



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Word on the Street is Minimal Damage to Courses

By Paul Diegnau, CGCS

I would imagine the majority of golf courses will be open by the time you read this column. Let us hope for a warm spring with adequate moisture for a change of pace. Word on the streets is that most courses came out of winter with very little damage. If you did have issues with snow mold, UW-Madison once again conducted extensive snow mold fungicide trials in Wisconsin, Michigan and at the Legacy at Cragun's Resort in Brainerd, Minnesota. With the intense snow mold pressure this past winter these trials should clearly show winners and losers. Results will be published in the August issue of *Hole Notes*.

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The first March Mega-Seminar, sponsored by Syngenta, was a solid success. Attendees were treated to quite an assortment of information on sustainable golf course management practices, winter injury, and establishing and maintaining no-mows and native areas on the golf course. Special thanks to the Superintendents that participated in the panel discussion and helped make it the success it was. I hope that with continued participation from our membership we can offer additional panel discussions in the future.

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The Garske Legacy Scholarships and the MGCSA Legacy Scholarships are available again this year; forms must be in by June 1 and can be found at www.mgcsa.org. Over the past several years, very few applications have been submitted for the MGCSA Scholarship. If you are a member of our association with children in post-secondary education, check it out!

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Other events to be aware of in the near future:

- **The MGCSA Spring Mixer** will be held at Eastwood GC in Rochester on May 26. Keep in mind that this and the fall mixer are intended for the Assistant Golf Course Superintendents, though ALL are welcome.
- **Vendor Appreciation Day** is Wednesday, May 12 at Midland Hills CC. Remember to thank our vendor members for their support of our Association. Without their support and event sponsorship our Association would be compromised.
- **The MGA Forum** will be held this year on April 29 at Midland Hills CC. Presenters will be Dr. Brian Horgan and Bob Vavrek. Topics will be "The Latest Issues Facing Golf Course Turfgrass" and "What Kind of Maintenance Practices Clubs Did Last Year to Save Money."
- **This will be the last issue of *Hole Notes*** for those members that have not paid 2010 dues.

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On a closing note, look for a water usage fee increase if your golf course is located within the 11 county metro area. In addition to the base fee of \$140 and the June, July, and August charge, you will be charged .0008 cents for every gallon of water you pump for the entire season. The fees collected from this new "user fee" will supposedly be used to fund a program for monitoring the groundwater quantity and quality of non-stressed aquifer systems in the 11-county metropolitan area. This bill is currently working its way through the Minnesota legislature and should pass without obstruction.

Have a great spring!
- Paul Diegnau, CGCS

HOLE NOTES

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Editor
Jack MacKenzie, CGCS
jmackenzie426@msn.com

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MGCSA OFFICE
AND HOLE NOTES OFFICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Scott Turtinen
P. O. Box 617
Wayzata, MN 55391
952-473-2582 Fax: 952-473-2586
Toll Free: 1-800-642-7227
scott@mgcsa.org

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