



MID-ATLANTIC

News Letter



Published by

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

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NOVEMBER 1957

The October 1957 meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents was held at the Congressional Country Club Rockville, Maryland. The date was Tuesday, October First, and it was also the setting for our annual Mid-Atlantic golf tournament. The event was won by Jay Seacrist.

Our attendance for the meeting was somewhere around sixty-five members and guests, of this number about forty tried out the golf course. It was a perfect fall day for a game of golf and no one could use poor weather as an excuse for a bad score. Congressional's new course was used for the second nine of the eighteen holes played. It was found to be an exacting test of golf, and a course on which a long hitter would be at home.

The host superintendent for the day was Wayne Jerome. After the guest hour and a delicious dinner of roast beef, Mid-Atlantic President, Tom Dawson, called our Business Meeting to order by asking Wayne to introduce his club officials. The following club officers were presented: President, Mr. Carl J. Matthews; Chairman of Golf Committee, Mr. James Geddes; Greens Committee Chairman, Mr. Vern Johnson; Club Manager, Mr. A.E. Martin. We wish to express to these gentlemen of Congressional our sincere thanks and appreciation for the hospitality shown and expended to our group.

Those of us who played golf wish to extend to Congressional's golf professional, " Wiffy " Cox, a very special vote of recognition, thanks and appreciation. " Wiffy " was on hand at the first tee to welcome us and to see that all of our golfing needs were cared for. He presented each player with three golf balls apiece. He also visited with us during our social hour, but was unable to remain for dinner due to a previous engagement. Wiffy - we can certainly say you did your share towards making our day an enjoyable one.

It is also fitting to say a few words regarding our fellow superintendent, Wayne Jerome. Wayne appears to be held in very high esteem by his immediate superiors and we think, rightly so. Both Mr. Matthews and Mr. Johnson spoke of him in glowing terms at every opportunity. A few words of sincere appreciation means so much to those of us who are " the keepers of the greens " and we all agree that Wayne is deserving of the praise bestowed upon him.

(2)

A very welcome visitor and guest was Agar Brown, Secretary and Treasurer of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. We do not get to see Agar often enough and consider it an honor and pleasure to have him attend our meetings.

The purpose of Agar's visit to Washington was to further formulate plans for the National Turfgrass Conference which is to be held at the Shoreham Hotel on February 2-7, 1958. While here he attended a meeting of Tom Dawson's Ladies' Entertainment Committee and gave them some very helpful advice on several of their plans.

Agar Brown gave us a very fine talk on the aims and purposes of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. He explained the history and workings of the organization, what its accomplishments have been in the past and the plans that are being made for its future growth and expansion.

A fundamental objective of the GCSA is to advance and promote the welfare and progress of the golf course superintendent. Some of the ways this is being done is by working to gain more recognition for the profession, and by publicizing how the superintendent's efforts have made the playing of golf more enjoyable for more people through improved golf course maintenance.

Golf course upkeep and operation has advanced by making the latest information and scientific research available through the annual Turfgrass Conference. A National Equipment Exhibit is also a part of the Conference and has on display the latest in golf course machinery and supplies. Then there is the "GOLF COURSE REPORTER", a magazine containing educational articles devoted to the establishment and maintenance of turf grasses. Cooperation with the United States Golf Association for an ever increasing turf research program is another project that receives much attention.

All of these are but a few of the many things that the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America does as an organization in the interest of the game of golf, the golf player and the golf course superintendent.

100% NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

The most important item on the agenda for this meeting was - " Shall all regular members of this association be required to become members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America?" The results of the secret ballot on this issue were - 31 FOR, 15 AGAINST.

All regular members now must join the national association. Membership application forms are available through our secretary, Francis Coupe. National dues are due the first of October.

CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION REPORT FOR CONGRESSIONAL
COUNTRY CLUB, BETHESDA, MARYLAND, OCTOBER 1, 1957

Charles K. Hallowell, Moderator

After more than 40 members of the Mid-Atlantic Association Golf Course Superintendents played golf, several non-players walked over the course and the stage was set for a discussion following the dinner on three things, one of them having two sub-divisions. That was the condition of the new course which had been built in 1956 and opened for play on August 10, 1957. First, how were the greens constructed and managed to have such good turf at this time? And, second, how were the fairways developed to show such a high coverage of Bermudagrass? The second point was, what had been done to bring the Bermudagrass into the fairways of the old or the former 18-hole golf course?

As the discussion opened it was outlined that Wayne Jerome had been responsible for directing the work of both the construction of the new 9 and in changing the turfgrass in the 18-hole course. Therefore he was called upon to say why the change to Bermuda, why it was started, and how it was done.

Wayne stated that the members were not satisfied with the turfgrass on their 18-hole course. The grass had been mowed at 1/2 inch, the result being mostly clover, crabgrass and Poa annua. In order to determine whether Bermudagrass was practical, trial plots were established in the winter of 1953 and 1954. Four inch plugs were planted in 3-ft. squares. Two large areas were established at that time. By mid-summer 1954 the Bermudagrass had progressed satisfactorily. Then in 1954 and 1955 the program of changing to Bermuda was started in a big way on the fairways. A cart was constructed some 20 feet long which had two shelves, the top shelf holding the 4-inch Bermuda plugs, the lower shelf being used for the plugs taken out of the fairway. This was merely for the convenience of the men as they did their planting. The cart of course was pulled directly in front of the men. Eight men planted an acre in a day at an approximate cost of \$100 per acre. Native Bermuda that had already been established at the Congressional Country Club was used for plugging into the fairway.

More work was done in 1956. There remain now for the winter of 1957 and 1958 No. 12 fairway and approximately 2-1/2 acres of two other fairways not completed.

The Bermuda had no water applied to it this summer and the fertilizer program has been liberal each summer. It now appears that clippings on the Bermuda fairways may be a problem - serious enough to have to consider a leaf sweeper.

Wayne reported that in developing the fairways in the new 9 a sprigging machine was used during July and August to start Bermuda in the fairways. Following the sprigging, 3 pounds of common Bermuda seed was sown to each acre of fairway. In late October bluegrass having a small percentage of redtop with it was over-seeded into the fairways to give color during the winter and early spring.

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The fairways this summer were fertilized with 600 pounds of ammonium nitrate per acre. They are being fertilized in early October first with ammonium nitrate and then with 6-10-4 fertilizer to bring in the cool-season grasses.

There are approach areas that have to be reseeded this October with cool-season grasses so as to have a good cover. Areas that do not have any cover on them will of course have to have Bermuda established. Four-inch plugs will be put in during the winter period.

Tees on the new 9 were stolonized with U-3 Bermudagrass during late May and early June of 1956., with the exception of one tee that was sodded with common Bermuda. Portions of the tee were stolonized or plugs of Tifgreen Bermuda were used. In the construction of the tees, 6 yards of sawdust was worked into each thousand square feet of surface. Fifty pounds of ammonium nitrate to each thousand square feet were used in 1956.

Construction of the greens in 1956 included a 6-inch gravel base and a cover of 10 to 12 inches of soil having 50% coarse sand, 35% soil, and 15% organic material, half of which was peat and half was sawdust. After the contours had been developed and the grade was satisfactory, fertilizer and lime were added. Arlington stolons were then scattered over the green and twice as many Congressional stolons were then applied, endeavoring to keep on the green twice as much Congressional as Arlington at all times. Golfers actually were astounded by the good condition of the putting area and the satisfactory cover of the bent grass on the new greens.

Chairman, Vern Johnson, in charge of construction of the new course for the club, stated that the aim in building it had been to have a better 9-hole golf course than existed at Congressional, making it harder for the golfer. The officers and members of the committee wish to establish a high-class golf course and have given Wayne Jerome and architect Robert Trent Jones the directive to create such a course, and in constructing it 95% of the results of the work accomplished was done by Wayne Jerome.

