**Fescues add flair, savings to more courses**

*By Mark Leslie*

Texture. Accent. Words from golf course architects that speak to the usefulness of fescue grasses.

Drought-tolerant. Low-maintenance. Descriptions from course superintendents that tell why fescues—predominantly on Scottish links for 200 years—have found new life on American courses.

You could say fescues have been rediscovered.

David Whelchel, senior design associate at Hurdzan Design Group in Columbus, Ohio, said: “We’re using both fine and tall fescues in the rough areas of a lot of golf courses. A lot of people are doing that in the North. We use fescues because they require little or no maintenance, irrigation or fertilization. They are very environmentally compatible.

---

**Chewings fescue grass varieties evaluated in national test report**

*Name* | *AL1* | *A1* | *JD2* | *IJ1* | *II2* | *IN1* | *1K1* | *MD1* | *M11* | *MN1E1* | *N1* | *N2* | *NJ1* | *NP1* | *PA1* | *R1* | *SK1* | *Ub1* | *WA1* | *Mean*
PST-4CD | 5.6 | 7.7 | 7.1 | 3.8 | 4.8 | 3.8 | 6.3 | 4.4 | 6.3 | 6.3 | 6.0 | 4.1 | 5.4 | 2.5 | 6.2 | 5.7 | 4.3 | 4.4 | 5.1 | 5.5 | 5.8 | 5.8 | 5.9 |
Bridgeport | 5.0 | 7.7 | 6.9 | 4.6 | 5.2 | 4.2 | 5.8 | 4.5 | 5.8 | 6.1 | 5.6 | 4.3 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 5.1 | 6.1 | 5.7 | 4.3 | 4.2 | 5.4 | 5.8 | 6.0 | 5.5 |
Lonske | 5.3 | 7.2 | 6.9 | 4.3 | 5.8 | 4.2 | 5.0 | 4.6 | 6.2 | 6.3 | 6.0 | 4.2 | 5.0 | 5.6 | 5.1 | 6.1 | 5.8 | 4.5 | 3.7 | 5.3 | 5.6 | 6.2 | 5.5 |
68 LKR | 5.8 | 4.5 | 5.1 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.4 | 5.6 | 6.0 | 4.2 | 4.9 | 5.9 | 4.7 | 5.0 | 4.8 | 4.7 | 4.3 | 4.9 | 4.0 | 5.9 | 5.0 | 5.4 |
Janestown II | 5.3 | 7.3 | 6.3 | 4.6 | 5.1 | 3.9 | 6.0 | 4.9 | 6.5 | 6.3 | 5.9 | 5.3 | 4.9 | 5.4 | 5.6 | 5.0 | 4.9 | 4.6 | 4.8 | 4.7 | 5.3 | 5.4 |
Southport | 5.0 | 7.6 | 6.3 | 4.2 | 4.9 | 4.1 | 5.8 | 4.0 | 6.0 | 6.6 | 5.6 | 4.9 | 5.7 | 5.4 | 5.0 | 6.0 | 5.4 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 4.7 | 5.3 | 6.2 | 5.4 |
SR 500 | 5.4 | 7.4 | 7.2 | 4.3 | 5.3 | 3.7 | 5.2 | 4.7 | 5.8 | 4.3 | 5.6 | 4.7 | 5.9 | 4.0 | 5.6 | 4.3 | 4.3 | 3.8 | 4.1 | 4.6 | 5.9 | 5.7 | 5.3 |
Proponent | 5.4 | 7.4 | 6.9 | 4.8 | 4.0 | 4.1 | 5.4 | 4.5 | 6.3 | 6.4 | 4.9 | 4.3 | 5.1 | 5.1 | 5.8 | 5.1 | 4.7 | 3.8 | 5.1 | 5.5 | 5.3 | 5.5 |
LSD Value | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.2 |

---

**Setting up is so very easy to do**

*By Terry Buchen*

Setting up the golf course as the architect intended it to be played can be accomplished much easier with a hole location chart and corresponding tee marker placement arrangement.

Dividing each green into nine sections— in other words, three in front, three in the middle, three in the rear—and numbering each section differently will greatly diversify how the course is played. It will equalize left, right and middle placement of shots.

This will help ensure the course is set up equally for all types of players. Having nine positions on each green will also scatter foot traffic, which pleases the superintendent, and use the entire putting surface, which pleases the golfer.

The endowment is a transformation of the former Turfgrass Research and Extension Fund established in 1980. The change provides a more predictable and permanent source of supplemental funding for the program.

The endowment is a transformation of the former Turfgrass Research and Extension Fund established in 1980. The change provides a more predictable and permanent source of supplemental funding for the program.

