Tim Kennelly to host June Meeting at the U.S. Naval Academy Golf Club

The United States Naval Academy Golf Club and Superintendent, Tim Kennelly, will host our June 9 golf outing and dinner meeting at Hubbard Hall on the Naval Academy grounds, (see map p. 8).

The United States Naval Academy Golf Club has served the Brigade of Midshipmen and the Academy staff since 1916. Originally located on the Academy grounds proper with sand greens, the 18-hole course across the Severn River from the Academy was established in the 1930s.

The USNA Golf Club is operated by the Naval Academy Athletic Association which operates strictly on dues and revenue which is generated at the course. No tax dollars are used to operate the facility. The Club has approximately 550 members consisting of retired and active duty military, and a limited number of civilian members. Also, all 4500 Midshipmen are considered members and pay no fee to play.

Primarily a William Flynn design, the course measures over 6600 yards from the blue tees and 6300 from the white tees. The location of the course also offers a fine vista of the Chesapeake Bay and its twin bridges.

In the five years that Tim has been at the Naval Academy, the course has taken on extensive renovations. With the help of his Assistant Superintendent, John Scheleur, and staff, they have cleared acres of trees and underbrush from tees, greens, and fairway surrounds. "We had found that the underbrush was not only inhibiting turf growth, but the golf course was definitely not the same course as Mr. Flynn designed. Our goal is to restore this club to its original design."

Upcoming projects—part of a three-year capital projects plan—include the installation of cart paths around all tees and greens, rebuilding the bunkers and returning them to their original design, and rebuilding the bridge located on the first tee with bulkheading to define the pond around the first and seventh holes.

Tim, a native of Temperance, Michigan, graduated from the turf management program at Michigan State University in 1983. Before coming to the Naval Academy, he was Assistant Superintendent at Inverness Club in Toledo, Ohio and Beverly Country Club in Chicago, Illinois. In addition to his Golf Club duties, Tim serves in an advisory capacity to the Athletic Department on the management of its athletic fields including the recent conversion to bermudagrass on the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. Tim lives in Annapolis with his wife Sandy.

Because the club does not have dining facilities, the evening meeting will be held at Hubbard Hall (see map p. 8). Due to renovations to our pro shop and other facilities, there will not be shower facilities or lunch available. The dress for dinner will be casual.

Agenda: Golf: members and guests may tee off from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please call pro shop for tee times: 410-757-2022. Cart fees will be $9 per person. Note: Clubhouse undergoing renovation. Golfers should proceed to temporary trailer on left side between putting green and driving range tee.

Cocktails: 6:00 p.m. Casual dress.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m., Hubbard Hall

Directions: On entering the USNA at gate 8, you will encounter a United States marine. Tell him (very nicely) that you are attending a dinner sponsored by the USNA Athletic Association at Hubbard Hall.

From D.C., Rte. 50 east across new Severn River bridge to exit 27 (450 south, USNA exit), go approximately 1 mile to traffic light (648) and turn left. Go 1/2 mile to next light. Proceed through it 1/4 mile to clubhouse on left.

From Baltimore: Take Rte 97 south to 50 east and proceed as above.
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

All the thanks in the world to Bill Shirk for an outstanding job organizing and hosting our Superintendent/Pro event at Queenstown. What a day, what a golf course. Thanks, too, go to the eight sponsors of the event. We know who you are and I know I will steer business your way whenever I can and I know other members will do the same. Word is that Renault is already talking "dynasty" after his impressive two-stroke victory. Congratulations, George.

Beginning with our June meeting at the Naval Academy and followed in July at Swan Point and September at Geneva Farms we have meetings hosted by three fine, young superintendents who are a real credit to the association. Please come out and show your support for their hard work. I look forward to seeing you all under the radio towers on June 9.

Ken Ingram CGCS
President, MAAGCS

GOLF NOTES

Winners of the 1992 Superintendent-Pro Tournament were as follows: First and winners of the Claire Emory Trophy were George Renault and Jon Stanley. Second were Jon Machmuller and Hunt Crosby; 3rd, Scott Wagner and Luther Showaker; 4th, Mark Waltz and Mike Welsh; 5th, John Necomb and Robert McDonals; 6th, Jeff Blind and Allen Wronowski; 7th, Mike Evans and Larry Ringer; 8th, Jim McHenry and Bob Rementer; 9th, Steve Nash and Mike Rayan; 10th, Lentz Wheeler and Bud Lintelman.

