold,
Even the very flames are cold!
Poplar gives a bitter smoke,
Fills your eyes and makes you choke.
Applewood will scent your room
With an incense like perfume.
Oak and Maple, if dry and old,
Will keep away from winter cold.
But ash wood wet and ash wood dry
A king can warm his slippers by!

MEMBERSHIP BOOKLET

We would like to call your attention to a problem that exists with our Association and ask for your help in solving it. When this booklet is printed, we find that several members have moved therefore their address and telephone numbers are incorrect. If you would be so kind as to advise our Executive Director of changes in address or telephone number, we will try to correct your mailing address and you will be receiving every current newsletter that is being sent out to our membership. We thank you for your help in keeping our membership booklet, more current and up to date. Every month, "Turf Times" newsletters are being returned for insufficient address.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Elmbrook Golf Course has a 5 gang Blitzler with frames.
3 or 5 gang Fairway Mower with 10 blade reels without frames.

These items for sale, contact Jon or Erich Sleder at (616) 946-9180 Extension 12.

PERMANENT RESERVATION LIST

Many golf course superintendent associations in order to save the cost of enclosing a postcard each month, are adopting or going to a "Permanent Reservation List". Those on this list will not be sent a postcard each time however they will receive the newsletter giving details of the latest news as before. By so doing this would help host clubs determine the number of attendees at each meeting. It may also facilitate our ability to acquire more speakers from local and national levels. We would like to get a feel from members on this subject which is working well in many other associations. For those who have their name on the permanent list, you are required to call if not attending. Failure to do so will result in an automatic charge for that meeting. If you are not on the list, you may still attend meetings by calling the number listed and making a reservation. Will you please indicate your feelings about a list of this nature on the enclosed postcard by checking, "YES" or "NO", on the bottom. Thanks.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

3 new directors will be elected at the October meeting from the Class "A" and "B" group. The nominees submitted by the Nominating Committee Chaired by Bob Steinhurst CGCS are:

Joe Bregchner from Boyne Highlands
Tom Brogger from Birchwood Farms
Paul Holmes from Gaylord Country Club
Dave Little C.G.C.S. from Huron Breeze Golf & Country Club
Damian Kurkowski from Scot's Ventures

1 new director will be elected at the same time from the Class "G" group. The nominees submitted by the nominating committee are"

Howard Altman with UAP Special Products
Jim Inman with Spartan Distributors
Kimberly Olson with Turfgrass 8 .

POSTCARD, Please