

Dramatic ending at the Jacobsen National Tournament

There was a dramatic ending to the Jacobsen National Tournament for the 1986 trophy at Hunstanton when John Stiff, Tracey Park's twenty-seven year old Greenkeeper beat Gordon Payne from Maidenhead at the second extra hole after both competitors had tied with the same stableford score.

Eighteen year old Nigel Wilson, Tracey Park's young assistant took third place with 36 points. Playing off 12 handicap he scored at every hole and returned a consistent 18 points on both the outward and inward half of the course.

Not only is Nigel an assistant greenkeeper at Tracey Park, but as an honorary member of the club is also this year's junior captain.

In complete contrast to the earlier competition in April, the championship links course was in its most benign mood. The wind scale in the clubhouse barely measured 5mph, just sufficient to move the heavy morning mist and let through yet another day of warm autumn sunshine.

Scores reflected the conditions and both Stiff and Payne recorded 37 points, with eleven other competitors within three points of their total.

At the first extra hole Gordon Payne made the green with a wedge for his second shot. John Stiff pulled left, but was able to use his putter from the apron to hole out from three feet for par, and a half.

Moving to the 398 yard eighteen, Gordon positioned his tee shot in the middle of the fairway. John hooked left leaving his ball in deep rough on the side of a dune. With hands well ahead of the ball and standing below the shot he hit a four iron to within twenty yards of the elevated green in front of the clubhouse. A truly Ballesteros type shot.

Gordon hit the green with his approach, but the ball fell back leaving him a pitch to the flag with very little green to work. The chip ran the width of the putting surface and then the inevitable three more to get down.

John played a typical links type pitch and run, lipped the hole with the putt, leaving himself a tap in for the trophy.

In the morning round Stiff, who plays to five at his home club, Tracey Park, hit sixteen greens in regulation figures and made four birdies. Both he and Payne drew a blank on one of the par three holes after putting their tee shots in a bunker.

Those who know the Hunstanton links will find two changed holes on the inward half. The par four thirteenth, previously a straight drive over the hill has a new green, dog-legged right with an intimidating copse of stunted bushes in line with the green for the shorter hitter. It is very much a decision hole, a confident five or six iron will make the putting surface on a calm day. With the wind against it is safer to be on in three and look for the single putt.



John Stiff, Head Greenkeeper at Tracey Park and South West Section member wins the Jacobsen Trophy at the second extra hole.

The par three fourteenth at 177 yards is a great deal longer than it looks. It is perhaps one of the fascinations of some short holes on any course, where the golfer estimates the distance, chooses a club and then reads the yardage in disbelief. The eye looks for reference points, such as a tree, bunker or ground contours. Without them, or if they are cleverly sited the distance can be misleading.

There is, of course, the famous optical illusion on the A719 between Ayr and Girvan where a car with the engine off will appear to coast uphill because the surrounding land slopes in the opposite direction.

Both are new greens, seeded last year and not without their problems. Some coarser grasses such as Cocksfoot and Yorkshire Fog are developing in the sward, which naturally led to considerable discussion and a fair amount of advice back in the clubhouse. Some believe it can be contained with a cutting regime, others suggested the only cure would be to dig up the green, sterilise the soil and start again.

If any of our readers have overcome the problems of coarse textured grass in fine turf, their solutions will be published for the benefit of not only Hunstanton, but courses everywhere.

Among the guests at the presentation dinner held later in the clubhouse and hosted by Jacobsen's U.K. Sales Manager, Chris Smith were Mr. Jeremy Thompson a past Captain and present Green Chairman, Mr. Jimmy Reed, Head Greenkeeper, Mr. John Carter the club professional who fulfilled the role of starter, organiser and referee throughout the day and the Editor of Golf Greenkeeping, Mr. John Lelean.

Presenting the trophy and a voucher for £100 to the winner, Mr. Chris Smith announced that John Stiff would be invited to attend the G.C.S.A.A. Educational Conference in Arizona in January 1987.

Other placings:

35 points - H. Roberts (8); D. Bagshaw (13); G. Cox (13); S. Wood (12).
34 - J. C. Newman (6)
33 - D. Hutchinson (9); K. B. Heaney (8); H. Morgan (10); D. Collins (12); A. Burden (17)
32 - M. Hughes (6); R. Barker (6); B. Plain (13)
30 - J. Chapman (15)
29 - B. Emberley (7)
24 - M. Strange (13); P. Unwin (22).

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SECTIONAL News

CLEVELAND

Hon. Ass. Sec: Roger Shaw,
12 Bede Terrace, Ferryhill,
Co. Durham DL17 8AJ

On the last beautiful day of September our Annual Autumn Tournament was held at Blackwell Grange Golf Club.

