



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Take a Break to Attend the PGA Championship

By Richard B. (Rick) Traver, CGCS

Is anyone else tired of hearing about Brett Favre? I have been a Viking fan since I could walk. I even remember having to listen to one of the Super Bowls they were in on our family stereo console we had in our living room. You know (well if you remember black and white TV) that big radio/phonograph thing with the speakers everyone had. I had to listen to it because our antenna blew down in a snowstorm and my mean old dad wasn't about to climb up on the roof in a snowstorm to fix it.

Anyway, whether you would like Favre to be a Vike or not, it is getting pretty old listening to the story or reading about the same stuff in the paper. Hopefully, by the time you get this copy of *Hole Notes* the issue will be resolved and we will have the answer to the million-dollar question. After all this hype he better become a Viking and stay healthy enough to last the season. Thanks for letting me vent.

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I have talked about this in the past, but it does bear repeating. We would like anyone who hasn't done so yet to take the opportunity to renew your phosphorus certification. Even if you plan on following a fertilizer program with no phosphorus, please renew your certification. All that is needed from you is to read a short article on line at www.mgcsa.org and then respond on line that you read the article. The whole process is very painless, but it is extremely important to the MGCSA, MTGF and MNLA, as it was a mode of handling a hot issue with the legislation. If we can prove to the legislators that we can self regulate, it will help us to continue to get written out of some upcoming regulatory bills. If you are participating, encourage others to do so as well.

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I hope all of you plan on attending the PGA Championship at Hazeltine National Golf Club, August 13-16. I am sure Jim Nicol, his crew and volunteers will present the course in great shape. Given vacations and job responsibilities here, I was unable to help on the crew, but my heart and pride will be with everyone as Minnesota once again is in the media spotlight. I hope to see you there!

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Thanks again to Jeff Girard and his crew at Stoneridge Golf Club. What a beautiful golf course. It was in great shape and the weather could not have been any better. Members enjoyed a wonderful day for the MGCSA Harold Stodola Research Scramble.

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I am going to take this opportunity to plug the Field Day at the U of M. Field Day is being held on September 10. Look for fliers in the mail. I have had the opportunity to attend this event the last couple of years and it is really amazing all the work that is being done at the TROE Center and the adjacent turf plots. If you can work it into your schedule, please do, it will be well worth your time.

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It looks like we are going to have quite a few changes to the bylaws coming up at the next annual meeting. As I mentioned in a previous column, we approved a position on the board for the Class C members. This caused a review of the bylaws and while we made changes in the past, we may not have been as thorough as we could have been. For example -- and just and example -- changing Section I paragraph C was fine except it affected Section II paragraph B, however the second change to make it all consistent didn't occur. We will send out more info with the changes to explain what is taking place. I'm just giving everyone a heads up.

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I hope everyone is having a great season and that the rains are timely. If you need anything or have any questions please give me a call.

-Respectfully Rick Traver

HOLE NOTES

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