DURING MINNESOTA LPGA CLASSIC

Tom Fischer, Staff Draw Accolades for Work At Edinburgh U.S.A.

Edinburgh U.S.A. advertises itself as a municipal golf course with championship playing conditions. That’s one claim that you can definitely take to the bank.

In Tom Fischer’s eight-year tenure at this fine golf facility, you can see the great pride he takes in hosting such a fine LPGA event. The Classic has completed its fourth year, and it is continually getting stronger. This year the addition of a corporate village, and a most awesome skybox overlooking the incredible 17th hole, really added to the growth of this tournament site.

Once again, as with past tournaments, it was up to the grounds staff at Edinburgh U.S.A. to put up all the scoreboards, set up the ropes, take care of “ecology” and still maintain the golf course to championship levels during the course of the golfing season. Monday came, and it was business as usual for Tom and his staff. The only difference is that the ropes put up had to come down as well as the scoreboards.

In talking with Jane Reynolds, LPGA tournament official, it was clearly evident that her experience with the staff at Edinburgh has been an extremely good one. When asked to sum up here experiences with this site, she said, “I wish we could take Tom Fischer with us to all of our sites. He’s extremely well-organized and just a super person to work with. That makes our job a lot more enjoyable.”

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moved Wednesday evening, and greens had also been mowed once that evening.

With a multitude of mowers out mowing greens, aprons and fairways, everything was coming into shape, again! The greens were stimping at a smooth 10’6”, with no signs of stress anywhere to be seen. Of course, during the preparation of any tournament, little gremlins do find a way of trying to mess up your day. These bothersome little creatures even show up weeks prior to the tournament. When the USGA accidentally forgot to bring the tournament flags, it was not acceptable to have just a yellow flag sitting atop the flagstick. Katterheinrich immediately contacted MGCSA member, Steve Garske, president of Par Aide Golf Products Company, to come up with a flag that would symbolize the importance of the 34th Walker Cup Competition.

In the final analysis, the playing conditions at Interlachen are some of the finest anywhere within North America. The grounds were maintained exclusively by Interlachen’s excellent grounds department. Many of the media and the players gave rave reviews of the golf course. U.S. player Tim Herron from Wayzata said “The greens were great... soft, and pure.” George MacGregor of the GBI team said after Wednesday morning’s rain, “The course was absolutely playable... If the weather had an effect, it was the waiting... I certainly wouldn’t use that as an excuse.”

—Dale Wysocki