COMING EVENTS

A date to put on your calendar is Friday, December 6, 1957. The Tidewater Turfgrass Association has invited us to a joint meeting with them to be held at the James River Country Club, Newport News, Va. The club is at Warwick, Virginia and is not hard to reach. The roads are good all the way and they say the trip is no longer than one to Richmond would be. Hurley O. Savage, whom we all know, is superintendent there. So let's all plan a trip for one last golf outing of the year and pay Hurley and the Tidewater boys a visit. It will be a chance to play golf on Bermudagrass greens that have been overseeded to rye grass for winter play.

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TURFGRASS MEETING

Place: Seaford Golf and Country Club, Seaford, Delaware

Time : Thursday, November 7, 1957, following afternoon golf and 6 p.m. dinner . (If weather prevents golf the meeting will be 4 p.m.)

For all interested in discussing golf course management.

Features include:

Propagating and managing Bermuda grass - Frank W. Tull,
Superintendent, Hercules Country Club

Fertilizing bent greens - Edward Roberts, Jr.,
Superintendent, Louviers Course of DuPont Country Club.

(Both talks will be illustrated with Kodachrome slides)

Discussion - bring questions.

Please inform Manager M.R. Nesbett (address: Seaford Golf and Country Club, Seaford, Delaware- phone : Seaford 3064) as to your plans for golf and dinner.

M.R. Nesbett

Russell W. Kerns, Jr.

Charles K. Hallowell -

Committee on Arrangements.

DECEMBER 3, 1957

Annual Get-together at G.L. Cornell Co. Return your reservation card as soon as you receive it.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Nominating Committee Chairman, Harry Allenson announced the committee's selection of candidates for Association offices for 1958. They are as follows:

President - Bob Shields

Vice-President - Paul Weiss, Jr.

Secretary- treasurer - Francis Coupe

Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

TOURNAMENT PRIZE DONORS

The Tournament Committee reports the following prizes received and distributed to participants in the Annual Association Golf Tournament held at Congressional on October 1, 1957.

Wrist Watch - G.L. Cornell Co.	\$10 cash - T.W. Woods
Luggage - National Capital Toro	\$10 cash - Mallinkrodt Chemical Co.
(2) \$25 Bonds - F.W. Bolgiano	\$10 cash - Upjohn Co.
\$15 Gift Certificate - C.F. Arminger	\$10 cash - Nitro Form
\$15 Cash - John Milan	\$25 Bond - Baltimore Toro
\$25 Cash - Leo Cleary	Portable Radio - Am. Agricultural
\$10 Cash - Sydnor Pump & Well Co.	Chemical Co.

All cash was used to buy merchandise from the Pro Shop and items purchased were distributed as prizes.

The association and the prize winners are most grateful to the donors listed above for their cooperation and help in making this event possible and pleasant.

NOTABLE NOTES

Joe Reposkey is no longer at Talbot Country Club on the Eastern Shore. His mailing address at this time is : Box 833, Easton, Md. Carroll Hitchcock broke his arm. Humor has it that he did it lifting a toast to the opening of new holes at Green Spring Valley.

Jay Seachrist moved from Hagerstown to a spot near Bowie where he will undertake to build an 18 hole golf course in cooperation with Doug Smiley, a local real estate man.

Bill Schreiber is nicely situated in his new job at Laurel Pines Golf Club and can be reached at Parkway 5-2234.

A special meeting of Committee Chairmen, working on details of the National meeting next February in Washington has been called for 1 p.m. Monday Nov. 4 at the Shoreham Hotel. Any interested member of the Mid-Atlantic may set in on this meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Va., Nov. 5, 1957 with George Campbell and Tom Ryan as hosts.

MEETING PLACE - Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, Va.

DATE - November 5, 1957

TIME : Golf- 12 noon, Get-together-5 p.m., Dinner - 6 p.m.

BUSINESS - Election of Officers

HOSTS - George Campbell and Tom Ryan.

REMINDER

Association dues are due and payable the first of January. Statements will be mailed out sometime in November.

Pay your dues now to save the Secretary extra work and to assure your good standing in the Association.