

Presidents Message

Dear Members:

At the March meeting of the Executive Committee, Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents, it was decided by a unanimous vote to make The Bull Sheet, official publication of the organization available for advertising to firms supplying golf courses with equipment, materials, tools, and supplies.

The Editorial Committee has thoroughly examined every angle of the change in policy which might effect publications in the same field as a competitive maneuver by our greenkeeping-superintendents organization in the Chicago district. In view of our intended limitations as to area we will confine our commercial endeavors, we feel that the change in policy of our editorial functions will not endanger the livelihood of other such publications.

Commercial advertising in The Bull Sheet will be limited to firms and local manufacturers who are intimately serving golf courses. The monthly changing of ads and/or solicitation of short term contracts will not be accepted due to the bookkeeping work involved, and because our editorial committee is a voluntary assignment.

Our purpose of accepting advertisements is to make the bulletin self-supporting which will permit the committee to increase the value of its publication to the organization, and to other greenkeeping-superintendents in the State of Illinois.

The Editorial Committee proposes the following policies:

1. That no individual firm will be permitted to place more than one advertisement in the publication during the period of their annual contract.
2. That the fiscal year involving advertising will begin on July 1st and end on June 30th of the following year.
3. That there will be 12 monthly bulletin issues printed during the fiscal year.
4. That advertisements will be limited in size so as to permit all firms serving our profession an opportunity to display.
5. That advertisements will only be accepted on an annual basis.
6. That a change in pattern or style of advertisements will only be permitted twice during the fiscal year. The January and July issues.
7. That the cost of advertisements per annum will be determined by the necessary income required to cover incidental expenses involving the publishing of the bulletin.

In order to make the publication more attractive to the advertisers, and members alike, the Editorial Committee has proposed the following changes:

1. A change in the make-up and style of the bulletin.
2. An increase in circulation which will be mailed to all greenkeeping-superintendents in the State of Illinois, and to other organizations by request.
3. An increasingly vigorous editorial policy to keep the publication more active and of greater value to the greenkeeping-superintendent.
4. The inclusion of photographs as they may be available, illustrating various maintenance operations, new developments, greenkeeping personalities and events during the year.
5. A regular issuing date.

The Editorial Committee has given considerable thought to the cost of advertisements per column inch, and consistent with the policies described in this letter they are offering the following space and rates:

1 inch by 1 column for 12 issues	@	\$ 60.00
1 inch by 2 column for 12 issues	@	\$120.00
2 inch by 1 column for 12 issues	@	\$120.00
2 inch by 2 column for 12 issues	@	\$240.00

(Note: All picture ads will be half-tone, and the advertiser will furnish this office with the plate.)

The back cover and inside back cover will be reserved for the advertisements—a total of only 36 one inch columns. In the event more than one page is used for this purpose, it will be our policy to alternate the position of the pages, in order that each advertiser will have the opportunity to appear on the back cover page every other issue. The Editorial Committee reserves the right to place the advertisements.

May we have your sincere cooperation and support.

Yours very truly,

William H. Stuppel.

GOLF, GOLF, GOLF

by

Frank J. Dinelli

During the past seasons at our summer golf meetings there has always been numerous complaints from the high score player concerning the method used in handicapping the participants. The golf committee would naturally like to see everyone satisfied as it would make it that much easier to award the prizes. The following system might be a solution to our problem. Why not send your comments to the golf committee, and if you like it, we can try it at our first golf event of the season which will be held at the Edgewater Golf Club on May 15th.

The USGA Golf Handicap System remains the approved method for determining basis handicaps but, like every other system, it will not solve some of the unusual problems which face handicappers.

One of the most difficult problems is that of determining fair allowances for convention and resort tournaments which attract novice and occasional players. Obviously, the man who never plays except during his two-weeks vacation at Sloping Valley, or at the annual trade tournament at Flat Hill, is entitled to a fair shake in the competition for net prizes.

The standard way of solving such a matter usually has been to conduct a kickers' tournament, in which each player selects his own handicap and then shoots at a score which has been drawn blind.

Another method of handicapping which would seem to fit the same role is the Calloway System of Automatic Handicapping.

Under this method, a player's handicap is determined, after each round, by his gross score for the 18 holes and by the first, or highest, individual hole scores he has made. For instance, if his gross score was 107, he turns to the accompanying table and opposite that score finds that he may deduct the total of his four worst, or highest, individual hole scores. Thus, if he had scored one 9, two 7s and several 6s, he could deduct 29 strokes, giving himself a net score of 78.

The USGA has had no experience with this system but it is an interesting idea which handicappers and tournament committee chairman may find useful. We know of no way in which it could be adapted for match play tournaments, and it is in no way a substitute for the USGA Golf Handicap System.