Anthony and his staff had the course in super condition and a good day was had by all that attended, even if the turnout was lower than expected.

The Steward laid on an excellent meal, our thanks to his staff, said by the Brancepeth Captain to be about the best in the area. The Blackwell lads did well in the prizes coming 1st and 2nd.

A. Duncan and D. Dean (Steward)	43 pts.
A. Naisbitt and D. Hughiff (Captain)	41 pts.
M. Warner and N. Catt	39 pts.

The Highspeed Oil Tournament will be held at Eaglescliffe on October 23, tee is booked from 12 - 1.

A talk has been arranged at Darlington in November by Toro Irrigation, details of date and time later.

The E.G.M. was held as agreed at Billingham Golf Club on the 1st Oct. The turnout can only be described as pitiful, with only 12 members turning up. Both motions were passed unanimously in favour of the amalgamation.

On an extra note, as has been said, the turnout at Blackwell and Billingham was very poor. Members are reminded that their efforts in attendance is greatly needed if tournaments, talks, etc. are to continue in the future. With Winter Lectures and Scotsturf soon with us, the Secretary asks Members to

SUPPORT THEIR SECTION!

SOUTH COAST

Hon. Sec: J. R. Dennis,
Hampshire College of Agriculture,
Sparsholt, Winchester,
Hampshire SO21 2NF.
Telephone: (096) 272441 Ext. 288.

Once again the Section enjoyed a beautiful Autumn day for its 36 hole Greensome Stableford Competition.

Fifty Members and guests took part in the Competition at Basingstoke Golf Course, with the following results:

1st	Mr. E. Belcher and Mr. P. Coombs (Bognor Regis Golf Club)	76 pts.
2nd	Mr. R. Gray and Mr. A. Hebditch (Broadstone Golf Club)	76 pts.
3rd	Mr. G. Payne and Mr. P. Franklin (Maidenhead Golf Club)	75 pts.

Best Morning Score
Mr. B. Forder and Mr. S. Lockhart
(Southampton Golf Club)

Best Afternoon Score
Mr. R. Walker and Mr. R. Hill
(Queens Park Golf Club)

The course was in tip-top condition, thanks to Head Greenkeeper, Ian Rickman and his staff. Ian was, in fact, playing three roles - Greenkeeper, Competitor, and Match Secretary!! At the last Committee Meeting Ian stated that he would not be seeking re-election at our next AGM, so if any member would like to take on this position, will they please inform me or our Chairman.

The Section again wish to thanks its friends in the Trade for such a good prize table and record its thanks to:-

J. T. Lowe; T. Parker & Sons;
Rigby Taylor; Roffey Bros; Huxleys,
and Jim Fry, Section President.

An 18 hole Stableford Competition has been organised for **Wednesday, 10th December, 1986** at the Royal Winchester Golf Club - teeing off is between 10.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.

This new event will be sponsored by Rigby Taylor and J. T. Lowe. The entry fee is £7.50 which will provide a Christmas Lunch, and the fee should be sent to:-

Ian Rickman, 53 Woodroffe Drive,
Basingstoke, Hants. RE22 6NH.

by Wednesday, 3rd December, 1986

Wednesday, 3rd December, is of course the date for our second speaker at our Winter Meetings.

On this occasion, Derek Ganning, Manager of the Belfry Course will be talking on Course Management.

Please support our speakers with your attendance.

NORTHERN

Hon. Sec: D. C. Hannam,
12 Moorfield Avenue, Menston,
W. Yorks.
Telephone: (0943) 72008

Except for the aqueous intermission on the day of our Autumn Tournament on October 14th this 'back end' has been truly marvellous. Out-of-season construction going ahead completely uninterrupted by the usual early winter downfalls. Those opting for the Vertidrain this year had their substratums severely disturbed. There has even been talk of artificial irrigation being used — in October!

Getting back to the Autumn Tournament. This was the event that promised to be bathed in late Autumn sunshine, but not so. It poured down! This didn't prevent 40 or so players 'enjoying' their golf.

Our thanks to Fulford Golf Club for allowing us the privilege of playing this lovely course. Our grateful thanks too, to those who contributed so generously to the prize table.

Our Extraordinary General Meeting to vote on the proposed amalgamation of the three greenkeeping bodies had the following results:

Whether or not to amalgamate,
17 votes to 2 in favour.

Whether or not to allocate £15,000 to a trust fund in the event of an amalgamation — Unanimous.

Should your sense of tradition and history fill you with nostalgia you may feel urged to invest in a BGGA tie or perhaps a sweater (scarce). These will shortly become collectors items if we go BIGGA.

