



MAGCS October Meeting Chicago Highlands Club

2 Man Team Championship

Gross: 1st David Kohley & Luke Cella 68

2nd Greg Coyne & Todd Zimmerman 74

3rd Matt Baumgartner & Dave Nadler 75

4th Ed Fischer & Bob Kronn, Sr. 75

Net: Rob Golembieski & Josh Cull 49

Paul Carlson & Steve Poole 50

Jeff Cameron & Jim Canning 51

Scot Spier & Scott Hillyard 52

Congratulations to all winners! Thanks to Michael and everyone at Chicago Highlands for a great day,

and to the day's sponsors who made it all possible:
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Chapter Delegates Focus on the Future

Luke Cella, MAGCS & GCSAA Staff

The annual GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting (Oct. 1-2) took on a decidedly different appearance this year, as the focus was not so much on the current state of affairs, but more on the future of the association and the profession.

GCSAA Chapter Delegates Focus on the Future

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Upon his return, Don stated, "I have never felt in better hands as a GCSAA Class A member. The work we have achieved in the past five years to enhance our role and value as the most influential position at the facility has become a reality. We have a lot of very talented people working diligently on our behalf."

"We were intent on getting feedback on what the profession would look like in the future, targeting the range of 2020 to 2025," GCSAA President Patrick R. Finlen, CGCS, said. "It became obvious to the board through our discussions with those in the golf industry, including members, that the profession is experiencing rapid change. Superintendents are being asked to do more, and the tools and resources we use to do that job are changing. Just look at what is happening with technology. The game of golf may not be changing much, but how we manage it is."

Peering into the Crystal Ball

To begin the process, attendees were shown a video featuring GCSAA members representing different membership classes, years of service, ownership structure and budget size. They were then asked to offer their thoughts on what the future would

entail for members and how GCSAA might be of assistance.

Extensive time was also spent in breakout sessions, addressing the following questions:



The crystal ball is supposed to help people with clairvoyance, but be careful where you store it, they've been known to start fires in direct sunlight.

Would it be advantageous for GCSAA to simplify/narrow membership classes?

Should GCSAA enhance Class A standards?

What would motivate a member to achieve Class A status?

If changes are to be made, how quickly should implementation occur?

"We weren't looking for the delegates to construct how we get to the future, rather we asked them what the profession

would require in terms of competencies,” Finlen said. “With that feedback, we can then set in motion the plans for how GCSAA can best help members achieve future success.”

According to Finlen, the delegates were strongly in support of the need to more narrowly define membership classes and enhance standards. However, opinions varied as to what the standards would look like and the timeline for implementing them. He said the next step would be for the board to engage GCSAA members and others outside the membership in the coming months to get a greater diversity of input.

First-year Peaks and Prairies GCSA delegate Dan Tolson, Class A member at 3 Creek Ranch Golf Club in Jackson Hole (Wyo.), found his experience to be thought-provoking. “I really did not know what to expect, but it was an eye-opener for me just to sit and listen to people talk about the issues and how members are impacted,” he said. “It will be interesting to go back to my chapter and hear what the members have to say. I was impressed by the deep thought the delegates put into the questions.”

State of the Association

Finlen and GCSAA Chief Executive Officer Rhett Evans briefed delegates on various programs and services, noting the 2014 GCSAA business plan would continue to focus on the following priorities:

- Enhance technology to allow GCSAA to better serve members and provide them with tools that provide on-course solutions
- Complete the implementation of the field staff program and the extension of member services to regions/chapters
- Dedicate additional resources to advocating on behalf of members to golfers, employers and policymakers
- Enhance education programming and evaluate membership classifications to remain relevant in the marketplace
- Explore means to increase revenues through traditional and non-traditional sources
- Continue to be prudent in exploring and implementing



GCSAA CEO Rhett Evans listens to a question from the audience.

programs and services that expand GCSAA's contribution to growing the game worldwide

“This was a great meeting,” said Metropolitan GCSA delegate and Class A member Bob Nielsen, CGCS at Bedford (N.Y.) Golf and Tennis Club. “This is my ninth delegates meeting, and I really sensed optimism and a clear vision for the future. The work done in the past is having an impact. Superintendents have respect and are at the table. Now we have to figure out how we build on that momentum for the future.”

