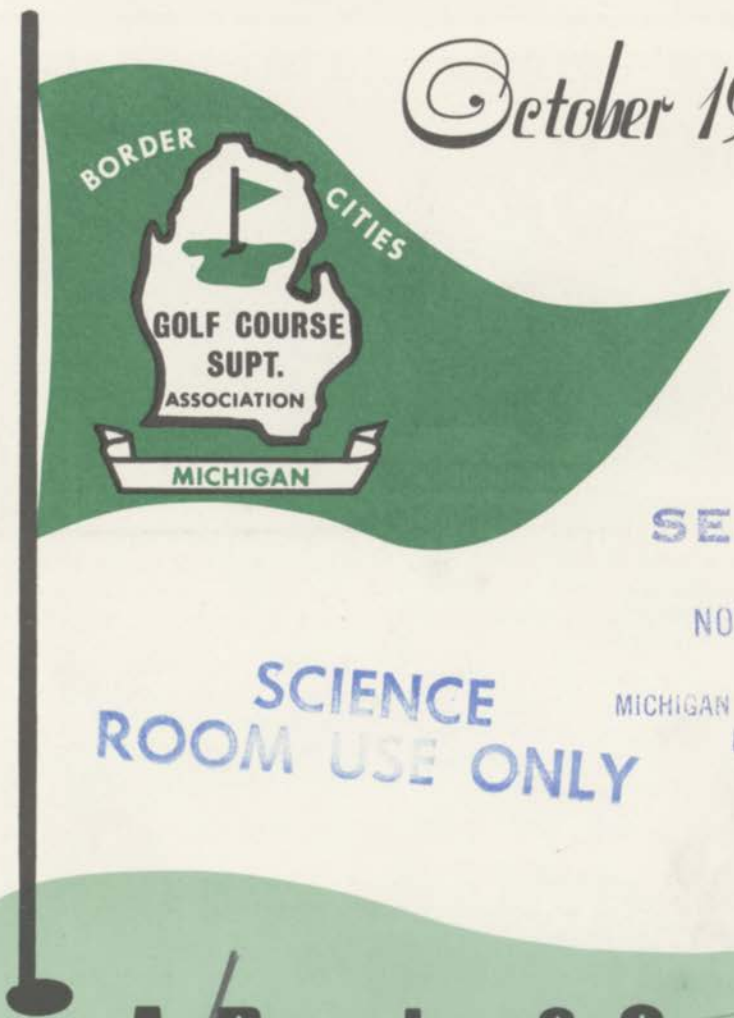


October 1974



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# A Patch of Green

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# The Golf Course Superintendent

## In the Interest of Golf . . .

The following is a pamphlet prepared by the GCSAA to acquaint and promote understanding between golfers and the Golf Course Superintendents - men who have been entrusted with the finest and most valuable turf in the world.

## Professionalism . . . A Long Time in Coming

In this age of specialization, there is typically one individual directly responsible for the playing conditions of our modern golf courses. Although the title varies in different sections of the country, he is generally known as the GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT. Joining with the clubhouse manager and the golf professional to provide the finest in recreation, the Golf Course Superintendent is charged with managing the entire area where golf is played.

## HIS QUALIFICATIONS HIS RESPONSIBILITIES HIS REQUIREMENTS

As with most professionals, the stature and knowledge he enjoys today, were not easily achieved. Near the turn of the century, a new type of specialized farming began to develop in America. Coming from a rural, farm background, the golf course greenkeeper, as he was known in the early 1900's, found his place on the golf course in the urbanizing world of the time. There, he was in his own element, and through a combination of experience and pure instinct, he began to adapt his knowledge to the business of maintaining golf turf. Certainly the

Continued on Page 10

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# September Meeting

The Annual Superintendent's Golf Tournament was held at the beautiful Barton Hills Country Club, Ann Arbor, Michigan, on September 17, 1974.

Host Superintendent Bruce Wolfrom is to be congratulated for the magnificent condition of the golf course and club grounds.

Barton Hills has perhaps the best looking entrance and parking lot areas of all the clubs in Michigan.

The golfers marveled at the excellent condition of the turf out on the course.

