

MIDWEST BREEZES

Brad Anderson, CGCS, Associate Editor



Evanston Golf Club, Dan Charlton

Last fall Evanston Golf Club underwent a complete golf course overhaul. The rains that plagued the project really tested everyone's patience but the end product is extraordinary.

The greens were extended to the original 1920 Donald Ross fill pads, and seeded with A-1. Dan reports that the A-1 has performed even better than he expected during the first year. The maintenance practices for A-1 are very similar to the practices that were used on the older grasses, but hand-watering has become a thing of the past.

The remodeled bunkers were grassed with H&E's XL2000 low-mow bluegrass sod to provide a nicely manicured border that releases balls that fly into the grass faces. The steep grass faces are kept green throughout the heat of summer with hand watering every Monday. Additionally an application of 16/90 wetting-agent was applied to the grass faces in the spring to help water retention. The bunkers are hand mown with Robin Flymo's every Tuesday. Approximately 42 man-hours are required

to complete the mowing process. The time for watering and hand mowing the new bunkers is scheduled maintenance, whereas hundreds of unscheduled man-hours were required to rebuild and repair the older flashed sand bunkers after every rainstorm.

To visually disguise Evanston's flat topography the fairways were killed off, re-contoured, and seeded to Pennagle II and Pennlinks II.

The new fairway contours required new lateral fairway irrigation lines and this was a good time to upgrade to newer fairways heads. All new irrigation lines and heads were also added around the greens and tees.

The tees were seeded with T-1. The rootzone is 7-2-1 mix. They have performed well this first season in terms of divot recovery and wear patterns. **-OC**



Some great pictures of Dan Charlton's accomplishments at Evanston Golf Club.

Left: Tees were reconstructed with a 7-2-1 mix, seeded with T-1 and set a great visual for each hole's the starting point.

Middle: Fairways were re-contoured and seeded with Penneagle II and Pennlinks II to create more of a flowing feel when playing each golf hole.

Right: A stunning picture of the restored Ross greens with grass faced bunkering.