Many Thanks to Our Host Clubs!

by Don Ferreri, Arrangements Chairman

We as an association are in the midst of another season of education and golf events. And as usual we are enjoying some of the finest golf in the Chicago area on a monthly schedule. With the golf industry pushing through the middle of another decade, so does the going fee to play a round of golf in the area. I cannot speak for the private country club, but I have heard of some very sizable guest fees. I can only speak on behalf of the public golf clubs. My club is one of nine Chicago area courses that charge at least \$70.00 per player for greens fee and cart. Many more courses are following close behind.

As chairman of the arrangements committee, I am trying to negotiate golf events for M.A.G.C.S. with the best interest of our members in mind. The reality of the situation is that golf clubs cannot afford to give away golf and their clubs anymore.

Even as the cost to our members has increased over the years, we need to understand that M.A.G.C.S. is still receiving a large discount for our golf events. There are many factors to include in the fee for a monthly event. Some of these are golf, cart, food, postage, scoring, range, and prizes. And that is only naming a few.

The golf courses we have been playing for \$55.00 to \$75.00 per player, retail from \$95.00 to \$130.00 per player in a corporate outing with the same format. Also, our commercial sponsor at \$350.00 per event have helped along with our host in keeping golf outings affordable to the members.

On behalf of the M.A.G.C.S., I would like to thank our host clubs past and future for providing a great day of enjoyment and professionalism to our association. It is still the best price in town!!

Please try to keep this in mind when filling out your preregistration form and at year end budget preparation time. If you are interested in hosting a meeting in the future, please call me at 852-1746. Once again, many thanks to our hosts.

Turf Tip (Ropes)

from a local superintendent

Whether you use ropes to direct cart traffic or not, you probably have coils of rope stored in your shop. How many hours have been wasted coiling rope on the original spools or coiling the rope around your arm and fighting for hours untangling the mess of knots when you want to use it later?

A simple and inexpensive solution to the problem is the use of hose caddies or hose reels. These plastic home owner helpers cost less than \$20. at your local hardware store. One caddie can handle 3,000 feet of rope. It is a good idea to use two caddies, one for your rope that has not been cut, and one for the rope with all the knots.

With these caddies and metal stakes with a U shape top instead of an eyelet, two workers can set out or retrieve over a mile worth of rope in a couple of hours. There are a few more tricks that you can use. If you rope off the same areas all the time, you can cut the rope to fit, and before you remove these ropes from the course, duct tape and label the ends before you rewind the rope. This will facilitate the installing next time and reduce the number of times you have to cut the rope.

Credit: Our Collaborator, 7/94





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