Bruce introduced the following people during the meeting: Manager, Gene Rollins; Host Professional, Tom Talkington, who ran the annual tournament; Mr. Edwood Cushing, member of Greens Committee; Mike Boyle, student from MSU; and William Palmer, Asst. Superintendent for 25 years.

Dr. Carey, President of Barton Hills, welcomed us to the club.

After dinner, which was delicious, Golf Committee Chairman George Prieskorn passed out golf prizes to



Fritz McMullen, Superintendent, Forest Lake CC. 1974 low net winner.

to low net winners. First Prize was won by Fritz McMullen, Superintendent of Forest Lake Country Club.

## LOW NET WINNERS

Fritz McMullen	70
Bill Milner	71
Ward Swanson	72
Dr. Ken Payne	74
Bob Prieskorn	74
Jerry Prieskorn	75
George Prieskorn	75
Don Ross	75
Al Kaltz	76
Bob Walter	77

## CLASS 'D' WINNERS

Harold Lange
Jerry Penner
Bert Bradshaw
Don Benham
George Carson

The First Prize of \$25.00 was once again donated by Frank Fornier. This has been a long standing tradition. Thanks Frank.

After dinner speaker for the September Meeting was Ted Mulcahey of the O.M. Scott Company. He delivered an excellent presentation on the various sources of nitrogen and their characteristic releases - all nitrogen fertilizers are not the same.

---

## Films Available Through GCSAA

The following films are available free of cost except return postage. The GCSAA requests that each film be insured for \$200.00 when returned.

- "ABC's of Putting Green Construction"
- "Courtesy on the Course"
- "Drainage System for a Difficult Green"
- "Mowers for Golf Course Maintenance"
- "Royal and Ancient Game"
- "Water Movement in the Soil"
- "Your Experimental Green"

To avoid conflicts due to prior scheduling, it is suggested that an alternate date be provided when each film is requested.

## President's Message

Congratulations! Another very successful Golf Day.

On September 23 at Bay Pointe Golf Club, we staged our 9th Annual Turfgrass Research Benefit. The General Chairman Jim Vlassis and Co-Chairmen Clem Wolfrom and Roger Gill along with the various committees and their chairmen are to be congratulated for conducting such a successful event.

There were 190 participants in the golf tournament. The weatherman also cooperated this year, a little cool, but a lot nicer than last year.

In one of the earlier issues of the *Patch of Green* I mentioned the fact that it takes total involvement by the membership to make this day successful. When everyone lends a hand these are the results. So, congratulations to the entire membership for a job well done.

President,  
Jerry Gill

---

## There are Bones and Bones

Someone has said that membership in every Association is made up of four kinds of bones:

1. There are the wish bones who spend their time wishing someone else would do the work.
2. There are the jaw bones who do all the talking but very little else.
3. Next there are the knuckle bones who knock everything that anyone ever tries to do.
4. And finally there are the back bones who get under the load and do the work.

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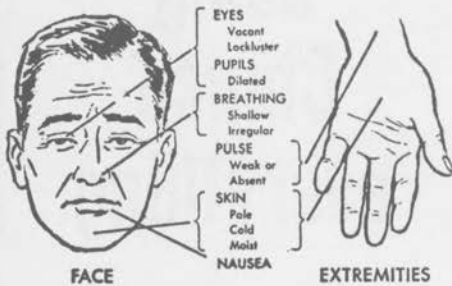
CHIPMAN DIVISION OF RHODIA, INC.  
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# Shock

Shock is associated with injury to body tissue from burns, wounds, or fractures. In most instances it is caused by loss of large quantities of blood either externally or into the damage to flesh and bone. The larger the blood loss, the greater the damage that shock will occur.

Shock may be produced or made worse by any manipulation that increases hemorrhage or causes it to recur.

## SIGNS & SYMPTOMS OF SHOCK



## FIRST AID FOR SHOCK

The same first aid measures apply to both prevention and care of shock.

**POSITION**  
Keep patient lying down. This helps the flow of blood toward the head and chest, where it is needed most. There is one exception to the horizontal position: if there is difficulty in breathing, the patient's head should be elevated.

