



# Got Host Sites?

*It's a blah kind of Monday, freezing rain coming down again, and I'm getting my chops busted by my two assistants over how great the Packers are after they humiliated the Bears. The sad thing was, I had gone to the game with Cubby O'Brien only to see the humiliation firsthand. The amazing thing was, in a stadium that holds 66,000 people, I actually saw another MAGCS member, whom we will call Bob, about eight-deep in 16-ounce Miller Lites. "Bob" didn't seem to have a care in the world what was going on down on the field after the third quarter. It's okay, I was right there with you, bud. It sure makes for a long ride home when you can't seem to keep the bladder empty. Stupid pay tolls! So now I'm out of La La Land, back into reality land and here to tell you about the 2005 line-up of events, venues and hosts. Here goes:*

- January 24: Fred Behnke and Mount Prospect Golf Club
- February 10-11: Hospitality Room at the Rosen Centre, Orlando
- March 21: Soldier Field
- April 25: Steve Partyka and White Pines Golf Club
- May 23: Tom Prichard and Ivanhoe Country Club  
ITF/MAGCS Combined Golf Day
- June 13: Todd Schmitz and Phillips Park Golf Course
- July 16: Kane County Cougars game
- August 15: Jason Lemenske and Waters Edge Golf Course
- September 19: Kurt Samms and Idlewild Country Club
- October: TBA—ITF/MAGCS Combined Golf Day
- November 2: Tom Lively and Medinah Country Club  
Midwest Turf Clinic
- November: Scott Speiden and Itasca Country Club  
Fall Dinner Dance

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Gentlemen, I would like to thank you ahead of time for graciously offering your facility to host a 2005 MAGCS meeting; your generosity will be long remembered. Now I would like to tell you about the 2006 and 2007 host sites and they are . . . we have none! I like to refer to this as the "Game Day Blues." It's hard to get excited about a game when you have no idea where you are playing. Why, you ask, do we need to plan so far ahead? To set up a monthly meeting is kind of like planning for a wedding every month. Those of you who are married or about to be know what I am talking about. It takes a lot of time, careful planning and, of all things, locking in a site before it is no longer available.

Even without a July meeting this year, I still found it difficult to fill the 2005 schedule. It's amazing how many phone calls I receive from people wanting to know where monthly meetings are during a season, but how few I get from people (zero) to offer their course to host a meeting. My goal as Arrangements Committee chairman is to fill the 2006-2007 calendars with host sites. It makes it a lot easier on all of us to plan and organize when we have time to work with. The common misconception that members have is that the MAGCS is looking for a freebie and that the host superintendent is going to have to do all of the work setting up for a meeting. This is false! This is why we have committees. We do all the work; all you have to do is make the call. If you haven't hosted an MAGCS monthly meeting, I strongly urge that you consider doing so. Please give me a call today at 608-757-2328 to talk about hosting a meeting. If I can host three meetings, you can host **one!**