DEVON & CORNWALL

Hon. Sec: Bill Pile,
33 Knowle Drive,
Exwick, Exeter EX4 2DF.
Telephone: 214053

A warm sunny day greeted the competitors for our first meeting of the season at Exeter Golf & Country Club. The course was in fine condition and even the sheds had been tidied and swept so your truly couldn't make any untoward comments!

Jeff Mills the Head Greenkeeper gave those not golfing a tour of the course whilst the golfers contested for the Stanley West Cup and Ransomes watch.

As avid eagle eyed readers of this section will note the cup went to the greenkeeper with the highest score, whilst second and third although having higher scores being trade members are not allowed to win this particular trophy.

1st	K. Luxton (East Devon G.C.)	32pts.
2nd	M. Spearman	34pts.
3rd	J. Baker	33pts.

Keith Stuart of Stanley West kindly presented the prizes donated by Ransomes and S. West Ltd.

The afternoon's talk by Keith McKee of Fisons on chemicals and the law was both interesting and informative and very well received by the fifty three members of our section who attended.

Our thanks go also to both greenkeeper and trade members who contributed to the raffle prizes, the proceeds of which help to pay for the Christmas entertainment.

As I am sure all members will now be aware I have relinquished my post of course manager at Downes Crediton Golf Club and am indeed working for D. O. Hunt Ltd. A vote was taken at Exeter which showed that the members wish my wife and myself to continue running the section.

It was proposed by Brian Summers and seconded by Chris Gadsby that Richard Whyman be elected to the committee to keep the balance in favour of the greenkeepers, this was passed.

Your committee is now as follows:

Chairman:	G. Child (Churston B44056) (Executive Committee Member)
V. Chairman:	B. Summers (Par 3654)
V. Chairman:	C. Fowler (Mevagissey 842623)
V. Chairman:	R. Whyman (Bude 3438)
Secretary:	B. Pile (0392) 214053 (non voting)
President:	D. Hunt
V. President:	B. Stephens
V. President:	P. Flegg

I have at last learned to delegate the work at section meetings and I wish to thank Gordon Child for marking the cards and Chris Gadsby and Martin Kingdom for selling the raffle tickets.

An oak tree given by the section is to be planted on the right of the seventh fairway, by kind permission of Exeter Golf Club, to the memory of Mr. & Mrs. Mortimore. A plaque is to be engraved to this effect and secured to the tree stake.

MID ANGLIA

Hon. Sec: L. Wakerell,
26 Loxley Road, Berkhamsted,
Herts. HP4 3PS

The Mid-Anglia Section held an Extraordinary General Meeting at Beadlow Manor Golf and Country Club on Wednesday 1st October at 7.00 a.m.

The Chairman opened the Meeting for discussion on the proposed Constitution for the new Association comprising Members of the B.G.G.A., S.I.G.G.A. and E.I.G.G.A.

Twenty-Three Members were present with apologies from M. Lay. Points of view expressed in discussion included:

- The proposed merger was being rushed through without the interests of B.G.G.A. Members being considered.
- If Greenkeepers who had broken away from B.G.G.A. in the past now wanted a merger it should be as the B.G.G.A.
- Annual Subscriptions had been paid up to 30th April 1987, so the new proposal that 1st January 1987 should be the beginning of the Financial Year for B.I.G.G.A. was unacceptable.
- Sections - (or Regions) should be responsible for their own finances - it was not considered necessary for any Board of Management to allot funds to Sections as was felt adequate.
- Uniforms should be available but not compulsory wear.

Members also commented on the lack of information available through the Magazine - Golf Greenkeeping - during the Meetings of the Steering Committee and that the B.G.G.A. Representatives failed to represent the interests of its Members and seemed happy to agree with whatever was best for the other Associations.

It was also suggested that the proposed Constitution was a copy of E.I.G.G.A. documents, by some Members at the Meeting.

Of the Twenty-Three Members present Sixteen had sent their Voting Cards to the Electoral Reform Society (they received their Voting Cards before a Meeting had been arranged) One Member did not have a Vote and the others voted accordingly:-

Proposal 1 For 2 - Against 4
Proposal 2 For 2 - Against 4

The general consensus was the Executive Committee must represent the views of its own Section Members and not those who are the most voluble.

Report by:

R. J. Goodwin, (Assistant Secretary)

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WELSH

Hon. Sec: Philip Swain,
7 Elm Close, Underwood Estate,
Llanmartin, Newport,
Gwent NP6 2HT

Telephone: Newport 413227

On Wednesday, 8th October we held our annual match at St. Pierre Golf Club against our friends from over the Severn.

We were treated to some fine weather for the time of the year and I would like to thank David Jones the Course Manager and the rest of the staff for presenting the course in such good condition.

