



# Presidential Perspective

by Scottie Hines CGCS

As I have learned over the years, the time from the March Mega to opening day seems to just fly by. Here we are, March 13, it is 65 degrees. It's more like May 13! I am sure everyone has fielded the requisite phone call or e-mail asking about an early opening. After last years painful start to the season I hope everyone is looking as good turf-wise as Windsong. Heck, I can't even find vole damage or any minor snow mold! Mother Nature owes us one after last year!

On the verge of another great golf season in Minnesota I would like to wish everyone all the best for a successful year. The economy seems to be picking up, slowly, but still in a positive direction. If this continues we will, hopefully, get back to where we were before the budget cuts and staff reductions kicked in. I have my fingers crossed.

There are some exciting things happening within the Association. Jack MacKenzie continues to do an excellent job as our Executive Director. I know he is very busy. I am not sure he knew exactly what he was getting into but every time we chat he is very enthusiastic and determined to make us, the MGCSA, shine. The Communications Committee has been working on the new website. Hole Notes continues to get better and better. It is a great time to be a part of the MGCSA BOD's with the renewed enthusiasm and direction.

For the first time in many years, the BOD's will be recommending a candidate to the MGA Hall of Fame to have one of our own inducted. It is nice to see that we, the superintendents, are being recognized at that level in our own state. Stay tuned for an update on the candidate and the results of the Hall of Fame selection process.

Enjoy the warm spell. It will be nice to get a jump on a few things on the course before opening. I don't think this will last, but it sure feels good. The one draw back of these early warm spells is the next bout of snow will seem ten times worse!

Again, best of luck in 2012!

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