Except as noted below, elevate the lower part of the body if the blood loss is great, or injury severe. Raise the foot of the bed or stretcher eight to twelve inches. If the patient is on the ground, use pillows or substitute. This elevation should not be done: (1) if there is a head injury, (2) if breathing difficulty is thereby increased, or (3)

if patient complains of pain when it is attempted.

## HEAT

If patient is lying on floor, put blanket under him. Cover him only sparingly, according to the temperature of the environment. Do not cause sweating. It is better to keep him slightly cool than toasting warm. The overall principle relating heat to shock is this: do not add heat; simply prevent a large loss of body heat.

## FLUIDS

If patient is under medical care within half hour, the first aider need not concern himself with fluids except to allay thirst. Fluids should not be given if the patient is unconscious or only partly conscious if he is nauseated, has a penetrating abdominal wound, or probably faces early operation.

Plain water, neither hot nor cold, is the best fluid.

---

## Annual Golf Benefit

The cold weather struck early this year and wouldn't you know it, it came on September 23, the day of our annual golf benefit.

Despite the frigid temperatures we had a delightful day and the 190 golfers enjoyed themselves tremendously.

Over \$7,500 was contributed. This was our 9th Annual Turfgrass Research Benefit - This brings our total contribution to the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation to well over \$60,000.00.

Chairman Jim Vlassis promises a complete report on the day at Bay Pointe Golf Club in our next issue of *A Patch of Green*.



# We Know Agrico 18-5-9 Can Improve Your Fairways. And We'll Go To Any Links To Prove It!

We know Agrico Country Club Fertilizer can improve fairways. Because it feeds more efficiently to help build pusher turf—turf that will approach your greens in quality.

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Because 18-5-9 is high in nitrogen content, you need fewer bags for normal fertilization. A real savings when you've got 40 to 65 acres of fairways.

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A good look at turfgrass mematode problems was discussed and described at the Traverse City Golf & Country Club, Traverse City, Michigan, on Tuesday, September 10, 1974.

This was just one of many field tests displayed for over 300 interested 'turf' men on the turf at Traverse City.

The MSU staff and host Superintendent, Mr. Ed Karcheski, are to be congratulated for their splendid work. Reports will be given on the work up north at the Annual Winter Turf Conference at Michigan State University in Lansing.

---

## The Golf Course Superintendent Cont.

golf courses of that period were less manicured than the average course of today and the available tools were less sophisticated, but as with most professions, improvements were developed as soon as problems were identified.

When the popularity of golf rose sharply in the 1920's, there was a greater need for greenkeepers who could accept the challenges of increased player traffic and the golfer's demands for higher quality playing conditions.

To better understand the complexities of his profession today, the following paragraphs will describe the Golf Course Superintendent's qualifications, responsibilities and requirements. Hopefully, this improved understanding will result in a finer appreciation of the profession's demands and improve the relationship between those who play golf as a recreation or profession, and the Golf Course Superintendent who is charged with the responsibility of ensuring that the conditions are always at their optimum.

### The Superintendent's Qualifications

Although the modern Golf Course Superintendent's main concern is that of growing golf turf, he is becoming

directly involved with the management of the entire golf course facility. In addition to an agronomic education, the Superintendent may have additional education in what at first would seem to be an unrelated area such as business administration, education or engineering. He is usually a diverse individual, both in education and interests, but this perfectly suits his complex profession.

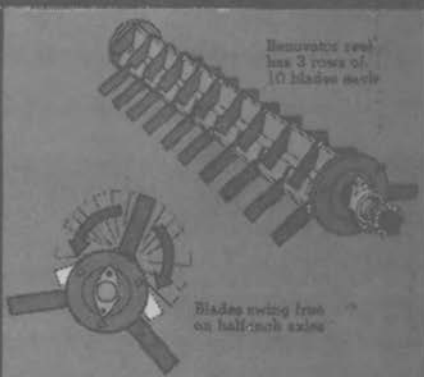
To be more specific, the Superintendent must be familiar with the many facets of golf courses, and how they relate to the game itself. To produce and maintain the specialized turfgrass required, he must have a knowledge of the available types and varieties of turfgrass, as well as possessing the technical information required to produce the desired results. He must know and understand the complexities, and interrelationships of soils, fertilizers, irrigation, drainage, insects, insecticides, turf diseases, fungicides, weeds, herbicides, tools and equipment ranging from hand tools to complex, hydraulically-operated fairway mowing units.

