Here's a Hole-by-Hole View of The Preserve

By MIKE BOHNENSTINGL
Superintendent, The Preserve

The challenging Preserve golf course, site of the 1997 Stodola Research Scramble at Grand View Lodge on September 14, opened for play last August and clearly is developing into another Brainerd Lakes area golfing gem.

Somewhat similar to The Pines at Grand View Lodge, it also has many of its own characteristics which make it a joy to play.

Built through a picturesque forest on 240 acres, this par 72 course has attractive rolling hills with 75 feet of change in elevation, 14 elevated tees, 36 sand traps and 40 acres of wetland.

The Preserve has bent grass greens, tees and fairways and offers multiple sets of tees which vary from 4,816 to 6,920 yards.

1 502 Yards Par 5
Great starting hole. Elevated tee shot to a fairway carved through trees. Fairway doglegs slightly right to an uphill green tucked back in the trees. Green is reachable in two for long hitters, but is protected in front by bunkers.

2 134 Yards Par 3
Kidney-shaped green protected front left by huge bunker. Terrain to the back and right of green slopes severely away, so club selection is critical to avoid overshooting green. A smaller bunker on the backside will save a few errant long shots.

3 375 Yards Par 4
Elevated tee shot to fairway protected on both sides by bunkers. Fairway doglegs slightly left to a small green guarded on left side by a bunker. A good drive is rewarded with a short approach shot, but accuracy is needed to avoid the sloped banks on either side of the green.

4 335 Yards Par 4
The shot over small wetland through narrow opening in trees. Fairway is tight with trees on right and water on the left. Again a good tee shot yields a short approach to this large, elevated, undulating green.

5 437 Yards Par 4
A properly placed tee shot is critical to making par on this hole. The fairway doglegs around a small wetland on the right and stops short of a second wetland area. A tee shot through the fairway on the left could make reaching the green in two quite difficult. The approach shot is a forced carry over a 70-yard wetland to an uphill, two-level green.

6 551 Yards Par 5
An interesting hole with a blind shot off the tee. About 150 yards from the green, the fairway is separated by a narrow strip of rough. To the right of this are two small ponds, and to the left is a wetland area which comes into play and is waiting to accept any errant second shots. The green is two-tiered and is guarded on the front left by two bunkers.

7 393 Yards Par 4
An elevated tee shot to a rolling fairway. This hole has a large green which wraps around a bunker on the front left side, and has a tiered shelf in the back right corner.

8 197 Yards Par 3
Medium-length shot to a large green guarded on the front right by a horseshoe shaped bunker.

9 436 Yards Par 4
This hole doglegs right with the fairway protected on both sides by bunkers. A strip of rough separates the green from the end of the fairway and makes it necessary to carry the approach shot all the way to the elevated green. This very large green has mounding at the rear and is protected by a small pot bunker and trees on the left. Out of bounds guards the entire left side of this hole.

10 424 Yards Par 4
A great par 4 to start off the back nine. Water comes into play off all tees. This beautifully rolling fairway is cut through the trees and is protected on the right by a bunker. The elevated green is set into a hillside with water and a bunker on the right.

11 428 Yards Par 4
A good tee shot is required to clear the valley at the beginning of the fairway. The left side of the fairway is guarded by a bunker. This two tiered green is positioned diagonally to the fairway and has mounding to the left and rear with a large bunker on the front right.

12 384 Yards Par 4
This hole doglegs left with two bunkers guarding the right corner of the fairway. The inside corner of the dogleg slopes left away from the landing area. This bowl shaped green is one of the smallest on the course and is protected on the right side by a bunker.

(Continued on Page 23)
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The Preserve—
(Continued from Page 21)

13 162 Yards
Par 3
A beautiful elevated tee shot to a green that slopes slightly from left to right with a swail through the middle and a bunker on the front right.

14 287 Yards
Par 4
A short par 4 reachable off the tee for very long hitters. A spectacular view of the hole, which is carved through the trees, awaits the golfer from the upper tee location. Small elevated green is two-tiered and guarded on the front left by a small pot bunker.

15 412 Yards
Par 4
To reach the landing area on this hole, the tee shot must clear a ravine which cuts across in front of the fairway. The hole doglegs to the right with the entire right side dropping sharply to the ravine below. The green is good sized with a bunker along the right side.