Terry Baughman of Raleigh, president of the Turfgrass Council of North Carolina, made the announcement at a luncheon at Prestwold Country Club.

Also recognized was the independently established Zucker Turfgrass Scholarship Endowment, a $100,000 scholarship funding being created by the owners of Outdoor Equipment Distributors of Raleigh, and other companies and individuals as well as the Turfgrass Council of North Carolina and its members.

Larry Baugh, NCSCU chancellor, an avid, low handicap golfer, said: “I have seen and very much appreciate the dramatic improvement in our golf course and other turf areas the past 30 years, a direct result of the turfgrass industry. You have provided many great pleasures in my life.”

Dr. Durward F. Bateman, dean of the College of Agriculture, said turfgrass majors are one of the largest groups at the college. The endowment has many great pleasures in my life.”

North Carolina State University Chancellor Larry K. Monteith signs the $700,000 endowment papers.

*Continued on page 16*
Setting up is so easy to do
Continued from page 11

When hosting a special tournament, the superintendent can mark on another chart the hole location planned for that event, deviating from the normal routine.

Also, variations of the chart can be done by the superintendent simply by changing the placement of the nine numbers on each green.

TEE MARKERS

Having the portable tee markers correspond with the hole placements will provide the player with approximately the same yardage day in and day out.

If the hole is in the back left, then the tee markers should be near the front, providing equal wear on the teeing grounds similarly to the putting surfaces.

Some superintendents prefer not to have the course play the same yardage every day but still have a system of changing tee markers in an orderly routine.

THE GREAT DEBATE

How many times have you heard a player, usually after a bad round, say “That hole location is illegal”? There is no such thing as an illegal hole location. The key element is “Are the locations fair?”

The USGA has no rules, only recommendations and guidelines for selection of hole location.

The USGA recommends the hole be at least five paces from any edge. A “pace” is not defined but generally construed to be about one yard.

During tournament play, holes are sometimes located less than 15 feet from the edge of the greens. No rule prevents this. Hole locations need only be fair.

The area surrounding the hole should be as level as possible, for about two-to-three-foot radius. A player whose ball is above the hole should be able to stop the ball at the hole. So avoid steep slopes that could be construed as “tricking up the course.”

ATTENTION TO DETAIL

If a hole liner is used, it shall be sunk at least one inch below the putting surface unless the nature of the soil makes that impractical. It is an art to set the hole liner exactly as level as possible, for about two-to three-foot radius. A hole liner should be able to stop the ball at the hole, so avoid steep slopes that could be construed as “tricking up the course.”

DECISIONS, DECISIONS

In the USGA Rules of Golf, Rule 16-la states: “Repair of Hole Plugs, Ball Marks and Other Damage.”

The player may repair an old hole plug or damage to the putting green caused by the impact of a ball, whether or not the player’s ball lies on the putting green. If the ball is moved in the process of such repair, it shall be replaced, without penalty. Any other damage to the putting green shall not be repaired if it might assist the player in his subsequent play of the hole.

In the “USGA 1992 Decisions on the Rules of Golf” there is further clarification of hole locations:

Decision 16-4 — Hole-liner Not Sunk Deep Enough.

Q: Players discover that a hole-liner is not sunk at least one inch below the putting green surface as prescribed in the Definition of “Hole.” What should they do?

A: The players should call the matter to the attention of a committee member if one is present. If feasible, the committee member should attempt to have the fault corrected.

However, the players must not discontinue play in the meantime, because correction might not be possible and, if possible, might take considerable time.

Decision 16-6 — Cutting Hole on Slope

Q: If a new hole is to be located in a part of a putting green having a gentle slope, should the hole be cut vertically or should it be cut at a slight angle to take the slope into consideration? If the hole is cut vertically, all points on the rim of the hole-liner will not be equidistant from the surface of the green.

A: The hole should be cut vertically, regardless of slope.

It is not required that all points on the rim of the hole-liner be equidistant from the surface of the green, but they should be at least one inch below the surface (see Definition of “Hole”).

Decision 16-la/6 — Damaged Hole; Procedure for Player

Q: Prior to putting, a player discovers that the hole has been damaged. What is the proper procedure?

A: If the damage is clearly identifiable as a ball mark, the player may repair it. If the damage is not clearly identifiable as a ball mark, then:

(a) If the damage is such that the proper dimensions of the hole have not been changed materially, the player should continue play without repairing the hole. If he touches the hole in such circumstances, a breach of Rule 16-la occurs.

(b) If the proper dimensions of the hole have been changed materially, the player should request the committee to have the hole repaired.

If a Committee Member is not readily available, the player may repair the damage, without penalty.

If a player repairs a materially damaged hole when a committee member is readily available, he incurs a penalty for breach of Rule 16-la. (Revised)