He must be able to secure, train and supervise labor and work intelligently with his employees and employers. He must be able to maintain accurate records covering everything

Continued on Page 13

# RAKE-O-VAC

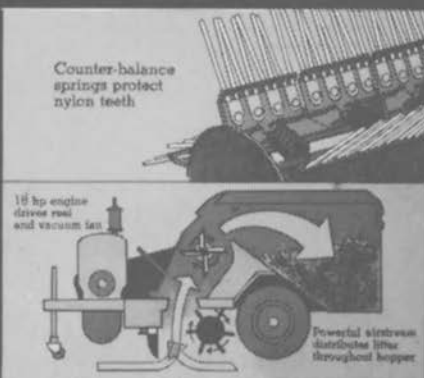
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### The Golf Course Superintendent Cont.

from weather reports to short and long-term budgets. He must know how and where to obtain information relating to all aspects of his job, and he must read technical publications almost constantly, for no man can keep pace with the rapid developments in this field without outside contacts and assistance.

The Golf Course Superintendent's personal characteristics must include integrity, understanding and humility. As the trusted custodian of much of the course's property and future, the Superintendent's integrity will dictate that he must do what is good for the course, not what may seem best for his personal interests. He must have an understanding of the golfer's feelings, which enables him to accept blame for missed putts, lost balls and "unplayable" lies.

Working with the forces of nature  
Continued on Next Page

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### **The Golf Course Superintendent Cont.**

tends to instill a great sense of humility in most men, and consequently requires that they be flexible in their planning and actions. Superintendents know full well that their best planning can easily be altered or reversed by a natural phenomenon such as drought, flood, insects or disease. Therefore, he will continue with his original plan as long as possible, keeping in mind that the need to react immediately is ever present.

Add to these qualifications the knowledge required to deal with the problems related to roadways, trees, flowers, buildings, tennis courts, skeet ranges or other maintenance phases of a golf course, and it becomes more apparent that the Golf Course Superintendent carries a tremendous responsibility in presenting pleasurable recreation facilities.

### **The Superintendent's Responsibility**

Because of widely differing circumstances in which the Golf Course Superintendent works, it is difficult to fully itemize his professional responsibilities.

Local conditions and factors, ranging from the geographic-climate location and number of holes to the history and organization of each course must be considered whenever a Golf Course Superintendent's responsibilities are discussed. Naturally, there are many common areas of responsibility for all Superintendents,

but there are also many localized aspects.

A commonly held misconception is that the Golf Course Superintendent is always directly responsible to the clubhouse manager or the golf professional for the management of the golf course playing area. In fact, these three parties are usually individually responsible for their distinct areas of management, which when combined will result in the total operation of the clubhouse facilities, pro shop and golf course.

On most courses, there will be committees which establish policy as it pertains to each segment of the total facility operation. Thus, the Golf Course Superintendent would respond to the general policy, guidance and suggestions of the "green committee." In addition, the Superintendent's areas of responsibility would include:

1. Golf Course Management (the entire playing surface of the course, to include all tees, fairways, roughs, greens and surrounding areas).
2. Area Management (entrance roads, parking lots, practice putting green and driving range).
3. Landscaping (planning, planting and removal).
4. Structures (buildings, fences, bridges and shelters).
5. Equipment (purchase, storage, inventory and maintenance).
6. Personnel (working staff, procure-

Continued on Page 16

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## ®DASANIT nematicide

Broadcast DASANIT 15% Granular for season-long control of microscopic "eel-worm" nematodes that destroy turf root systems; cause grass seedlings to wither and die. Thorough watering leaches it into root zone for maximum control.

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## The Golf Course Superintendent Cont. ment, training and supervising).

7. Materials (purchase, storage, inventory and application).
8. Budget (preparation, explanation and execution).
9. Record Keeping (expenses, weather, material application and inventories).
10. Knowledge of Golf (participation, rules and regulations).
11. Reporting and Advising (periodic contact with "green committee" and golfers).

