



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents to aid in the Advancement of the Golf Course Superintendent through Education and Merit

L. R. SHIELDS

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NOVEMBER 1956

One of our most successful meetings of the 1956 season was held at Woodmont Country Club on Tuesday, October 2nd. Bob Shields and his Chairman, Mr. Leo Freudberg were our hosts and they entertained us royally. We all enjoyed playing their fine golf course and partaking of one of Woodmont's wonderful buffet dinners.

The feature events of this meeting were the annual golf championship and the inspection of the new 9 holes that were under construction. Those playing in the tournament helped to swell the attendance for the occasion up to over a hundred members and guests which now stands as the record for a regular meeting. While all present did not try out their skill on the golf course, the golfers on hand seemed to be in the majority and to have the situation well under control. Some of those who did not play were given an opportunity to tour and inspect the new nine holes that Woodmont is adding to their present layout. When finished this will make thirty-six holes of golf available to their membership. They will have three nine holes of regulation length and a short nine-hole pitch and putt course of all par 3 holes known as the "Iron Duke".

All of the construction work on the new third nine has been completed and was in the process of being planted. No. 2 and No. 7 greens were being stolonized the day of our visit. Most all seeding and other work had either already been accomplished or was now underway. It was quite noticeable that all grading was done so as to provide for machine maintenance and the elimination of costly hand labor. Clearing of trees and underbrush around the tees, greens and fairways has been sufficient enough to provide good air drainage and circulation. The tees are the largest we have seen lately and are planted to divided areas of both bermuda and cool season grasses—C-1 and C-19 bent, one half the tee to U-3 and the other half to bent. Special sections have been set aside for winter use so as to keep play off the regular tees during the winter when grass is dormant.

Of special interest and worth watching in the future were these big tees split down the center, front to rear, and planted on one side to U-3 and the other to the same grass that is used on the greens. Bob said he did this in an effort to have better teeing areas than he now has. He thinks that he will be able to hold the bent thru the hot summer because maintenance has been more standardized and his crew will treat the bent tees the same as the bent greens. He thinks the players will appreciate the good tees and have more respect for them. On certain parts of the tees Bob had over seeded both the U-3 and the bent with Merion blue grass seed and some winter tees were seeded to Merion alone.

It is good to see that Woodmont Country Club is taking plenty of time in developing their new nine golf holes, as many golf club so often rush construction work and in doing so bring their courses into play before they are actually completed. The old adage says " Haste makes waste ".

After we had partaken of our evening meal, President Bob Scott, Jr. called the meeting to order. He introduced the host superintendent, Bob Shields who in turn presented his Chairman, Mr. Leo Freudberg. Mr. Freudberg warmly welcomed us to Woodmont Country Club. He gave us a very fine talk and said, " That as superintendents our efforts and labors gave golfers many an hour of pleasant enjoyment and recreation that is greatly appreciated. That we also contributed much to their health and happiness. " Chairman Freudberg also told us " That Bob Shields was held in very high esteem by the Woodmont membership and that they considered him very valuable, loyal and efficient." Bob was entrusted with all the construction details of the new nine holes, so that built-in headaches would be held to a minimum. The Chairman laughingly told us, should any troubles develop in the future they would be of the superintendent's own making. However, he admitted, " It was human to err a bit now and then." Leo also expressed his thanks and appreciation for the cooperation and assistance given by Frank Murray during the past year. He also said that some of the credit for the good greens on the 18 should go to Mr. Murray who built them and to Rudy Will who saw that they were built right.

With both the Chairman and the superintendent working together as a team in perfect harmony, it is easy to see why the Woodmont golfers are so pleased with their home layout. We wish this combination continued success and urge others to try for the same harmony.

The guest speaker for the evening was Dr. William Klomparens of the Upjohn Company. His topic was " Funguous Diseases ". He showed us a few slides of the different fungi at work, and said that they were non-flowering plants of wide distribution and great variety, devoid of chlorophyll, feeding as a parasite on organisms such as living plants. They include the molds, mildews, rusts and mushrooms. We were told that for fungi to have a successful existence there must be a host, but if it were a plant growing in a healthy and proper environment, the plant could resist and throw off the invader.

Good cultural practices were mentioned as the best offensive in controlling and preventing the occurrence of funguous diseases.

A few of the cultural practices that help to control diseases are:

1. Drainage - Air and Soil

An over saturated soil favors the growth of algae, brown patch and pythium. This helps to weaken the plant. Heavy shade and stagnant air can be breeders of trouble.

2. Watering

Too much water favors disease and weakens grass plants to the point where burning may result from heavy chemical treatments. Stay on the dry

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side and practice early morning watering or poling of greens.

3. Health of grass host:

Provide good sanitation as mentioned above. Avoid the use of too much fertilizer. Too high feeding of nitrogen promotes soft growth that favors diseases. Guard against high acidity. Use sufficient lime. Maintain the proper PH. Keep soil well aerated.