Superintendents closest to the pin were Bob Collins and Jon Macmuller, pros closest to the pin were Allen Wronowski and Ron Barrows. Superintendent with the longest drive: Walter Montross; pro with the longest drive was Glenn Kelly.

Thanks again to our sponsors for their support in making this tournament a wonderful day for all: G.L. Cornell, TESCO, Lea's Green Meadows, Finch Equipment, Summitt Hall, Ken Cominski, Pro-Lawn, Cornell Chemical, Ault, Clark & Associates.

The June meeting will be held

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Golf Notes, continued

at the Naval Academy Golf Course, with Tim Kennelly as our host. You must call the pro shop for a starting time, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The tournament will be a net-gross event. All score cards must be turned in to me or to the pro. All score cards must have last names and be attested to by the scorer. Failure to comply with this could cause disqualification! Tournament fee: $5.

Bill Shirk, CGCS
Golf Chairman, MAAGCS

June Speaker

Our speaker for June will be Dr. Tom L. Watschke, Professor of Turfgrass Science, of Penn State University. He will speak on "The Fate of Pesticides."

Mark & Aimee Waltz are celebrating the birth of their new 7-1/2 lb. daughter, Paige Mathias Waltz, on April 21. I wonder if Kevin Mathias has anything to do with this?

Congratulations go to Dave Rudinski who is the new Superintendent at Rolling Road. Lou is so proud of his son that he promised to buy us all drinks at the next meeting. Right Lou?

Another announcement is that Robert "Bobby" Jenkins, formerly at Carpers's Valley Golf Club is now the superintendent at Cress Creek Golf and Country Club. Congratulations Bobby!

The Institute of Applied Agriculture captured second place at the Mid-Atlantic Landscape Field Day.

MAAGCS member Corey Haney, from Congressional CC, was the high individual scorer out of 200 participants from 10 schools.

Everyone knows Bill Emerson, one of our non-resident members who lives in Arizona. Well, you’ll be glad to know that Bill’s youngest son Scott, recently signed a contract with the Baltimore Orioles as a Pitcher. Congratulations Scott and Bill.

Sign of the times

A pair of environmentally incorrect robins have nested just outside my kitchen window. Woven into their carefully constructed abode is a string of shiny brown cassette tape.

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Control Strategies for Black Turfgrass Ataenius
by Kevin Mathias, Lecturer and Advisor, IAA, University of Maryland

The black turfgrass ataenius or Ataenius beetle is considered a serious insect pest of golf course turf. In the Maryland and Northern Virginia area numerous golf courses over the past ten years have experienced damage from the larval or grub stage of this insect.

The Ataenius beetle was first discovered in 1932 to cause turf loss on fairways and greens in Minnesota. Little information about its pest status was mentioned in the literature until the 1970s when numerous reports began to appear from several of the eastern and mid-western states. My first experience with diagnosing damage from this insect occurred in 1979 where extensive turfgrass loss occurred to annual bluegrass-perennial ryegrass fairways in late June.

The black turfgrass ataenius is in the same family (scarab beetles) as the Japanese beetle, masked chafers, and the May or June beetle. Damage to the turfgrass stand is caused by the root-feeding activity of the grub or larva. The host plants are annual bluegrass, Kentucky bluegrass, and the bentgrasses. Damage is often noticed first on annual bluegrass in mixed stands. This is believed to be due to differences in rooting depth of annual bluegrass compared to other hosts. Diagnosing Ataenium beetle damage may be somewhat confusing since it resembles blighting by such diseases as brown patch and pythium which also may be active during this time period. One quick way to differentiate between the two pest types is to check the root system of the plant. If the plants can be easily pulled up then small third instar grubs (1/3" in length) will be seen.

An understanding of the Ataenius beetle life cycle is important for effective control. The beetle will have two generations per year with the larval instars occurring in the mid-May-June period and in the late July-August time period. The third instar stage of the grub is considered to be the most destructive and will be present in mid-June for the first generation and mid-August for the second generation. Observations made last year at different golf courses for the appearance of the Ataenius beetle are listed in Table 1.

The adult beetle will overwinter in protected areas during the winter and will begin to emerge in early April in our area. Egg laying by these overwintering adults will occur by early May and is timed to the flowering of the horse chestnut and the Vanhoutte spirea.

