

JOB SECURITY - Bob Livesey, CGCS, President

Some time ago I wrote two short articles on job security. They covered very briefly things that a superintendent should do to insure himself and his Board Members that he is doing his job.

With some superintendents moving to new jobs (voluntarily and otherwise), a few things he should put in the back of his mind.

You must realize that most Board Members know nothing of the science of growing grass, but they think they do. On the other hand, the superintendent, in most cases is not a skilled player of the game of golf. He does not realize how one can get up in the game once he passed the beginner stage.

In theory, the game of golf is very simple. In practice it is not so simple, mostly a case of frustration.

The point is, the Board Member has a very narrow outlook on his involvement in the total picture. Because of this you have an almost impossible responsibility. If the course is not in top condition at all times, you will hear about it.

There are three areas that the Club officials should expect their superintendent to be tops in:

The first is in the area of planning. They should expect a detailed analysis of requirements for manpower, equipment, seed and fertilizers, chemicals and local problems. The superintendent must be able to put these details to the Club official in such a way that he understands them. Within this planning area, the superintendent must also be a combination purchasing agent, accountant, personnel man in addition to keeping his golf course in condition.

Secondly, the Board expects that adequate statistics and records be kept as a background to good planning. Most of the time these records will be kept for references only. There is always the problem of too much data, causing an overkill.

Thirdly, the Board expects results not excuses.

In summary, as Dr. Doug Brewer once said, with good records, good planning and good execution, you'll be around a longer than a temporary Board Member.