We would also like to thank the management of the St. Pierre Golf Club for giving us courtesy of the course and club facilities and thank the catering staff for their excellent food.

The competition was well contested yet again with the South West coming out on top for the second successive year, by four matches to two.

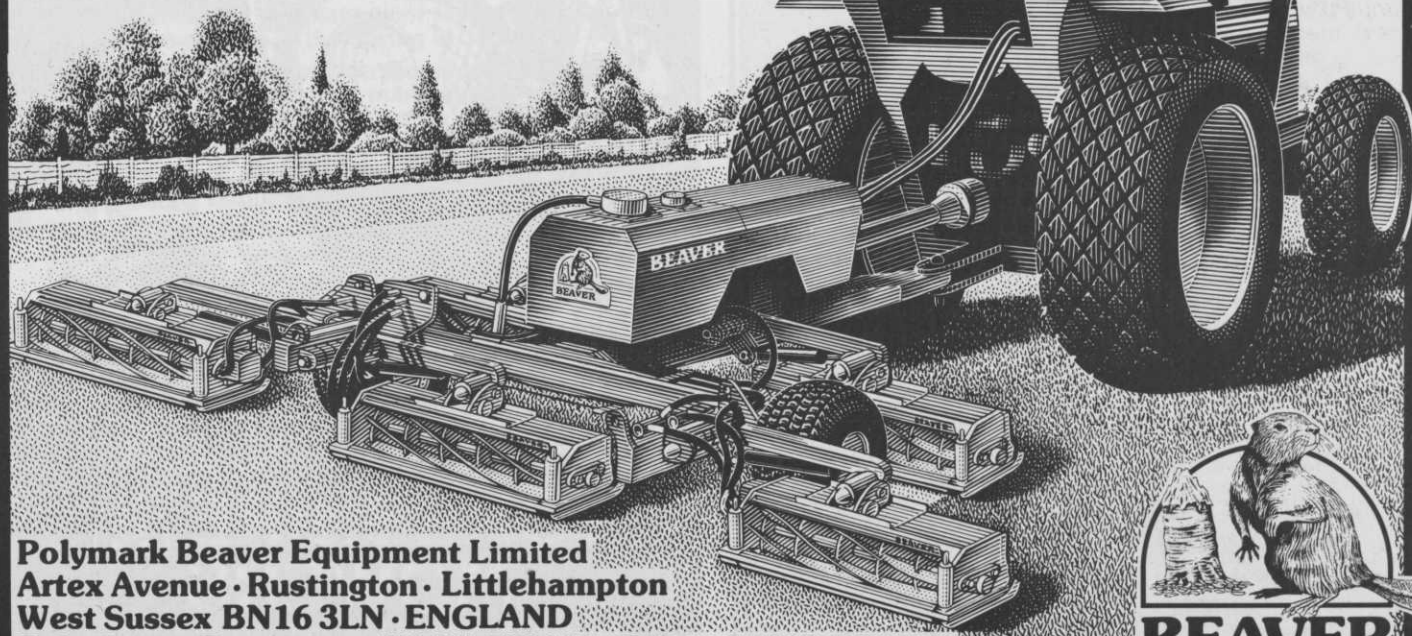
RESULTS:

Ted Thompson and Philip Swain	won 3 & 2
Dennis Jones and John Walsh	won 4 & 3
Graham Cox and George Clarke	lost 5 & 3
John Hopkins and Graham Whissett	lost 2 & 1
Henry Fry and Walter Jones	lost 2 & 1
Huw Morgan and Dennis Archer	lost 2 & 1

I would like to thank the South West team who helped make the day such a success.

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MIDLANDS

Hon. Sec: Steve Wood
58 Guerne Road, Beechdale,
Walsall
Telephone: (0922) 611380

On Monday, October 27th the Final of the Rigby Taylor Greensomes Competition took place at the Berkshire Golf Club. The result was a 3 & 2 win for Steve Wood and Tony Jesson over Arnold Phipps-Jones and Geoff Porter. As with every final of this event the four finalists were chauffeured to the venue, wined and dined in style by our good friend, Dave Morgan.

Little Aston Golf Club was the course used for our Autumn Tournament held on Thursday, October 30th. This was a 27 hole Medal Play event played in the most appalling weather conditions, players having to contend with gale force winds and heavy torrential rain for most of the day.

The results were as follows:-

1st Greenkeeper Nett: M. Hughes
1st Greenkeeper Gross: A. Lewis
1st Overall Nett: R. Ramsden (Class E)
1st Overall Gross: S. Dickenson (Class E)

Our thanks to Alan Boraston and his staff for presenting such a good course in very difficult weather conditions.

