

the Bull Sheet

Official publication of the MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.

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On Course With the President

by Joel Purpur, President, MAGCS

Hosting the June MAGCS golf event and meeting at the River Forest Country Club was a real pleasure for me. I hope all who participated enjoyed themselves and the golf course. Two straight weeks of 90 degree temperatures with no rain in early June was a challenge for all of us; it was just the weather I was hoping for to prepare the course for our outing. NOT! Thanks again to all who helped with the event, especially our generous sponsors! It did not take long to drain the 500 cans of pop and beer provided on the course! Sorry we ran out, it was a hot and dry one!

The weather has cooperated pretty well this year for golf events (except for the combined golf day) which makes things a whole lot easier. This brings us to an issue that the Board must address. What happens in the event of a rain day when the contract with the host club demands numbers for financial guarantees for all food reservations? These guarantees for food and arrangements have become a standard requirement at virtually every MAGCS meeting site.

Since the courses we play are usually generous enough to comp our green fees and sometimes carts as well, does the MAGCS give rain check credit if it means taking a substantial financial loss for the association? Almost the entire registration fee covers only the basic costs of the meals. Little else. Those of us who were rained out at the ITF Combined Golf Day at Eagle Ridge did not get any type of refund for much the same reasons. Clubs these days are getting real firm with their guaranteed numbers. Watch for the MAGCS meeting rain policies in upcoming mailings. It is a business hosting and providing meals at our meetings and these issues must be addressed in a business type manner.

Things are working out, at least on a temporary basis, transitioning the responsibilities of the MAGCS Executive Secretary. George Minnis, a real computer buff, is taking over the responsibilities of the position. He has previously helped out Joan from time to time, so he is somewhat familiar with the operation and looks forward to the challenge. He has many ideas for improving the data base program and the capabilities of our present computer system. We will have to change the MAGCS phone number and post office box, so look for an update soon. Welcome abroad, George!

Just a couple of reminders. Please, if you have not returned your MAGCS Superintendent Survey, please do so ASAP! We need your membership feed back. Also, the pre-registration for meetings has helped a great deal in preparation for our meetings, with some exceptions. Prepayment has not always accompanied pre-registration, or people phone in a reservation and don't pay or show up. Either way, if people make reservations, don't pay, and don't show, the MAGCS and its members have to cover the costs. Let's try and improve in this area. The Editorial Committee is receiving some exciting and creative suggestions from the membership for a new newsletter name. We will report back as things develop and in the mean time, Thank You for your participation. Stay green and keep cool in the "home stretch" of summer.