Hole Notes

141 Members Attend MGCSA Mini-Seminar

Hillcrest Superintendent Mike Brower set up a solid program for this year’s MGCSA Mini-Seminar which was held on March 9 at the Park Place Doubletree Hotel in St. Louis Park.

Attended by 141 members, the seminar was both entertaining and educational. “If each person in attendance left with new ideas or practices that they can utilize this golf season, then the seminar was a success,” said Brower, and added “I believe this was accomplished because of the worthwhile speakers we had.”

Lee Mangum began the program by presenting a clear picture for us regarding the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System.

Minikahda’s Doug Mahal and Jeff Johnson took stage next. Mahal gave a wonderful history of The Minikahda Club which included vintage slides of the early years. Mahal also talked about improvements to the course which took place in the past 10 years.

Lee Mangum began the program off by presenting a clear picture of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program.

Jeff Johnson then gave an overview of current and completed projects at Minikahda with regard to the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System.

A presentation by Matt Giese consisted of a complete analysis of the chemistry, field research and potential of a new fungicide called Heritage.

Local amateur golf legend John Harris, a 3-time Walker Cup team member, offered his opinions on course conditioning and how that affects the playability of golf courses. Harris compared everyday conditions to tournament conditions. The former national amateur champion looks at course conditions from the green back to the tee adding emphasis to the moisture level of greens. John stated that he’d rather play on a dry, hard green rolling at nine versus an 11.5 stimp meter reading on a soft green.

Jeff Knutson, with assistance from Mike Kelly, Mitch Fossey and Pete Felland, gave an update on the construction of the new Troy Burne Golf Course near Hudson, Wis. Included in the presentation was construction of a man-made creek, irrigation ponds, unique pumping station, use of A-4 variety bentgrass on the greens and key.

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