Forthcoming Events:

Monday, January 12th, 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.
Lecture by Watermation

To be held at Moor Hall Golf Club

Monday, February 9th, 7.00 p.m.

Mr. Mottram of Race Heath, College, on the subject of Man Management Again to be held at Moor Hall Golf Club

Friday, March 20th, 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Lecture and On Course Demonstration by Midland Tree Surgeons

Telford Golf and Country Club

NORTH WEST

Hon. Sec: David F. Golding,
38 The Grove, Flixton,
Manchester M31 3JH
Telephone: 061-748-8592

Autumn Tournament:

Our Autumn Tournament attracted forty members to Pleasington Golf Club, Blackburn. Past Chairman Mike Sheehan won the Ransomes Cup and Watch after a close fought battle with Chris Hulme from Sale Golf Club. It took a card play off to decide the winner.

I could not say that Joe Gillet was over confident in retaining the Hargreaves Cup for the over 50's, but he did not return the trophy and true to form he went out and won again! Don't forget next year Joe or people will think you have weighed it in. The guests prize was won by Frank Garvey of Rufford Top Dress.

We must thank Pleasington Golf Club for allowing us to play on their excellent course.

Jacobsen Qualifier:

Howard Roberts & Derek Hutcheson represented the Section at Hunstanton Golf Club. Peter Shaw of course won the 1985 trophy, played earlier this year.

Unfortunately neither was successful but had a very enjoyable couple of days courtesy of Jacobsen.

Good luck to Peter when he represents the Section and greenkeepers in Phoenix next year.

Kubota Challenge:

Peter Shaw together with Andrew Peel were part of the successful Greenkeepers team who again won the trophy after beating the Secretaries team and the Stewards. Well done lads. I trust you left the Belfry as you found it.

Gatley Golf Club's Head Greenkeeper Simon Grayson was involved in a car accident towards the end of October and suffered multiple fractures. We trust he is making a steady recovery.

The Future in the North West:

After the announcement of the results to re-unite the three Associations the Section Committee were delighted to see that a very high percentage were in favour of a new Association.

How will this decision affect the North-West? We are still deliberating with E.I.G.G.A. North-West but a meeting has been arranged and the future is exciting for all in the region. More news will follow in the near future.

1987 Seminar:

Final arrangements are now in hand for next year's Seminar to be held at Mere Golf & Country Club on March 12th 1987. Tickets will be available from January 1st 1987 cost £15 including lunch. A list of speakers will appear in the next issue of the Journal.

**Will Secretaries please note
the next issue is combined
December and January**

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTS

MEMBERS (Full)

J. Hamilton Stutt
Hamilton Stutt & Co.,
12 Bingham Avenue, Poole,
Dorset BH14 8NE
Telephone: 0202-708406

Donald Harradine
CH 6987, Caslano, Switzerland
Telephone: 091-711561

Fred Hawtree, Martin Hawtree
Hawtree & Son,
5 Oxford Street, Woodstock,
Oxford OX7 1TQ
Telephone: 0993-811976

Donald Steel
Cotton Pennink Steel & Partners
Miller House, Corporation Street,
Rugby, Warwick CV21 2DW
Telephone: 0788-77191

Tom McAuley
38 Moira Drive, Bangor, Co. Down,
N. Ireland BT20 4RW
Telephone: 0247-465953

Peter Harradine,
P.O. Box 1165, Sharjah,
United Arab Emirates
Telephone: 009716-356446

PROVISIONAL

Alistair Rae,
26 Tannoch Road, Uplawmoor Road,
Glasgow G78 4AD
Telephone: 050-585-371

Cameron Sinclair
Cotton, Pennink, Steel & Partners,
Miller House, Corporation Street,
Rugby, Warwick CV21 2DW
Telephone: 0788-77191

Simon Gidman
Hawtree & Son
5 Oxford Street, Woodstock,
Oxford OX7 1TQ
Telephone: 0993-811976

OVERSEAS (Full)

Eddie Hackett
28 Ailesbury Drive, Dublin 4, Eire
Telephone: Dublin 691592

Joan Dudok Van Heel
Benkenlaan 4, 1640 St. Genesius,
Rode, Nr. Brussels, Belgium
Telephone: 358-5518

Pier Mancinelli
21 Via Achille Papa 00195, Rome, Italy
Telephone: 06-36036-35

Jan Sederholm,
S. 252 34 Helsingborg, K. Kristoffersg 3A,
Sweden
Telephone: 042-371-84