Not Business as Usual

For the first time since 1999, the entire function was conducted in Lawrence, Kansas, with the majority of the time spent at the association's headquarters. It was also held on successive weekdays for the first time instead of following the traditional weekend schedule. While a post-event survey is being conducted, a straw poll indicated the new format was preferred by the majority of those in attendance (83 delegates representing 87 chapters).

Delegates also had the opportunity to hear from those members running for national office and to participate in small breakout sessions to learn more about candidate platforms and philosophies. The slate of candidates includes:

For President:

- Keith A. Ihms, CGCS, Country Club of Little Rock (Ark.)

For Vice President:

- John J. O'Keefe, CGCS, Preakness Hills Country Club, Wayne, N.J.


For Secretary/Treasurer:

- Peter J. Grass, CGCS, Hilands Golf Club, Billings, Mont.
- Bill H. Maynard, CGCS, Country Club of St. Albans (Mo.)

For Director:

- Rafael Barajas, CGCS, Hacienda Golf Club, LaHabra Heights, Calif.
- Mark F. Jordan, CGCS, Westfield Group Country Club, Westfield Center, Ohio
- John Walker, Bentwater Country Club, Montgomery, Texas

Update Your Voting Status

Don Ferreri will update the MAGCS on these outcomes and also discuss the election for the GCSAA at the Midwest Turf Clinic and follow up at the Midwest January Meeting. Now is the time to check your voting status with GCSAA, some of you may vote independently and may not be aware of this. If you'd like to change how you vote, and cast your vote with MAGCS, contact Don or Luke Cella and they will make it happen. 



Charles Anfield, CGCS, *Heritage Bluffs Golf Course*

Maximizing Turf Disease Control



The Midwest members met on a warm and sunny October day for education and golf at the impeccably maintained, Arthur Hills designed Chicago Highlands, hosted by Michael Huestis and his staff.

Dr. Rob Golembiewski from the Bayer Green Solutions Team made his presentation on “Maximizing Turf Disease Control.”

Plant health is an ambiguous term that has been used freely in the turf industry, but has not been clearly defined. Dr. Rob had a couple of definitions:

1. Optimal plant growth and development in the presence / absence of abiotic and biotic stress.
2. Environmental conditions are balanced with management inputs to meet expectations of golfers.



Turfgrass breeding programs are making improvement in dollar spot resistance.

He explained, “superintendents are at the core of plant health”.

Weather patterns have a huge influence on plant health anywhere. Root growth of bentgrass and *Poa annua* respond differently to soil temperature ranges and soil moisture. Random large rainfall events can significantly modify conditions in a hurry.

Disease can become an issue year round. Disease calendars, models and programs can become useful to pinpoint the mostly likely conditions that will favor a specific disease on a specific turf type. The disease triangle model factors in relationships and requirements between the host, pathogen and environment.


Disease control can be achieved through:

1. Genetics: “We have come a long way in genetic breeding over the last 25 years.” Some varieties are being bred to be drought tolerant. Other breeding programs are making improvements in dollar spot and gray leaf spot resistance.



Other breeding programs are focused on drought tolerance, reducing the need for water inputs.

2. Biologicals: "As a stand-alone product we are not there yet. Most people will combine the biological applications with low rates of fungicides."
3. Cultural Methods: These would include mowing, dew removal, topdressing, etc. This is probably the area of disease control where Superintendents have the most influence. Inputs of Nitrogen will decrease dollar spot disease pressure. Spoon-feeding applications using an ammonium Nitrogen source provides the best results to reduce disease severity. Low mowing heights have proven to increase turf to disease susceptibility. Decreased photosynthetic ability of having less leaf area decreases overall plant health. Dew removal by dragging or rolling to displace moisture and reduce leaf wetness duration has proven to decrease disease incidence. Research conducted by Dr. Rob while at Oregon State University (GO BEAVERS!) demonstrated that by substituting rolling instead of mowing on Poa annua greens, plant health increased without loss of green speed. Some diseases are enhanced by compaction and low soil moisture. Aerification and judicious irrigation will be useful tools to influence and maintain plant health.
4. Chemical Control: Different growth regulators can be combined for synergistic activity to enhance plant growth. Certain products applied for certain diseases create disease resistance over time. Nozzle types can optimize coverage and improve fungicide performance. Fan type nozzles work best for foliar diseases. Increase water volume for stem base and crown diseases. For root borne diseases water in product immediately.

