

EDUCATION REVIEW

Charles Anfield, CGCS, *Heritage Bluffs Golf Course*

60th Turf Clinic



The MAGCS Members met at Medinah Country Club for the 60th Turf Clinic and Annual Meeting. Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS MG was the host for the day. The education theme for the day was "2012, The Year that Was".



Curtis Tyrrell

Shane Conroy, Assistant Superintendent from Park Ridge Country Club was the morning moderator. He introduced a panel discussion led by Dr. Derek Settle, Director of Turfgrass Programs with the CDGA, discussing the **2012 Golf Season**. The panel consisted of Robert C. Vavrek Jr., USGA Senior Agronomist of the North Central Region, Brad Chamra, Superintendent of Hinsdale Golf Club, Scott Pavalko, Superintendent of Cog Hill Golf and Country Club and Tim Christians, Superintendent of Makray Memorial Golf Club.

Act I. Early Spring Warm Up

Dr. Settle led off with some graphs and statistics showing the 2012 annual temperatures. Data indicated that it was one of the warmest on record. The year started out with a warmer than normal winter with very little snow cover. Many courses stayed open for play. The trend continued with an unusual March, featuring nine consecutive days with temperatures in the 80's. Spring also brought unusual disease and pest outbreaks with dollar spot, patch diseases, broadleaf weeds and fairy ring. Dr. Settle estimated our spring season was a month ahead of "normal."

Scott: "It was an early start for everything. We aerified greens earlier than normal; consequently they healed in faster than normal."

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Tim Christians, Brad Chamra, Bob Vavrek and Scott Pavalko

