

# Riding the Crazy Weather Train



*Matt Kregel  
The Club at Strawberry Creek*

What a crazy ride 2014 has been so far. One can only wonder what Mother Nature has in store for us next. The harsh winter left our friend/nemesis, Poa, in very harsh shape.

The cold air temperatures prolonged by the water in the big lake to our east presented quite a challenge for recovery this Spring. It was difficult to get soil temperatures high enough to germinate seed and encourage growth.

Fast forward a few weeks and rain became a constant. Depending where you were located it was excessive and caused flooding. High winds also caused unnecessary clean up and boy was the grass growing at excessive rates. It was hard to keep up if you couldn't get out to mow. No matter what curve ball Mother Nature has thrown us this year, we've adapted and come out swinging. Sometimes it is hard to hit it out of the park, but in the end, we get it over the fence.

Because of the changing battles we face at work each day, sometimes it is difficult to focus on life outside the course.

I hope that everyone takes time to understand that this passion that we call a job is in the end just a job. Please take time for your family and loved ones. They are the roots of your life. It is difficult to leave your work at the course when you go home for the day but remember that others require special care and attention, more so than the golf course.

I am very fortunate to work at a club that welcomes my family with all privileges. My children enjoy visiting dad at work and lounging at the pool or taking a ride with Dad around the course. Who am I kidding? My kids are old enough now that they want their own cart to drive, something I've decided that needs a purpose, so I've put them to work. One is never too young to fill divots in fairways.

I am still having difficulties grasping how my oldest will be a freshman in high school this fall. Time passes quickly, make sure you spend some of yours outside of work with family this summer.

Enjoy the rest of 2014. May temperatures be in the mid 70's with a quarter inch of rain every four to five days. (ED note: Matt forgot to ask for nighttime temps to dip into the 50s). @



*The divot crew at Strawberry Creek, Hannah (11), Tyler (8) and Isabel (13) Kregel.*