

Turfgrass Matters



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Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Newsletter

Superintendent-Pro Tournament to be Held at Old South Country Club on May 10

The May 10 meeting and annual Superintendent-Pro Tournament will be held at the Old South Country Club in Lothian, Md. Host Keith Hershberger and the pro, Robert Fretwell, are very much looking forward to welcoming you.

Old South is a private, 18-hole course that opened in 1991. The architect was Lindsay Ervin, the builder Chip McDonald. Notes Keith, "The founders of the club had three design requirements for the course: an island green, a deep bunker and a waterfall. They have the first two and have plans for the latter. They also placed great emphasis on making each hole unique and separating them by using existing woods, and by creating mounds between non-wooded holes. This uniqueness and separation provides a challenging and pleasing round of golf.

"Our major ongoing project is installation of drainage in our bentgrass fairways to help dry our heavy clay soils.

"Our biggest obstacle to working on the course is doing so without a maintenance facility. We currently use nine storage trailers to store equipment; equipment maintenance is done in the cart barn. Plans for our facility are drawn up; we hope to start construction in the near future.

Keith worked as a crew member at Cumberland CC under superintendent Phil Mills from

1986 to 1990. He graduated from the two-year turf management program at Penn State in February 1990 and came to work at Old South as the assistant under Craig Reinhardt. In April 1993 he was made superintendent. He says, "I love the challenge the Mid-Atlantic area provides for managing a golf course."

Lunch: 11:00 a.m. **Tournament:** Shotgun start at 12 noon. **Dinner:** Immediately following play. **Directions:** from Washington - Take I-95 south to Rt. 4 south toward Upper Marlboro to 408 east toward Waysons Corner. The club entrance, 2.5 miles from Waysons Corner, is on the right with two white brick pillars. From Baltimore: Take 301 south to Rt. 4 south toward Prince Frederick to 408 east. Then follow directions above.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The April meeting at Belle Haven was well attended. Thanks to Jim Meier for hosting an early-season meeting knowing his Bermuda turf would not be at its best.



Education chairman, Sean Remington, was timely in his selection of speaker Allen James, Executive Director of RISE. Mr. James stressed to those in attendance that the time is now to become involved with the future legislative process as it pertains to pesticide use. California has already banned the use of Banner, Image, Triumph, and Dimension. We must unite with all allied trades if we are to ensure fair regulation of pesticides. If you haven't notified your green committee, golf committee, or club president of the legislative proposals we defeated and what the loss of our Preemption bill means, do so ASAP. They are in positions to influence legislators when the time arises. The bottom line is the condition of their courses could be seriously affected in the very near future.

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