Pretty Damn Important

Congratulations on your recent article on PDI (February). It was both informative and neutral — not easily attained with such a controversial subject.

PDI could be a wonderful program as long as it’s available to all members. When I reflect back on my own career, I have ridden the roller coaster of career highs and lows. I was a superintendent at two separate golf courses for 13 years after graduating from the Penn State University turf program. I desperately wanted to move up into bigger jobs, but I just wasn’t postured for those positions. Then Paul Latshaw (the superintendent at Augusta National at the time) threw me a rope, and I became his assistant. My career path has changed ever since. With all I learned from Paul and working at Augusta, I was able to explore and reach plateaus that I had only dreamed of.

Not many people are as fortunate as me. I would like to think that PDI could be the rope that helps good superintendents at obscure, low-budget clubs reach their dreams and high plateaus. If I had my way, I would ensure that every superintendent at every golf course in the world has this opportunity. I realize that’s a bold statement; however, I believe it is just as bold that some of our superintendents are loving your stuff. Keep up the good work.

Jerry Whiteaker
Superintendent, Myrtle Creek GC
Myrtle Creek, Ore.

Feel like going postal? We want to hear from you. You can e-mail your letters to Pat Jones at patrick.jones@advanstar.com, fax to 440-891-2675 or send them via snail mail to: 7500 Old Oak Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44130. Make sure to include your name and phone number for verification. Letters may be edited for length or relevance.

We Messed Up

Ted Cox Jr., superintendent at Running Fox GC, was misidentified as a certified superintendent in Golfdom’s February issue, which he is not. Also, Paul Illgen is the superintendent at Rolling Oaks GC at World Woods in Brockville, Fla. We mistakenly identified Quinn Kuite as the superintendent in the March issue. While Kuite was superintendent when the story, “Practice Facility Makes Near Perfect,” was written, he left World Woods soon after.

ASSOCIATIONS

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National Golf Course Owners Association 1470 BEN SAWYER BLVD., SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85258; 480-881-9956; WWW.NGCOA.ORG

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Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment 1156 15TH ST NW, SUITE 400, WASHINGTON, DC 20005; 202-872-3960; WWW.PESTFACTS.ORG

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