Wash racks: New lessons from the Old Course

By TERRY BUCHEN

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland — As the world’s first golf course, The Old Course at St. Andrews offers golf purists the opportunity of a lifetime to come and play, observe and appreciate “The Home of Golf.” On every teeing ground, a golf ball washer stand is situated near the middle tee markers to help steer golfers in the right direction to the tee that is used by the majority of players.

The stand is a simple and elegant rectangle made of wood, which is treated with a wood preservative to help protect it from the elements and the occasional irrigation cycle when it is needed.

The wooden stand is mounted on four metal legs, making it quite portable. It is usually positioned near the middle teeing ground for easy access, while helping to scatter foot and pull cart traffic as well. The golf ball washer is a simple but effective design:

• a wooden paddle, with a notch in it to hold one golf ball;
• replaceable brushes on either side; and
• a chain to keep the paddle from being removed.

The washer compartment holds an ample supply of water, which is diluted with a non-slippery detergent.

This is replaced as needed, sometimes as often as onces a week.

The trash collector is quite effective. A metal grate, which is hinged on one side, opens like a door to keep the trash from blowing away in the ever-present winds at this golf Mecca.

Each stand lists the hole number, par and yardage. Also included is one of the most famous aspects of The Old Course; each hole has its own distinct name, which corresponds to the scorecard as well. Diagrams of each golf hole are not wanted since golfers who have played the course can explain to the “first-timers” how to play each hole, adding to the spirit, friendship and camaraderie that golf has to offer.

Grosso Heads Conn. Chapter

BALTIC, Conn. — Anthony Grossi of Pautipaug Country Club here has been elected president, heading a new slate of officers of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

Grossi, who succeeded John Napier of Stanly Golf Course in New Britain, is joined by Vice President Brian Skelly of Old Lyme (Conn.) Country Club, Secretary Judy Smith of Orange Hills Country Club in Orange and Treasurer Peter Pierson of Pequabuck (Conn.) Golf Club.

Elected to two-year terms as directors were Peter Curr of Crestbrook Park Golf Club in Watertown, Dan Rackliffe of Longshore Club Park in Westport and Wayne Urban of Farmingbury Hills Country Club of Wolcott.

Continuing on the board as directors are Dennis Houle of Redding (Conn.) Country Club, Les Kennedy Jr. of Country Club of Waterbury, John Motycka of Skunganuma River Golf Club in Coventry and commercial representative Owen Regan of Tee and Green Sod, Inc., in Exeter, R.I. Napier will continue on the board as immediate past president.