

PEER-TO-PEER: BETTER TURF THROUGH NETWORKING

MGCSA Superintendents were asked: What is the policy at your course regarding Employee Play?

At Tanners, we allow employees to play Mon - Fri at anytime as long as there is an open tee time available. They will be treated as a paying customer and carts are available for \$10 for 18. On weekends, they may not make a tee time before noon. As for caddies, I sprayed for them along time ago and haven't seen them since.

- Kevin Clunis CGCS
Tanners Brook GC
Forest Lake

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We don't have caddies but I do encourage employees to play golf. Some play in golf leagues which has been a great communication tool. Those particular employees are good golfers and can answer some questions from golfers on maintenance practices. The only restriction is to use common sense on weekends so as not to take up prime tee times. They are reminded that they should set an example on the course in regard to rules, etc..

- Tom Johnson
New Richmond GC
New Richmond, WI

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Employee play is critical to the success of our operation. My operators in season are primarily retirees who do an outstanding job but aren't doing it for \$8.50 an hour- they are doing it for the ability to play a solid course for free once or twice a week. I also have weekend only guys who do every other weekend for range and golf privileges. The cart staff and rangers, etc. have the same deal but don't seem to get in our way very often. I can honestly say we don't have any abusers here at Prestwick and the pro shop does a good job of managing employee play. They fit them in on the tee sheet as they seem fit. It works here, and as long as rules are set and communication is solid between maintenance and the pro shop there are few issues.

- Dave Kazmierczak
Prestwick GC
Woodbury

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We've been having issues with caddy play (Thursday's before member play) over the past couple of seasons. My recommendation has been to allow them to play in the evenings, this way they won't



(literally) dig up our greens, and since they don't fix ball marks or rake bunkers-well, at least we can prepare the course prior to member play the following day. Does the forwarded email from my pro sound accurate? How do you then spray, or conduct course maintenance if caddies are able to play Monday AM's? We are closed Monday's AM prior to our weekly outings, which allows us to spray, top-dress, etc. Also, does anyone monitor the caddies when they play (conduct/course etiquette)?

- Ben Just
Midland Hills Country Club
St. Paul



DEFENDING CHAMPION
David L. Johnson

Monday, September 8

MGCSA CHAMPIONSHIP

The Minikahda Club, Minneapolis

Host Superintendent: Jeff Johnson

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