Suffice to say, plant health is critical to providing excellent playing conditions. That's us. We are the "keepers" of the green and it is our job to educate ourselves, use science and research in the attempt to do everything better and more efficient. That's the progression that any profession needs to get stronger. For the game of golf, it's all about the turf. 

For further information contact robgolebiewski@bayer.com or john.turner@bayer.com

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Charles Anfield, CGCS, *Heritage Bluffs Golf Course*

What Worked for You?

Every golf season is a little different than the last. There are new technologies to try, new techniques to implement and new tools available to try to improve overall turfgrass performance. Of course, the weather and rainfall events are different everywhere, every year.

The weather down the street can be much different than at your golf course. Everybody is looking for an “edge” to help their turf get through the season. I queried a number of our MAGCS Members about what worked and what didn’t work for them at their golf courses.

Bob Kohlstedt: Fox Bend Golf Course “Prime Turf Renew Acid worked really well for us. We have salts in our irrigation supply water that bind up the nutrients. It has a penetrant that helps push water through the soil profile. It has really helped reduce our localized dry spots. We inject it through the irrigation system. What didn’t work so well was using 5/8” tines to remove cores on the greens. The holes didn’t heal in as well I expected and this slowed down the recovery time.”

Andy Weadge: Morris Country Club “We did a lot of tree and brush removal work on our tree lines. This really helped with our air movement and improved some of the turf quality in some of our more challenging microclimates. Our insecticide application for grubs didn’t work so well.”

Jeff Hoste: Village Greens of Woodridge “Optimizer worked good for us this year. Our insecticide application was not effective.”

John Gurke, CGCS: Aurora Country Club “Clipper pond herbicide worked great in our ponds! In retrospect what didn’t work great was I should have cut down our emerald ash borer infested trees last winter. They died during the season and looked terrible.”

Chuck Barber: St. Charles Country Club “Cutless worked great for us. I liked the response we got on our turf. I tried some

of the new chemistry, disease control products and wasn’t impressed.”



Some applications for grub control missed the mark this year.

Todd Schmitz: Phillips Park Golf Course “I sprayed an insecticide on the fairways that worked well. I was surprised that the granular application I made in the rough did not work as well.

Dave Ward: Coyote Run Golf Course “Everything worked, it was an easy year. In particular, the bio-solids worked well on our fairways and rough. We reduced mowing on our greens and didn’t see any loss of green speed. Secure fungicide worked great!”

Doug Davis: Flag Creek Golf Course “We saved a lot of time with our new Salsco Roll n Go. There is no trailer, so no slow

down with unloading and loading machine. Our grub control applications did not work as well as I would have hoped."

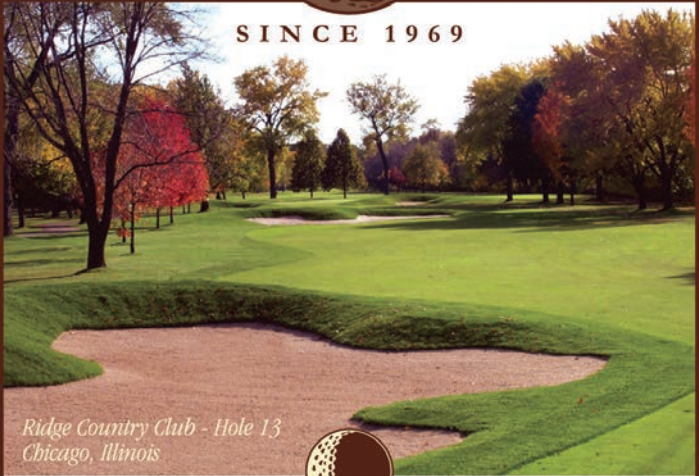
Chuck Anfield, CGCS: Heritage Bluffs Public Golf Club "Our Toro Procore 648 worked great to go out once a month with 3/8" solid tines. Our root development on our greens during the summer has never been better. I too, was a little disappointed in our grub control. I spoke with Dr. Rob Golembiewski (Bayer Turf Solution Team) at the October MAGCS Meeting about this. He indicated these grub control products need a lot of water (minimum .5") immediately or soon after the application to get the product into the soil. Anything less and the product will "hang up" in the thatch. 

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