Control strategies for black turfgrass ataenius may be geared to either adult (preventative approach) or for larval control (curative approach). Work by Niemczyk on preventative control demonstrated that excellent results could be achieved if sites were treated in early May when overwintering adults were depositing their eggs into the turf. Timing of the preventative approach was shown to follow closely with other phenological events such as flowering of the horse chestnut and the Vanhoutte spirea. Insecticides used for this method must stay in the upper thatch layers and therefore only light watering (several minutes) is recommended.

Curative control for this insect occurs in early to mid-June when a majority of the eggs have hatched and second and third instar grubs are present. Insecticide application must be followed by deep watering (1/2") in order to place the insecticide into the soil where the grubs are feeding. If damage is seen in August from second generation larva, then control actions can be applied to stop further damage.

Insecticide choice, Proxol, Turcam, Oftanol, Dursban, Sevin, or Triumph will depend on whether a preventative or curative control strategy will be used. Insecticides that can move through thatch and into the soil quickly will provide acceptable larva control while insecticides remaining in the surface litter will provide good adult control.
How Well Do You Know the MAAGCS?

The following crossword puzzle is comprised of MAAGCS members’ last names. Clues to many of the questions may be found by looking in the past three issues of Turfgrass Matters. Stumped? The answers are listed on Page 8.

ACROSS
5. Lecturer and advisor for IAA students
10. Always brings “pop” with him when he visits
19. USGA Agronomist who always ends his talks with “Go golf.”
26. First president of the MAAGCS
30. Host of this year’s MAAGCS picnic
35. Everyone always calls him a “sandbagger”
41. New superintendent of Cattail Creek
56. Superintendent made general manager
66. Owner of Glen Dale CC
75. MAAGCS member who hosts Kemper Open
86. UM professor who researches summer patch
94. Crazy Lesco salesman

DOWN
1. Lady MAAGCS member, former MTC president
3. Honorary member who once managed Sparrows Point Country Club
10. Loves to punch holes in your greens
33. Always brings crabs to the picnic
42. Father & son, both superintendents
52. Former Supt., now representing Isolite
53. Honorary member who developed Crown Vetch
72. Host of this year’s Supt./Pro tournament
Scenes from the 1992 Superintendent-Pro Tournament at Queenstown Harbor

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Turfgrass Fertilization and Water Quality
by Joseph B. Hackman, Ph.D, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Service. Reprinted from The Greener'side, newsletter of GCSA New Jersey

Pollution of surface and groundwater are environmental concerns with the use of nitrogen fertilizers on turfgrass. A recent University of Maryland study (Gross et al., 1990, J. Environ. Qual. 19:663-668) determined losses of nutrients and sediments via runoff and leaching from turfgrass. The study compared N fertilizer applied in a liquid and granular form and an unfertilized control. Nitrogen (as urea) was applied at a rate of 4.5 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. per year according to appropriate spring and fall feeding schedules. Surface runoff was collected from plots with slopes of five to seven percent from significant rainfall events throughout the year. Groundwater samples taken monthly at 0.75 m depth were analyzed for nitrate.

Although nutrient losses via runoff were small, total N in runoff was approximately two-fold higher in the liquid and granular treatments when compared to the unfertilized control. There was no difference between liquid and granular treatments with respect to runoff. The concentrations of nitrate in percolate under the granular, liquid and unfertilized control treatments were 1.02, 0.85 and 0.33 ppm. The liquid and granular treatments were significantly higher than the control but not different from each other. These nitrate concentrations are lower than the Environmental Protection Agency drinking water standard of 10 ppm nitrate and are considerably lower than nitrate concentrations previously reported under corn. This study demonstrated that very low concentrations of nitrate were found below the root zone of fertilized and unfertilized turf and that nitrogen and phosphorous losses in runoff from established turfgrass were low. Sediment and nutrient losses via runoff from established turf are generally low because of the resistance to surface water movement provided by a dense turf stand. The study concludes "that properly managed and judiciously fertilized turf is not a significant source of nutrients or sediment in surface or groundwater."

Answers to Crossword

Across
Down
5. Mathias 1. Jensen
10. Cammarota 3. Watson
26. Fits 33. Stagg
30. Neus 42. Rudinski
35. Ratcliffe 52. Braun
41. Pryeski 53. Grau
56. Gerard
66. Shields
75. Haske
86. Dernoeden
94. Walker

Map to USNAGC and Hubbard Hall

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