

MARCH, 1962
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The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents



ED STEWART
Superintendent
River Forest Country Club

NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 1962

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THE BULL SHEET, official publication of THE
MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE
SUPERINTENDENTS.

TED WOEHRLE, *Editor*,
8700 So. Western Avenue
Chicago 20, Illinois

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Congratulations, Roy Nelson, on being elected to the Vice-Presidency of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. Roy is the superintendent of the Ravisloe Country Club and is the Secretary-Treasurer of our Midwest Association. Because of his anticipated prominence in the administration of the GCSAA, it shall be our prerogative and our obligation, individually and collectively, to direct to Roy suggestions and opinions pertaining to the policies and the functions of our national organization. Being an officer of the GCSAA will not guarantee that our ideas will be adopted. However, Roy's position and prestige will assure us that constructive suggestions will be presented to and considered by the Executive Committee.

Your response to paying your Midwest 1962 dues has been very good. Members who have not paid their dues by March 15th will be considered delinquent and will receive a letter to that effect.

This year, upon payment of your dues, you will receive a membership certificate in addition to your membership card. I invite your comments concerning the continued use of certificates in subsequent years. In fact, I solicit your suggestions, ideas and comments about all things pertaining to the Midwest Association. Our success as an organization shall be directly proportional to the support, interest and activity of the members.

Donald Gerber, President

RESULTS OF OUR NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN MIAMI BEACH

President — Sherwood A. Moore, Superintendent of the Winged Foot Golf Club, Mamaroneck, New York.

Vice-President — Roy W. Nelson, Superintendent, Ravisloe Country Club, Homewood, Illinois.

The Three New Directors — Riley E. Heckert, Superintendent, West Shore Country Club, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania.

Lawrence G. Mattei, Superintendent, Kingsboro Golf Club.

L. R. "Bob" Shields, Superintendent, Woodmont Country Club, Rockville, Maryland.



ROY W. NELSON

Secretary-Treasurer of Midwest Association
of Golf Course Superintendents

INTRODUCING THE BOARD

This is the second article in a series of articles that will be appearing in the *Bull Sheet* introducing the members of the Executive Board of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents. Last month we carried an article on John Ebel the 1st Vice President and Chairman of the Arrangements Committee.

We are introducing our Secretary-Treasurer in this issue.

Roy W. Nelson 47, Superintendent of Ravisloe Country Club, in Homewood, for the past four years, is a native Minnesotan. Following two years in Engineering College at the University of Minnesota, he was married and now has three sons. He recently became a proud Grandfather to the daughter of his oldest son.

The Army claimed Roy for three of the war years. He was in Infantry action in the Pacific Theater and was subsequently discharged as a 1st. Lt. Roy's professional groundwork as a Superintendent started at the Minikahda Country Club in Minneapolis with three years as Assistant Superintendent. He then served for ten years as Head Superintendent at the Golden Valley Country Club before coming to Ravisloe in Homewood. He was a director of the Minnesota Superintendent's Association for nine years and its Secretary-Treasurer for six of those years. The Minnesota Turf Conference also benefited by his work for six years as program chairman and director. For the past two years he has been a member of the Executive Board of our National Association with the Additional responsibilities of serving as Chairman of both the Editorial and Educational Committees.

At our recent National Turfgrass Conference and Show in Miami Beach, Roy was elected to the office of Vice-President of our GCSAA. He was appointed the Chairman of the Educational, Advisory and Industrial Relations Committees.

"KEEPING WISCONSIN GOLFERS HAPPY"

The title, "Keeping Wisconsin Golfers Happy", covers a large field. We are constantly trying, but do not always succeed. To obtain any degree of success we must analyze our membership - what they expect and what they desire to obtain from their golf. Most golfers play not only for the sport but to relax and to relieve the nerve strain and tension of the modern business world. To make them happy, we must make our golf courses a retreat with a quiet, restful atmosphere with the feeling of escape from the fast moving restless world.

In order to obtain this atmosphere we must incorporate all of the beauty possible without adding hazards for the golfer. Let us start with the main entrance. It should always be neat and attractive. The first impression made by members - old and new -, guest and even non-members who pass by is of the greatest importance. The Milwaukee Country Club has a split rail fence along the main drive which is a quarter mile long and lined with trees. It gives one the feeling of restfulness and retreat from that busy world. Brynwood Country Club's club house is setting on top of a hill with a tree lined drive and attractive flower beds on the side of a hill facing you as you approach the club house. At my home course, North Hills Country Club, the club house is fairly close to the highway. We have landscaped the entrance with flower beds on either side and a shrub screen to hide the club house from direct views of the highway. Along the entrance drive we have flowering trees; evergreens and flowers make up the foundation planting for the club house. Across the drive from the main entrance to the club house we have a round flower bed of red florabunda roses with two toned petunias and sweet alyssum as a double border.

Next in line is adequate parking facilities. It is a source of annoyance to go to your private club and then have to look for a parking space. To keep members happy you must have parking facilities close to the locker room.

Next let us consider the view over the golf course from the inside of the club house, — dining room, grill, or any other part of the club that overlook the grounds. Every possible effort must be made to keep this area well groomed, and attractive. There must be careful care taken in the placement of trees, the bold clean look of sand traps, the cutting pattern that will intrance the green of the grass, and where space permits, attractive flower beds between the club house and the playing area. By all means avoid a cluttered look. Try to establish a look of spaciousness.

The practice putting green is the next point for our consideration. This is possibly the most abused piece of turf on the golf course. Most of us at one time or another have heard a golfer on the practice green remark: "I hope that the greens on the course are in better shape than this". Extra effort must be put forth to keep this green in just as good shape as those on the course.

