

## *Where's the Sustainability?*

After the 2mm debate in Harrogate I thought I was in the wrong movie. I personally find this debate not helpful in the days of sustainable maintenance. I believe 99% of all the people on this debate cannot see any sustainability behind this. I doubt that golfers wish to have average green speed above 9-10 on the stimpmeter, even on flat greens. So why should they go down this road?

The only reason behind stimpmeter green speeds above 10 for regular play is competition between some greenkeepers, or personal ego problems.

Regarding the recent article about the work at Wentworth (November issue), may I make some comments?

How sad. Another historical golf course monument is now destroyed. Was this really necessary? Mr Colt would not be satisfied, if he were still alive. There are a lot of golf courses in UK and Europe, which proved that it could be done without changing the whole design. It is the same story when Royal Birkdale changed its 17th green. These golf courses like Wentworth, Royal Birkdale and so on should be under protection and not touched anymore. When are we going to stop this?

You are right, Editor it is finally time for the R&A to impose some changes on the balls.

Creeping bent does not create more thatch than Colonial Bent. It is up to water and fertiliser input, which creates the thatch.

**Norbert Lischka MG  
Falkenstein GC  
Germany  
Via email**

## *Congratulations from the GCSAA*

I would like to say thank you to you and all of your staff for the wonderful hospitality that was afforded to the entire GCSAA contingent at the BIGGA Conference in Harrogate.

Everyone was very helpful and accommodating and our group had a great time. The International Summit was the best one that I have been to and I strongly believe that this will be a new beginning for all of us to strengthen our collaborative efforts moving forward. I will begin setting up our next conference call this spring and I look forward to also speaking with you and Ken Cousineau on a more regular basis as well.

Please let us know if there is anything that we can do for you and your team while you are in San Diego attending the GIS next week.

All the best and thanks again.

**Mark Woodward  
CEO  
GCSAA**

# Letters



Please email your notes to: [scott@bigga.co.uk](mailto:scott@bigga.co.uk)



## *Congratulations from the PGA*

I just wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you for allowing me to join with you last Wednesday evening for dinner during your Annual Conference on Congress week.

It was an excellent evening and it is amazing just how many people we seem to know in this world of golf. Everywhere I turned there was another familiar and welcoming face which only added to what was an already most enjoyable occasion.

I know that all of us here at the PGA are looking forward to working on a more continued and closer basis with BIGGA and I personally will look forward to working with you in the leadership of this initiative.

All best wishes and kind regards

**Sandy Jones  
Chief Executive  
PGA**