



PRESS RELEASE

BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

25 January 1993

For more information telephone: 03473 581

Royal Honour for Local Course Superintendent

Golf Course Superintendent, ROBERT MAIBUSCH, of Clarendon Hills, has just returned from Harrogate in Yorkshire, England where he received the top award of his profession from His Royal Highness, Prince Andrew, Duke of York.

Robert, 35, Course Superintendent of Hinsdale Golf Club, is one of only two US recipients of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association's Master Greenkeeper Certificate. This he achieved by academic courses, experience, a written examination and independent assessment of the golf course. Only three other greenkeepers, all from Britain, have qualified to date.

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Robert, 35, has a BS in Turfgrass Management from Michigan State University, is on the National Committee of Certification Appeals for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. At Hinsdale, one of the oldest clubs in Illinois, he has 18 staff in season "the best staff I've ever worked with" and his members are "very appreciative of what we do" and are "wonderful people to work for".

Robert and his wife, Cheryl met the Prince informally at a reception after the award ceremony. They found him genuinely interested and friendly. They also met Viscount William Whitelaw, President of the Greenkeepers Association and the former Deputy Prime Minister under Margaret Thatcher.

The Prince told the greenkeepers in his opening speech that "we golfers" should realize that: "It is only possible to play this Royal and Ancient game because of all the hard work, commitment, patience, care, and above all because of the pride" that they take in their profession.

Robert and Cheryl Maibusch have two young children, Alexandra, four and a half and Kieron, aged three.

What an Honour ...

Being the Editor, I took the liberty to run the above press release describing the "honour" bestowed upon our own Bob Maibusch by the British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association.

I interviewed Bob over the phone about his certification and the trip to England. But I must spend some time with him at a pub and discuss this over a pint of dark bitters someday soon.

Two years ago at the GCSAA convention in Las Vegas, Bob saw the British Greenkeepers booth and stopped to chat. At that

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Master Greenkeeper Certificate recipients, left to right: Gordon Irvine, Mill Ride G.C., North Ascot, England; William Montague, Oakwood C.C., Cleveland, Ohio; Robert Maibusch, Hinsdale G.C., Hinsdale, IL; and Kerran Daly, Salisbury & South Wilts G.C., Wiltshire, England.

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