Now we come to the all important golf course — the main reason that members have joined the club. Today's golfers want tees in almost putting green shape. They must be large with a grass that can be foured for a quick recovery from damage. They require the care of a putting green, almost the same amount of fertilizer, and slightly less water so that they are firm, and cut so that a ball on a tee will stand out.

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The cut and care of fairways depends on the type of grass and the water available. But any grass will respond and pay dividends in dense, better colored turf from an adequate fertilizing program. The placement of sand traps is very important. The fairway traps should be located so that they define the playing route, and are a challenge to a good golfer who wishes to cut the corner yet far out enough so that a high handicapped, short hitter is not constantly visiting them. They must be maintained with a layer of loose sand, free of weeds and raked not only to remove the foot-prints but to keep the sand loose and smooth.

The greens are where half of the strokes of a good golfer are used. This then illustrates their importance in keeping golfers happy. Just because your neighbor cuts his grass at 3/16 of an inch doesn't mean you can. Your greens may be more rolling, have stronger slopes, or a different type of grass. At 3/16 your greens may become slippery and ball impossible to control. Therefore you must cut higher and do more brushing and verticle cutting to avoid the grain. Don't blindly follow a successful neighbor program.

The landscaping and placement of trees is of vital importance. They must be placed to outline the play, penalized wild shots, beautify the grounds and still leave air drainage. The invasion of Dutch Elm disease has pointed out to us the importance of a wide variety of trees so that our inventory of trees will not be depleted too greatly by any one disease. Variety also enhances the beauty of the course.

Other things we have done to keep golfers happy is to schedule work to avoid play. Each year it is becoming more difficult but improvement in equipment has helped. The golf cart has added to our work and has increased the difficulty in keeping golfers happy. The cart user feels that wear spots and compaction

made by carts has little effect on golf or turf. The non-users feel that it is an impossible shot when his ball is on a piece of turf that is compacted by cart traffic and that cart tracks spoil the appearance of the entire course. In an effort to make both sides happy we have gone into extensive airification and fertilization of any area where cart traffic is heavy and have used added care in routing golf carts both by slight structural changes on the course and route signs where necessary. Rope and stake barriers around wet spots to keep carts running under adverse conditions, and have been quite successful in preventing wear spots even tho 22 rental carts made over 2700 rounds and 15 owner carts made about 1000 rounds at North Hills from May thru October.

This past summer at North Hills we employed a golf ranger to help locate balls on the wooded holes and other little things to help prevent the holding up of play. He also patrols the grounds cutting down the amount of trespassing and vandalism and has contributed to making golfers happy.

If we keep our courses well groomed, we have added to the natural beauty of our golf grounds, been diplomatic in our relations with the members, been progressive in our turf program, been modern in our work, we can safely say that we have kept some of the golfers happy all of the time and all of the golfers happy some of the time. In dealing with humans we know that it is impossible to keep all of the people happy all of the time.

This talk given by Charlie Shiley, Superintendent, Northhills Country Club, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, at Olympia Fields Annual Fall Turf Clinic.



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USGA GREEN SECTION EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

To Be Presented on March 14 in Chicago, Illinois,
Sheraton Chicago Hotel, 505 N. Michigan Ave.

SUBJECT:

A BUSINESS APPROACH TO GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE

Each USGA Member Club is cordially invited to have two representatives at the meeting, preferably the Chairman of the Green Committee and the Golf Course Superintendent. Each Club is limited to two representatives. Admission free. Meals optional, at cost.

Reservations must be sent to: United States Golf Association, 40 East 38th Street, New York 16, New York. List Names of those attending and whether they will be staying for dinner.

The Chairman of the Session will be Charles N. Eckstein. The program is divided into two sessions.

FIRST SESSION — 2 to 6 P.M.

Primarily for Golf Course Superintendents

1. Principles of Organization (30 minutes) - Robert M. Williams, Supt. Bob O'Link Golf Club, Highland Park, Illinois.
2. Personnel Management - panel (45 minutes) - James L. Holmes, Moderator; Chicago, Illinois. Paul Dye Jr., Indianapolis, Indiana. John A. Frederiksen, Moline, Illinois. Roy W. Nelson, Supt. Ravislo Country Club, Homewood, Illinois.
3. The Superintendent Serves Golfers (20 minutes) - Dr. Fred M. Adams, Birmingham, Michigan.
4. Simple Accounting Methods and Budget Preparation

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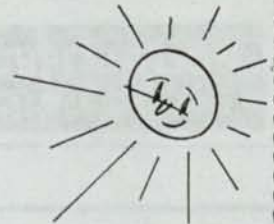
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tion (25 minutes) - Alexander M. Radko, Highland Park, New Jersey.

Recess (15 minutes)

5. How to Maintain a Healthy Job Outlook - Panel (45 minutes) - William H. Bengueyfield, Moderator; Garden Grove, California. Ward C. Case, Columbus, Ohio. Marion Mendenhall, Superintendent, Kenwood Country Club, Cincinnati, Ohio. Paul W. Neff, Superintendent, Scioto Country Club, Columbus, Ohio.

6. Questions, Answers and Discussions (60 minutes).

SECOND SESSION — 8 - 10 P.M.

Primarily for Green Committee Chairman

7. Where Does the Club Dollar Go? (20 minutes) - Charles N. Eckstein, Chicago, Illinois.

8. Keeping up With Research is Good Business (20 minutes) - Dr. Marvin H. Ferguson, College Station, Texas.

9. Don't Overlook Public Relations (20 minutes) - Allen M. Oakley, Quincy, Illinois.

10. Questions, Answers and Discussion (60 minutes).

This meeting of the USGA should be a must for all Superintendents. We should all make an effort to understand the financial picture of our respective Clubs. There will be a time in the very near future when the Superintendent will be asked for support in the management field and he should be prepared to help. This is one method in educating yourself for this responsibility.

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