As stated before, the specific responsibilities of a Golf Course Superintendent will vary greatly; however, in general terms, it is the Superintendent's main responsibility to ensure that the golfer is provided the finest possible playing conditions and surroundings. The methods utilized may differ, but the common goal will not.

### The Superintendent's Requirements

While golf courses may vary in their business practices of accounting, purchasing, personnel and finances, and one Superintendent may approach his responsibilities differently from another, there are basic established tenets which should exist if the Superintendent is to perform to the best of his capabilities.

Perhaps the most important requirement is that of a Superintendent having complete opportunities to assist and advise in the planning stages of major

programs. Although many good ideas pertaining to potential changes in the course will originate informally, they can best reach material accomplishment under the guidance of a well coordinated committee and Superintendent. Unfortunately, thousands of dollars are wasted and much dissatisfaction caused by unwise changes that were planned and decided upon without the full knowledge of the Superintendent. Making the most of a Superintendent's skill and knowledge has proven to be the most successful and efficient manner of operating a golf course.

Another requirement that is advantageous to both the course and the Superintendent is to have an agreed upon long-term golf course development program that will provide for continuity. By establishing reasonable time-related objectives for major course improvements and then establishing a procedure which will afford the Superintendent the means of implementing that program, one can anticipate a definite improvement pattern.

Opportunity for continuing education is another area that is becoming more and more expected by the Superintendent. Because the profession is so dynamic, Superintendents will anticipate attending conferences and meetings where the results of current research findings are reported and explained. In addition to two and

Continued on Next Page



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### The Golf Course Superintendent Cont.

four-year college turfgrass programs, a great number of educational opportunities are offered to members of local, regional and national turfgrass associations. Membership in these professional organizations is becoming more valuable to the Superintendent as through those organizations he learns that experiences and problem solving methods are exchanged for the betterment of both the individual and the course.

Because a Superintendent's reputation and satisfaction depend largely upon the condition of his course and the pleasure derived by the golfers, he will welcome suggestions directed toward the improvement of the course. However, one should not lose sight of the fact that the Superintendent is the technical expert on golf course management, and that those phases of the operation should be placed directly in his hands.

Continued on Next Page

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### The Golf Course Superintendent Cont.

Cooperation and coordination are key words whenever a Superintendent's requirements are being discussed. Although he cannot rely upon the cooperation of the weather or other natural elements, he should be able to depend upon his employer and golfers. As stated earlier, flexibility is a necessity for the Golf Course Superintendent, but for the sake of a high quality course, all concerned should cooperate and coordinate with one another.

### SUMMARY

A man of many hats, the Golf Course Superintendent is required to be versed in agronomy, horticulture, entomology, plant pathology, landscape architecture, construction, accounting, meteorology, civil engineering and mechanics, as well as public and labor relations.

The Superintendent's qualifications, responsibilities and requirements will vary tremendously from course to course, but the basic aspects will always be present in one form or another. Dedicated to the ideal of producing the highest quality playing conditions, in the most efficient and economical manner, the Golf Course Superintendent will endeavor to accomplish that ideal regardless of any diversity he may face.

Being cognizant of the Golf Course Superintendent's qualifications, responsibilities and requirements should ultimately result in a greater understanding and appreciation of the game of golf and the importance of the Superintendent's role. In reality, the game can progress only as rapidly as the Golf Course Superintendent's profession realizes greater heights and is given full opportunity to implement its specialty.

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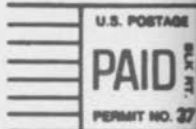
Sweeping Width .....	60 in.
Pick-Up .....	Mechanical, 2 reels-counter-rotating rubber fingers.
Frame .....	Rugged angular steel, all welded joints.
Hopper .....	Hinged to power head, angular steel frame, galvanized steel skin riveted to frame.
Capacity .....	5 cu. yds.
Dumping .....	Self dumping, activated by three point hitch.
Bearings .....	Sealed and self-aligning.
Gear Box .....	Heavy duty, 45 hp.
Universals .....	Heavy duty.
Drive to Reels .....	Chain (60) runs in lubricant.
Reel Timing .....	Chain: connects reels for counter-rotating interlocking feature.
Wheels .....	Castor type—rear.
Tires .....	Pneumatic, 16 x 6.50—8 (2).
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