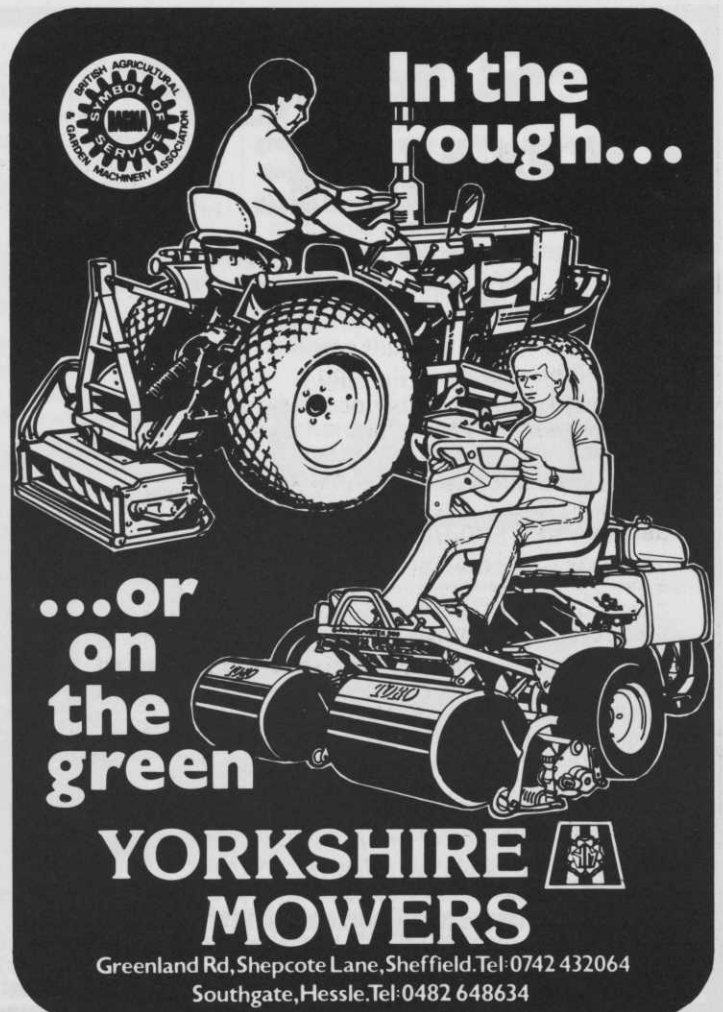
OVERSEAS (Provisional)

Kurt Roßknecht,
Dennenmoos 5a, 8990 Lindau-Bad,
Schachen, Germany
Telephone: 08382-230-05

R. Berthet
57-59 Rue Lhomond, 75005, Paris, France
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**Mrs. D. Henson,
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Wentworth Club Ltd.,
Wentworth Drive, Virginia Water,
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marking your envelope "Private and Confidential"

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Cameron Irrigation, a Division of Wright Rain Ltd., Harwood Industrial Estate, Littlehampton, West Sussex BN17 7BA. Tel: (09064) 3985. Telex: 877483.

Par 4 Irrigation, Ash Grove Industrial Estate, Ash Grove, Ripon, N. Yorks. Tel: Ripon (0765) 2175.

Supply, installation and servicing on automatic irrigation systems. Contact: *E. B. Simms or L. Oyston.*

Sports Ground Irrigation Co., 'Hereward Lodge', Paget Road, Lubenham, Market Harborough, Leics. Tel: (0858) 63153.