After listening to the Doctor's description of curvularia, one gets the impression that it is easy to confuse the symptoms of the disease with both dollar spot and pythium. Cuvularia also appears in spots, but they are more angular in shape and not entirely round. It also runs in streaks like pythium, but lacks the characteristic greasy film.

As to Helminthosporium, it first develops by the turf turning yellow, afterwards it becomes a rust color and dies. Pythium, he told us, could be controlled to some extent by moderate applications of hydrated lime. He advised that it be dusted on dry.

We enjoyed Dr. Klomprens instructive and informative talk and hope that he will not stay away too long before paying us another visit.

CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION REPORT
MODERATOR - MR. CHARLES K. HALLOWELL
MID-ATLANTIC DIRECTOR, USGA GREEN SECTION

As the greens had received heavy play prior to our event, due to a woman's District golf tournament in the morning, we found them to be very fast and slick around the cups. However, putting was quite true in spite of this. Woodmont's greens are of an exceptionally fine mixture of C -1 and C-19 creeping bent. Their texture and density of turf was close to perfect and they were free of any appearance or trace of foreign growth or clover. There was no indication of any thatch or grain. Their color was off a bit, and no doubt were in need of a little feeding. Fertilization should always proceed aerification.

Many of the tees have been planted to the U-3 strain of bermuda grass, and where this is the case, they are in very good condition. On the third hole the tee is of the fine leafed Ugandi- strain bermuda and has been in play for two years. Its stand is uniform, though the sod is thin and open in appearance. This particular tee is small in size and does not provide many marker changes which may account for the lack of grass density. A larger teeing area would have afforded a better evaluation, but we can say this particular tee is much better than those with no bermuda grass.

All of the tees have not yet been converted over to bermuda and some of them have quite a population of silver crabgrass. How to control and eliminate this pest came up for discussion.

The most accepted remedy for this was the application of PMAS and 2,4D at rates suggested by the different manufacturers of the two ingredients. The best time recommended for applying the mixture was early June or as soon as the plants showed signs of germination. Experience has shown that the

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combination of the two materials definitely weakens the weed to the extent that cultural control and eradication is made easier. However it is well to do some experimenting first on an area where no harm can be done. That way one can arrive at the applicable rates safe to use under his own conditions.

We would say that the problem of most concern at the Woodmont Country Club is the playing conditions of the fairways. One gets very close lies which means that a ball does not set up very well and difficult to stroke properly. There is much clover in evidence. This indicates that heavier fertilization is needed of a fertilizer that carries a very high ratio of nitrogen.

As a comment : those playing the course who strayed off the straight and narrow often discovered that their lies in the closely mowed rough were better than they would have had in the fairways. Most of the roughs were planted to chewings fescue. This raises the question, would the fairways be improved if they were sowed to a stronger mixture of fescue or blue grass?

A portion of the fairway on the sixth hole close to the green has been planted to U-3 bermuda. It is in a low protected section extending through a valley with trees on each side of the fairway, but is thriving even under these difficult conditions.

A test made out in the open on a high well-drained portion of a fairway that is exposed to light and sunshine the entire day would be more favorable to bermuda grass. The results obtained should be far superior than those secured in the present location. Chairman Freudberg and Superintendent Shields both stated that the present objection to a stand of bermuda was its off-color in winter. This dislike would be offset and compensated by the grass's superior playing qualities in both the summer and winter periods.

While those present made no specific recommendations as to what would improve Woodmont's fairways, it is suggested that the club run a series of experiments on a few of the holes located on high well-drained ground. Trying out different rates of fertilization, seeding to a variety of different grass mixtures (bermuda included). This in time should point the way to a more satisfactory fairway turf at Woodmont Country Club.

LOST -- and found?

Disappeared from WOODMONT COUNTRY CLUB , from just outside the entrance into the Golf Pro Shop, between the hours of 77 pm and 11:30 pm on Tuesday Oct.2, 1956. - 1 SET OF GOLF CLUBS - property of LT. Col. Alexis A. Jedenoff, USMC, ret.

Bag... Large, round, professional type, Kroyden make, Brown & red Scotch plaid nylon. Zippers on side pocket and on front pocket repaired with cement. Strap to hold Umbrella torn off, & a special strap used for this purpose.

Contents: (1) brown sleeveless sweater, (1) green wool sleeveless sweater (1) "MacGregor Drizzler" white jacket, (1) checkered cap, yellow & black, (4) new golf balls, plus several slightly used. (1) Umbrella (Spalding) strapped in case to bag outside. Blue, yellow & red panels, with " Jedenoff" written in ink on one of the yellow panels.

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Irons.. Full set including " sand wedge" of Spalding Top Flight irons. 1955 model, red leather handles, D-2 weight with "R" shaft. #8 iron filed on bottom. #7 iron has small dent 3 or 4 from club head , on shaft.