16 473 Yards
Par 5
A reachable par 5 for long hitters. The hole doglegs left and has two bunkers on the right corner. Left of the hole is lined with trees, which makes cutting the corner quite risky. This large green has lots of roll to it and has a bunker along the right side.

17 171 Yards
Par 3
An elevated tee shot to a green closely guarded on three sides by bunkers. To the right of the green is a rock-lined pond which adds to the beauty of this hole.

18 519 Yards
Par 5
A great finishing hole. Once again, the elevated tees provide a wonderful view of the hole. The rolling fairway doglegs left with a bunker on the right corner. Water may come into play for any shots short and left of the green. This good-sized green is guarded on the left side by a massive bunker.
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HEAVY RAINS in the days preceding the Scholarship Scramble at Hidden Creek Golf Club made a normally small creek overflow onto the golf course. Electric carts could make it through the water but gas carts needed some help.
The Greens Committee
Meeting That Wasn’t

By ROB PANUSKA
Waseca Lakeside Country Club

As I was preparing my column for this issue, I received a phone call from a very good friend who just needed to talk. He was quite upset, almost choked up at times as he related his experience at a recent Greens Committee meeting at his course. The first words out of his mouth were “I just experienced the most unbelievable display of disrespect, personal attacks and cynical attitude I have ever seen in my 10 years at this club.” He told me that he was “bushwhacked” by a member of his committee with no warning. I asked him what the beef was all about. When he told me, all was made clear. GREEN SPEED!!! The more I listened, the more frustrated I became and asked him if I could share the conversation in Hole Notes if I maintained strict confidentiality. To my surprise he agreed and actually encouraged me to write it because he thought it might help other superintendents in the same situation.

He said green speed is something he has always struggled with at his course. Who hasn’t?? He said that for the last few weeks of cooler weather (late June, early July) the members were very satisfied with the “speed” of the greens. This was why he was so taken by the attack at the meeting in mid July. He knew that the warm weather was going to cause more rapid growth, hence making them “slower” in the afternoon but felt that the overall health of his turf was great going into a peak stress period. He told me that the initial attack came when this member said “These greens are slower than every course around here, you have to cut them shorter!!” I wish I had a dollar every time I heard that!!

He said this issue has come up before and he explains the negative side effects of mowing shorter and tried to explain what he does to keep the speed up by topdressing, grooming, verticutting, double mowing, rolling and a lean nitrogen fertility program. Without his even being able to finish the explanation the second attack was made: “That isn’t working, you better just cut them shorter!!” He told me that the entire meeting went downhill from there with more cynical remarks and zero respect for any explanations.

My response to this is: “Man, what makes these committee members think they can treat people this way?” He told me that his mistake was not standing up for himself when the member made the issue personal. “I should have said that it was obvious that this issue cannot be discussed in a professional manner at this time. I should have closed my notebook and left the meeting in a professional manner!!! I asked him what the other members of the committee were doing. He told me that a couple tried to bring the meeting “back to earth” but the majority were all totally intimidated by this member and just sat there not knowing how to respond.

He said that he called the chair of the committee, who by the way was not the one having the fit, and explained that he would never tolerate that kind of treatment from anyone again. His greens chairman agreed 100% and praised him for his professionalism and maintaining his composure during that meeting.

Every superintendent that I know, male and female, experienced or new to this profession gives 150% of themselves to their course, often at the expense of their own family life. Not one person knows their course better than the superintendent. Every course is different and needs to be managed in a unique manner. To base the management of a golf course or any part of it solely on comparisons to other courses is foolish at best! If you are serving on a greens committee and happen to read this, please, don’t yo be the member described above. Better yet, don’t just sit there intimidated as others did at my friend’s meeting, stand up for your superintendent, show him or her the professional respect they earn and deserve every day!!! ENOUGH SAID!!!