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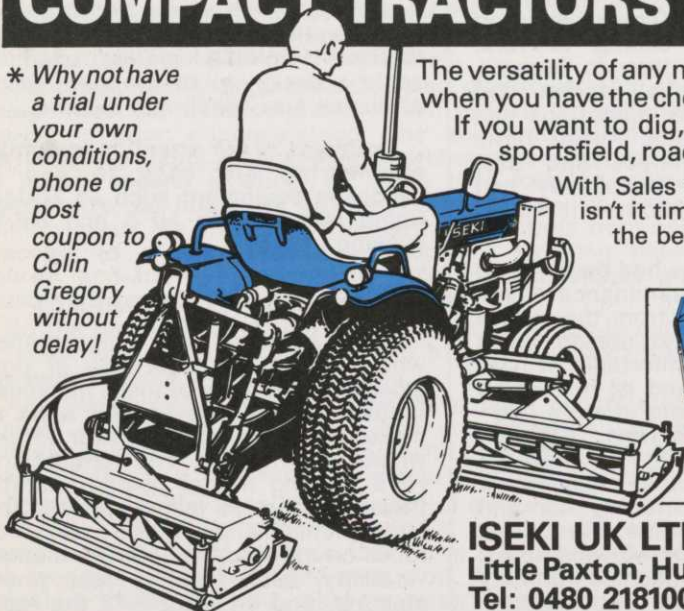
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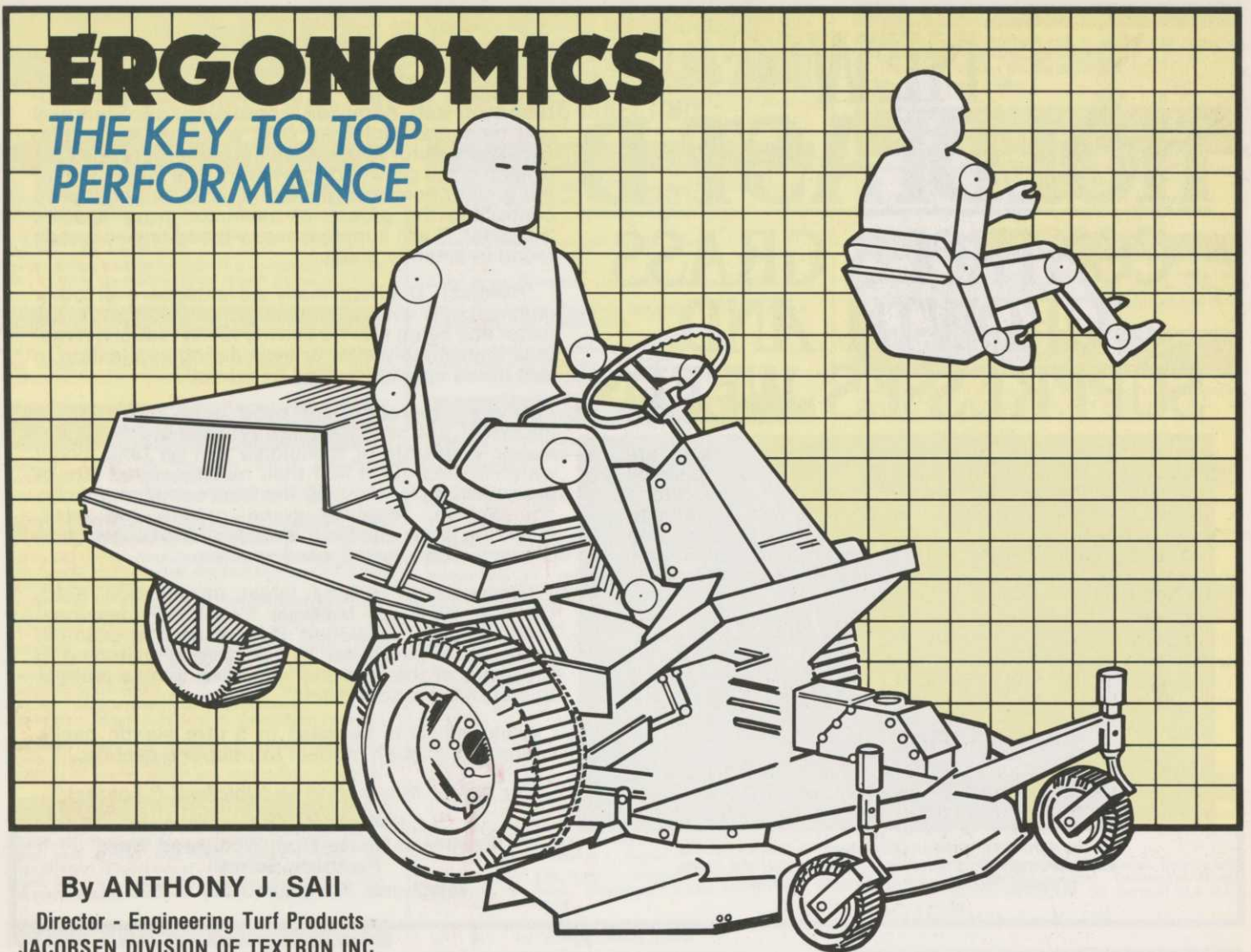
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ERGONOMICS

THE KEY TO TOP PERFORMANCE



By ANTHONY J. SAIL

Director - Engineering Turf Products
JACOBSEN DIVISION OF TEXTRON INC.

It's called ergonomics, human engineering, biotechnology, life science engineering but what it boils down to is fitting a machine to man. At first glance this might sound like the obvious thing to do but that's not always been the case.

Human engineering at too many firms was a matter of making certain the chief engineer or sales manager was comfortably operating the machine, be it an auto, truck or tractor. That he may have been 6ft 4in. tall and weighed in at 18 stones made little difference. Obviously, the operator at the other end of the physical scale was in for trouble when assigned to that piece of equipment.

The impetus for human engineering came during the twenties and thirties when designers began improving the appearance and configuration of mass produced items to increase sales. That's the period when industrial design became a profession dedicated to incorporating usefulness, comfort, safety, ease of maintenance, sales appeal and good looks in a finished product.

