We have separate sets of cards for three, four, five, or six mowers.

The benefits of the cards are that we leave nothing to chance (either due to the fault of the supervisor or the employee) and we are saving time and materials by not producing a hand written note each morning.

To produce the cards my office manager created a template in Microsoft Word. After printing a sheet of the cards we use a laminating machine to seal the paper. The cards measure two by three inches so the final step is to cut the cards to size with a paper cutter. Our only significant cost was the initial purchase of a small laminating machine and a paper cutter.

While we feel the routes provide a consistent workload for each operator, in an attempt to provide variety and have a little fun with the crew, we often allow the operators “to pick a card” without seeing the route they are choosing. Between uses, the cards are stored in an index card storage box.

By Darren J. Davis

Pick a card! Any card!

Like many golf courses, the order in which we cut our greens is well defined with only a few exceptions. For us, the practice green is always first and then, depending on whether we are trying to get both sides ready at once or just the front nine, we have a set route we want the operators to follow. The only additional variable that comes into play is how many employees we have available based on the schedule for that particular morning.

With rare exception, we utilize from three to six people each morning to cut greens. Rather than writing the desired route on the assignment board, or hand writing a note each day, we have prepared “semi-permanent” cards that dictate the order in which we want the operators to cut.

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