

1997 Northern Golf Day Held at Glen View Club

This year's Northern Golf Day was held Monday, September 29, at Glen View Club, Golf, Illinois. Over 180 turned out to play the beautiful course and to enjoy the superb food and camaraderie of the day.

"The double shotgun tournament, hosted by Superintendent Jeff Leuzinger, was a great success, raising over \$10,000 for the turf research fund of the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation," according to Golf Day Chairman John Turner.

A Northern Golf Day feature is awarding of the Dom Grotti trophy to the golf superin-

tendent and assistant superintendent who achieve the best combined low net score. The 1997 winners of the Dom Grotti trophy are Randy Wahler and Javier Vega of Knollwood Club. Congratulations to Randy and Javier who will defend their title at next year's Northern Golf Day.

ITF is grateful for the strong support of the industry members who participate in the event as tee, beverage and brunch sponsors. We also thank Bruce Schweiger and Bruce Johnson, the "ITF Visiting Pros," who added to the fun and challenge on a par 3 raffle event.

Special thanks go out to host Jeff Leuzinger and the entire staff of Glen View Club for all their hard work in preparing for the event and the gracious hospitality extended at the outing. It truly was a wonderful day enjoyed by all in attendance. ■

Credit: Illinois Turfgrass Foundation

The Rules of Golf

(continued from page 12)

Decision 25/11 explains the many ramifications of grass clippings. Grass clippings are only ground under repair if they have been piled for removal. A player is entitled to relief if clippings piled for removal interfere with his stance or swing. Grass clippings are, by definition, loose impediments, whether or not they are piles for removal, and may be removed by the player. But again, don't move the ball when removing loose grass clippings, or you will pick up a penalty stroke under Rule 18-2(c).

Have your members ever had to invoke the "leaf rule" in the fall? Actually, there is no such thing. However, the *Decisions* book does allow the committee to adopt a local rule to deal with the seasonal problem of leaves. Decision 33-8/31 suggests adop-

tion of a local rule declaring accumulations of leaves through the green to be Ground Under Repair, allowing Rule 25-1 (Abnormal Ground Conditions) to apply.

And finally, what is the ruling if a member of your staff rakes a bunker when the player's ball lies in it, and the raking improves the lie of the ball or the line of play? Decision 13-2/4 states that if the staff member raked the bunker on the instructions, or with the sanction of the player, the player would incur a two-stroke or loss-of-hole penalty. Otherwise, there would be no penalty. If, however, in raking the bunker your staff member accidentally rakes over the ball, partially burying it, Rule 20-3(b) applies: The original lie of the ball shall be recreated as nearly as possible, and the ball shall be placed in that lie.

The rules of golf and their application to our side of the business can be involved, even a bit complicated, but always interesting. If a question ever arises at your club regarding your operation and the rules of the game, the best and closest source of information on the rules is your local golf association. In our area of the country, both the West Virginia Golf Association and the Western Pennsylvania Golf Association have knowledgeable, competent rules people on the staff. You can also refer your rules questions directly to the USGA, but keep in mind that the USGA will render a decision only to clubs that conduct their competitions in accordance with the Rules of Golf. ■