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The assistant superintendent’s duties involve supervision of golf course employees during the golfing season and golf course maintenance.
Salary: $20-25,000 (10-month position).
Benefits include:
• Dues paid for state and national associations.
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• Expenses paid for state meetings.
Inquiries should be directed to:
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To: Members/MGC SA
Applications are now being accepted for the position of HEAD SUPERINTENDENT at Moccasin Creek Country Club in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Moccasin Creek is an 18-hole, 6,600 yard, semi-private course featuring Bent greens with Blue, Rye and Poa tees and fairways. An automatic irrigation system is utilized at Moccasin Creek. The anticipated annual maintenance budget will be $240,000.
Duties include:
• Golf Course Maintenance
• Golf Course Budget
• Purchasing Responsibility
• Clubhouse Lawns
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Salary: $30,000 (negotiable—based on qualifications and experience)
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Patients with odor-triggered symptoms, meeting the case definition of multiple chemical sensitivities (MCS), continue to be seen in our institution and other health science centers (Amundsen, Mayo Clinic Dept. Intern. Med. Newsletter. 9(1) (1986)). The term MCS, unfortunately, feeds the thesis that symptoms are allergic-immune system in origin, a theory that has not withstood scientific scrutiny (American College of Physicians, Ann. Intern. Med 111, 168 – 178 (1989); Terr, Ann. Intern. Med 119, 163-164 &1993)). It has been proposed that some of these cases may be examples of classical (Pavlovian) conditioning: many MCS patients meet diagnostic criteria for psychiatric illnesses, especially mood, anxiety and somatoform disorders. Attention is turning to the complex relationship between olfactory stimulation, memory and mood (psyche) in an attempt to understand why some individuals develop odor aversion symptoms and how to best manage these, frequently, severely disabled patients. Two subjects with typical odor-triggered symptoms have been treated, using behavioral medicine techniques, with marked improvement in both cases. The term “odor aversion” is proposed rather than MCS to describe patients with these symptoms.

2. The patient experiences multiple symptoms referable to several organ systems, almost always including the central nervous system.

3. Although there may be persistent complaints between exposures, the symptoms are characteristically and predictably precipitated by a perceived environmental exposure.

4. The agents that may precipitate the symptoms are multiple and chemically diverse.

5. The doses of these agents that may precipitate the symptoms are at least two orders of magnitude lower than the established thresholds for acute health effects.

6. No test of physiologic function can explain the symptoms. Although there may be clinical abnormalities, such as mild bronchospasm or neuropsychologic dysfunction, these are insufficient to explain the illness pattern.

7. No other organic disorder is present that can explain the pattern of symptoms.

Because we believe the term “sensitivities” can feed the thesis of an immune system disorder or other organic cause for the syndrome, something which has not withstood scientific scrutiny to date, we have avoided its use. Instead, we conclude that “odor aversion” better describes this clinical picture (Amundsen et al., 1986). This conclusion is strengthened by review of a sample of 374 patients out of all referrals to Mayo’s Division of Preventive and Internal Medicine for occupational-environmental medicine consultation since 1980, 34 of whom described odor-triggered symptoms for which no organic explanation could be identified.

Four theories of the etiology of MCS were thoroughly explored by Sparks et al. in a comprehensive review (Sparks et al., 1994a, b):

1. MCS is a purely biological/physical or psycho-physiologic reaction to low-level chemical exposures (for example, immunologic, neurotoxic, behavioral conditioning, limbic kindling, etc.);

2. MCS symptoms may be elicited by low-level environmental chemical exposures, but the sensitivity is initiated by psychologic stress (for example, cacosmia);

3. MCS is a misdiagnosis and chemical exposure is not the cause. The symptoms may be due to a misdiagnosed physical or psychological illness (for example, depression, anxiety, somatization, etc.) and

4. MCS is an illness belief system manifested by culturally shaped illness behavior (for example, clinical ecology, chronic fatigue syndrome, etc.).

It is clear that many MCS patients meet diagnostic criteria for mental illnesses, especially mood, anxiety, and somatoform disorders. Not all individuals have premorbid psychiatric conditions, however, although such conditions probably play an important role in predisposing many or most of these patients to develop odor aversion symptoms (Black et al., 1990; Feidler et al., 1992; Buchwald et al., 1994). However, there are other patients without preexposure mental problems who may be examples of either (1) a stress response syndrome such as a specific adjustment disorder or posttraumatic stress disorder or (2) a classical conditioned response, with stimulus generalization, of phobic-

(Continued on Page 31)