This approach was honed into a science during the 1940's by the armed services with the evolution of a new class of machine that required close integration with man's total abilities. That's when anthropologists, behavioral psychologists, biologists, related an environment to man's size, strength, endurance and reactions.

Since then there was a brief setback of sorts in the fifties and sixties when occasionally too much emphasis was placed on styling. In one such instance an engine couldn't be fitted into the stylist's creation! And, of course, there were still plenty of engineering-oriented firms that designed machines first, then fit operators to them.

COMFORT ISN'T CODDLING

In the agricultural field during the mid-sixties, manufacturers began to realise they were selling to rural industrialists rather than to farmers. The number of small farms had dwindled while larger operations had become commonplace. These firms re-defined their market and saw the importance of areas they had neglected - comfort and how it relates to performance.

The same evolution had been taking place in the turf maintenance equipment industry. Apart from the simple fact that there is no reason for a machine to be uncomfortable or hard to use, there was (and is) increasing emphasis on the users' bottom line - productivity (and safety). Efficient performance, the ability to mow for eight continuous hours, called for a design approach interfacing man and machine. In other words, the design started with two known quantities: the operator and the machine's primary function. Between the two lay considerable human engineering.

Going by the form-follows-function rule, at Jacobsen we do everything to maximise operator efficiencies and machine productivity. This is no simple task as it calls for interrelating a variety of human engineering and other design factors. Productive comfort and safety head the list closely followed by serviceability, manufacturability and rationality (sometimes called product commonality). Once these design criteria are served, we pay attention to appearance, making it look good. In all, some 20,000 pieces of scientific information have been distilled into the system used to scale a design to fit the ideal range of human size, reach and the like.

Examples of our attention to human engineering are easy to see in Jacobsen equipment such as Turfcats riding rotaries and HF-5 and HF-15 mowing tractors.

COMFORT/CONVENIENCE

Take comfort and convenience which combine a multitude of consideration. All three of these machines feature front-mounted cutter units to make it easy for the operator to see where he's trimming. The Turfcats and HF-5 mowing tractor use hydrostatic transmissions to eliminate shifting and clutching, allowing the operator to focus on mowing. To optimise manoeuvrability, each features rear wheel steering, and on the HF-15 the reels turn in the direction of the machine.



Another convenience of the HF-15 is that its reels are hydraulically powered making the cutting frequency pre-set by the operator independent of the unit's speed. The operator's seat is fully padded and adjustable and controls are situated to keep a person safety in a seated position. Levers for raising and lowering cutter decks and reels are within easy reach. Cabs available for the Turfcats and the HF-15 have positive ventilation systems to keep dust out.

To enhance comfort by reducing fatigue, engines have been isolated, minimising vibration and reducing temperature. Sound is controlled by muffler systems and special ducting. Even colour plays a role, with the bright company orange contributing to alertness and making the units easy to see.

SAFETY

Safety, comfort and convenience often overlap. For example, colour contributes to safety, as does good control and careful placement of the operator relative to moving parts. Stability is important, too. A wider track and lower centre of gravity also enhance the kind of sure footedness needed for mowing along the sides of slopes.

SERVICE AND GEOGRAPHICS

While not directly related to operating machines, serviceability certainly becomes a human engineering consideration for routine maintenance and occasional repairs. Obviously, areas for attention like the battery, oil dip stick, plugs, points, lubrication, belts and so forth should be readily accessible and easy to work on. So engine shrouds and other panneling open fully to expose areas that need to be looked after periodically, as is the very functional approach to their controls. In bigger machines and other tractors we have even positioned the battery on the outside of the machine where it's easy to check. Other components are not enclosed if they don't require it. That is, merely to serve the cosmetic side of product design.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Geographics enter the human engineering equation, too, since the machines must be operated under varying conditions ranging from the sunbelt to the snowbelt.

Manufacturability and rationality also play roles. That the design must be manufacturable is self evident but rationalisation is often misunderstood. The ability to rationalise certain components, making them interchangeable from model to model, means a whole lot more than keeping prices competitive, as important as that objective may be. Other primary goals are creating a familiarity of controls from one machine to another, the convenience of stocking fewer spares, and the ease of maintenance when machines are similar.

So the human engineering side of product design is quite complex with a multitude of factors to be considered from the outset before a prototype is built.

And even when working models have been constructed, human engineering remains a key consideration in the thousands of hours of field testing, with many modifications made relating to a wide variety of actual operating conditions.

So next time you ease into the seat of a new turf machine and feel comfortable with the controls, can see the cutter decks without bending and so forth, give a silent thanks for the progress in human engineering. And, if you're of average height, a thanks that the machine wasn't designed to fit a 6ft. 4in. overweight chief engineer of days gone by.

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