

8/9/93—Hole #5 (Left Fairway) – Day 5 – First seedlings emerge.

8/5/93—Hole #5 (Left Fairway) – Day 1 – Seeding complete.



8/20/93—Hole #5 (Left Fairway) – Day 14 – Two-week-old seedlings.

At no time can young seedlings go without proper and timely irrigation, nutrition and conditioning. Grow-in accomplishment is governed by how one manages the open end of a hose. Providing water at the right time, in the right amount, at the right frequency is the deciding act.

Developing a well-trained, qualified staff is paramount to a successful grow-in. The specialized watering, nutritional and grooming regimes require enormous amounts of personal attention and expertise. How well you have selected, trained and empowered your staff will pay great dividends and speed the grow-in phase.

It is common to have all three phases of construction going at the

same time during grow-in. The superintendent and his/her staff feel obligated to assist or perform all construction tasks, deemed necessary for the timely and successful completion of the project, that may "fall to the wayside" outside the scope of the contractor's responsibility. The designer is not interested in assisting with the agronomic care and conditioning of grow-in. The same applies to the construction contractor, who is interested in the next earthmoving operation. I believe that this is the most intensely stressful time during construction.

The attention each detail requires is staggering and unrelenting. Every inch of the golf course is different than every other inch, and it must be treated that way. A green with 10-day-old seedlings is far different than a green with 30-day-old seedlings. How well you manage your time, and the time of others, can make the difference. Here's where "planning your work and working your plan" pays off. Developing your organizational and delegation skills helps motivates subordinates to perform and succeed for you.

At last, grand opening day, and as in childbirth, it is a fitting culmination to all the hard work, time and preparation. So, pass out the cigars—the pride and joy of bringing home a "newborn course" is one you will always remember and cherish.





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