(1) Wilson pitching wedge, black handle with "reminder grip".

(1) Wilson blade putter with black "pistol grip".

Woods... Wilson, 1955 model " Staff" with dark red heads & black grips, Driver, #2, #3, #7, 3. #4 wood has nick in center of bottom metal plate near the face. Driver has blue-yellow leather " Warm Up" cover. #'s 2 & 3 yellow leather covers, #4 brownish red leather cover (old).

If located, please contact Lt. Col. Alexis A. Jednoff, USMC, ret.
Marine Corps Scholls Golf Club, Quantico, Va.
Phone-- MCS Quantico 13-2198
Home, Triangle, Va. -Trojan 5-4470.

NEXT MEETING

Because of Election Day falling on Nov. 6, this meeting has been postponed a week to give everyone a chance to vote for the next President of the U.S.A.

The meeting will be the first this year to be held in Richmond and was purposely scheduled late in the season because Richmond is further south and golfing conditions should be better than in the D.C. area, so bring your clubs. The date will be NOVEMBER 13 and our host will be Jim Reynolds at Monacan Hills Country Club. Jim has sent detailed directions and they are listed here for your convenience.

NEXT MEETING - Monacan Hills Country Club, Richmond, Va.

DATE - November 13, 1956

GOLF - 12 noon

SOCIAL HOUR - 5 to 6 p.m.

DINNER - 6p.m.

MEETING - Following dinner

SPECIAL FEATURES * Meeting with Tidewater Turfgrass Assc.
Election of Officers for 1957

HOST SUPERINTENDENT - J.W. Reynolds

Directions--- "Hope you Yankee boys up north can follow these directions to Monacan Hills .

Those of you using #301 drive into Richmond to Broad St. Turn right on Broad & go west to 6200 block. On this corner is the Broad ST. Driving Range on the right and the Westwood Shopping Center on the left. Turn left here on Horspen Rd. Stay on Horspen Rd. until you reach Patterson Ave. Turn right on Patterson and drive for 8 miles and you will see the club on the right.

For those using #1, drive to the Hermitage Country Club which is just east of the Richmond Auto Courts. Turn right on Hilliard Rd. Stay on Hilliard Rd. until you reach the end of it. Turn left on Staples Mill Rd. and go on until you reach Broad St. Turn right on Broad and go west until you reach the 6200 block. Turn left on Horspen Rd. and stay on it until you reach Patterson Ave. Turn right on Patterson and go west 8 miles and the club is on the right side of the road. "

J.W. Reynolds

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

At Monacan Hills you will be asked to select, and elect, the men who will lead the Association during 1957. The Nominating Committee consisting of J.W. Reynolds, James E. Thomas and Richard Watson, Chairman, have submitted the following slate for your consideration:

For President - Thomas C. Dawson, Jr., Superintendent, Country Club of Virginia, our jovial, good-natured Vice President who came down from the New York area about 5 years ago to take a big job at a big country Club and has done a big job. We know the association will continue to grow under his leadership and that we will be ready for the National Meeting in Washington in February 1958. Tom, the son of a famous superintendent in New York state, is a member of the National Association and has represented the Mid-Atlantic on the National Policy Committee for the last two years.

For Vice-President - Paul Weiss, Jr., superintendent at Sparrows Point Golf Club, Baltimore, Md. Another son of another famous superintendent in the Philadelphia area. Paul got started by being tied on to the fairway tractor when he was too small to hold on and has been "tied" to a golf course in one capacity or another ever since. He is a member of the National Association and his father is a member of the Board of Directors. We predict great things from Paul in the future.

For Secretary-Treasurer - Francis Coupe, superintendent at Washington Golf and Country Club. It has been said that the Secretary gets all the work. If this is true, then "Coup" is just the man for the job for he is well accustomed to work, having practically rebuilt his entire golf course in the last 10 years. He has always been active in Mid-Atlantic affairs, having served on more committees than probably any other member. He has shown interest in National membership, but has, as yet, not joined that group. He is well equipped and well suited for this important post.

Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the meeting.

TIDEWATER GROUP TO ATTEND

The Richmond meeting will be a joint meeting between the members of this association and those of the Tidewater Association of Golf Course Superintendents. Some fellow superintendents you might meet are: H.O. Savage, James River Country Club; New Port News, Va.; Mike Bonevita, Cypress Cove Country Club, Franklin, Va.; H.L. McSlay, Oceaniana Naval Air Station, Oceaniana, Va.; Alex Harris, Princess Ann Country Club, Virginia Beach, Va.; Ray Mills, Cavalier Yacht & Country Club, Virginia Beach, Va.; John Kelly, Kemps Village Meadows, Princess Ann, Va.; Eddie Morrow, Suffolk Country Club, Suffolk, Va.; Morgan Tiller, Ft. Lee Golf Club., Ft. Lee, Va.

Tidewater is new, but the group is active and at present has in operation a plan to have their entire membership 100% in the National.