Jon Machmuller to host September lunch meeting at the Beach Club in Ocean City

The September meeting will be hosted by Jon M. Machmuller at the Beach Club Golf Links on September 13. This will be our annual two-man best ball tournament and a joint meeting with the Eastern Shore Association of Golf Course Superintendents, of which Jon is the president.

We hope to boost September meeting attendance by having it at the beach. Although this is a tough time of year with the preparation for over-seeding and renovation projects, it is a wonderful time to visit the beach. Most of us are ready for a day or two away. Tourist traffic is thinning out in the resort area so bring your wife for a long weekend or just for the day.

The Beach Club is fast becoming the rage of Ocean City golf gossip. Cut out of the native hardwoods, it is a 7,020-yard masterpiece. It is a semi-private club that promotes the feeling of a highly exclusive club for the public to enjoy.

20 months of hell. The existing 18-hole course is rye grass tees and fairways, fescue rough and bent grass greens cut to 7/64". The next 18 holes are planned for wall-to-wall bentgrass, providing all the elements needed are in place. Jon seems to be excited about the new course and is doing a large-scale drainage and over seeding project to the existing course. You may see some work going on the day of the meeting.

The Beach Club is proud of the new clubhouse which opened this spring. Jon was the project manager in charge of building the new building and did all the landscape design himself. "The clubhouse took a lot of my and my crew's time to complete, but I am very proud of everyone's efforts."

During the construction of the first 18 holes, soil samples were taken and did not reveal a pretty picture. A pH level of 3.2 seemed to be the norm and not the exception. Large pockets of pH levels of 2.3 were found throughout. To date Jon said 13 tons of various types of lime have been applied per acre, tilled in with 900 lbs of potassium sulfate, 950 lbs triple super phosphorus and a witches'
brew of micro nutrients. “Nutrient levels are all starting to show signs of balancing out now, and pH levels are climbing,” Jon tells us.

Jon’s roots are found in the Midwest—Nebraska to be exact. His career in turfgrass started when he was 18 as part owner-operator of a chemical lawn care business. In 1986 he sold his shares in the company and entered the world of golf course construction at Eldorado Hills CC, a nine-hole golf course just outside his hometown located on his father’s estate. “My father had just passed away and the course was his dream, so I wanted to see it happen. I was hooked after that.”

Jon is about to become certified—if he can find six hours to take the test (and a couple of months to study for it). He is an avid fisherman, both offshore and fresh water. Other activities would have to include water skiing, snow skiing and martial arts.

Jon and all his staff are excited about hosting the Mid-Atlantic supers’ meeting on September 13 and are looking forward to seeing you at the Beach.