The Calloway System Automatic Handicap deductions follow:

THE BULL SHEET

CLASS A

Score	Deduct
Par or less	Scratch
One over par to 75	½ worst hole
76 to 80	Worst hole
81 to 85	Worst hole plus ½ next
86 to 90	Two worst holes
91 to 95	Two worst holes plus ½ next
96 to 100	Three worst holes

CLASS B

Score	Deduct
101 to 105	Three worst holes plus ½ next
106 to 110	Four worst holes
111 to 115	Four worst holes plus ½ next
116 to 120	Five worst holes
121 to 125	Five worst holes plus ½ next

CLASS C

Score	Deduct
126 to 130	Six worst holes
131 to 135	Six worst holes plus ½ next
136 to 140	Seven worst holes
141 to 145	Seven worst holes plus ½ next
146 to 150	Eight worst holes

NOTE: Worst hole equals highest hole score.

A CONFERENCE—A place where conversation is substituted for the dreariness of labor and the loneliness of thought.

TURF RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

For the past ten years the executive committee has been aware of the need for a research program to study the local problems of its members. A Research Committee was appointed to investigate the possibilities of establishing such a program. The Committee decided that the following program offered the greatest possibilities of all around benefit to the Greenkeeping Superintendents:

1. To hire a man capable of conducting research in all phases of turf, to act as a research man in disease, insects, soils and minor elements, and all other problems as related to turf and soils in modern greenkeeping practices, and to act as an extension man for all greenkeepers and be in charge of the turf gardens.
2. To establish a demonstration and research garden within the Chicago area in which demonstration plots of grasses can be maintained under conditions actually existing on golf courses and on which actual experiments can be conducted. Within this area new grasses will be tested and established and new practices investigated. This garden to be five acres in area, permanently located, and not to be moved.

The cost of the program is to be borne by the State. The Garden to be established if possible at Lisle, Illinois, on land now owned by the Department of Horticulture of the State University. The man to be based at Urbana or at the gardens and to have adequate expense allowance to cover the state as the need arises. This man's assignment would be to work on golf course turf and ornamental grass growing areas in the state.

During the past two years your committee has found interest in two agencies within the state. The Natural History Survey, and more recently the Department of Horticulture of the University of Illinois, thru Clifford Taylor, Supt. of the Cook County Agricultural Experiment Station, at Desplaines, Illinois, have expressed more than casual interest in our problems. The possibilities and facilities within the two State Departments were investigated.

It was the thought of your committee that the success of this program would depend on the quality of the man who is selected to work with us. We understand that the qualifications that we have set up will make it difficult to select a man who will fill all of them but we also feel that if we get the right kind of greenkeeping practices and that the generations following us will benefit from his help. Thus it is easy to understand why your committee stresses the employment of a man who will be available for many years. It was felt that this type of employment could be better furnished thru the Natural History Survey whose men spend their lives serving the job to which they are assigned, rather than thru the Department of Horticulture whose men are replaced on the average of once in five years.

On March 13th your committee was instructed by President Stuppel to investigate the possibility of asking the Illinois Natural History Survey to activate the program as outlined above for the Golf Courses of Illinois. A meeting was arranged with Dr. Tehon for March 20th to visit the Natural Resources Building at Urbana and to talk with Dr. Mills who is in charge of the activities of the Natural History Survey.

Seven members of the Midwest Association made the trip, Don Strand, Committee Chairman, Wm. Stuppel, John Sellers, Ray Davis, Norman Johnson, Robert Williams and Paul E. Burdette. Your Committee was cordially received by Dr. Carter, acting in the absence of Dr. Tehon who was ill, and by Dr. Mills. The program was presented to Dr. Mills who said he thought the program to be practical and necessary and suggested that Don Strand get in touch with Dr. Tehon as soon as Tehon recovers from his illness, and arrange to discuss the details of budget and the matter of the appropriation thru the State Legislature.

The Department of Horticulture operates an experiment station which is headed up locally by Clifford Taylor of Desplaines. He suggested the possibility of establishing turf plots of fine grasses for the benefit of Greenkeepers at the new station at Lisle, Illinois. Accordingly your committee arranged to see Mr. Taylor and called on him on Wednesday, March 29th at the Desplaines Station. This committee was composed of Don Strand, Wm. Stuppel, Bert Ross and Paul Burdette. The same program was outlined to Mr. Taylor who indicated that he was deeply in sympathy with the program, recognized the need for a long term garden, one lasting as long as greenkeepers produced fine turf and golfers played on it, and the need for keeping it in one place, and the need of the greenkeepers for the assistance of a research and extension man who would grow up with the greenkeepers and help the next generation to do an even better job. Mr. Taylor suggested that we do nothing in any direction until he was able to visit Urbana and consult with the acting head of the department. Under questioning he admitted that it might be possible that the Department of Horticulture would want to take on the whole program. Mr. Taylor is to report to Bert Rost as soon as he makes the trip to Urbana, which he indicated would be this coming week.

The advantage of locating the gardens at Lisle is obvious. It is close to all of us and we can all take advantage of its nearness. The Department of Horticulture plans to erect a building at Lisle which would have a meeting room available to us for winter meetings, and a greenhouse in which winter experiments could be carried out if the need arose. The meeting rooms would be available to us regardless of whether or not this program was adopted.

Your committee will take no further action until it receives the report of Mr. Taylor during the next week.

—Don Strand.