The first signs of a rapidly approaching autumn season are beginning to rear their heads. There has always been one favored Sugar Maple that always starts to turn a scarlet red during the last week of July. This year it started to turn on July 16th. This, along with the upcoming MGCSA Championship and reports of golf courses getting their aerifiers ready for action are definite signs of autumn.

However, regardless of what the signs are, there is still the calendar that states August, September and October are there to deal with before the turf goes into a well-protected dormancy. We also have to think about what this year did to our turf and how we are going to go about rejuvenating it so when it goes in to winter, it is healthy and hardened off. With a couple months left in the season there certainly is quite a lot to think about.

The Stodola Research Scramble is going to be played at Hazeltine National Golf Club. Mind you that later that week the USGA will be utilizing Hazeltine's fine layout for the U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship. This also is a chance to get your club president, greens chair and club manager or other assorted club board members to get out with you and see what the MGCSA is all about.

In addition, this is a prime time to discuss how MGCSA-supported research affects your club's playability and how it is important not only to yourself, but also to the golfing members that MGCSA meetings are a chance to channel education into a very busy month of golf course management. Remember the Stodola Research Scramble is not a competition to win it all, but rather a chance to reflect on your professionalism. When signing up, think of your professional status within.

GCSAA Board of Directors Announces New Trade Show Policies

The board of directors of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has announced the implementation of several new policies for the association's International Golf Course Conference and Show.

Before being presented to the board for approval, the policies were reviewed by GCSAA's Industrial Advisory Council (IAC). The new policies are:

- Prior approval is now required for exhibitors planning guest appearances, promotional giveaways and contest to ensure that these events are appropriate for all attendees.
- All exhibitors at GCSAA's trade show must have goods and services that relate to the golf course management industry.
- Guest hall vouchers have been eliminated but a more attractive trade show-only pass will be offered.
- Spouses of attendees, distributors and exhibitors will be allowed on the trade show floor at no charge.

"These policies will help ensure a more professional atmosphere at our biggest annual event," said GCSAA President Joseph G. Baidy, CGCS. "The board appreciates the assistance provided by the IAC in developing these new policies."