

Poa Annua Classic bothered a bit by rain; committee considers moving to earlier date

The 17th Annual Poa Annua Classic weekend was usual in combining business, education, fun and relaxation, but unusual in having to contend with an uncooperative Mother Nature.

Unseasonable morning rain plagued the Poa Annua Classic for the second consecutive year. A dejected tournament committee had to call off the tournament after nine holes due to the wet conditions, and a soggy bunch of golfers was reluctant to leave the damp but beautiful Flamingo Island Club in its debut as the Poa Annua Classic site.

Superintendent Jim Larner, had the course well prepared, but the turf could not withstand the accumulation of several days' worth of rain and remain playable.

Everglades president, Buddy Carmouche, announced that the Poa Annua Committee was considering moving the Classic to the first weekend in May to avoid the beginning of the rainy season.

On Saturday afternoon, the G. C. Horn Memorial Research Tournament held at the Naples Beach Club was also delayed by



Seminar speakers at the 17th annual Poa Annua Classic weekend were (l-r), front row, Steve Pearson, Paul Crawford, Walt McMahon, Lou Conzelmann, Cary Lewis and John Gallagher; back row, Jim Montgomery, Robert Drake, Mark Flock and Dale Kuehner.

rain and lightning, but did complete all 18 holes.

Although the golf competitions may have

been dampened by the wet weather, those in attendance were happy to see the drought-stricken West Coast receive the much needed rain.

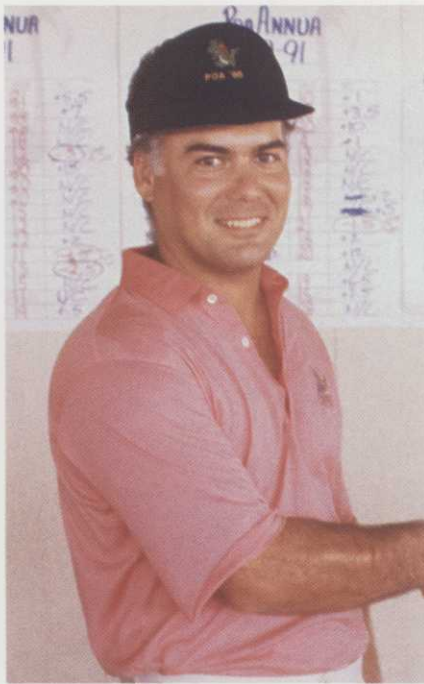
The hard work and preparations by the host Everglades Chapter were not in vain as the cordial atmosphere and gracious hospitality brightened up the weekend. The luau banquet Saturday night combined with the steel drum band gave the weekend a distinct tropical flair.

The Education Committee scored another ace with its seminar, "The Thinking Superintendent" on Sunday morning. A wide range of current critical issues was presented to a capacity crowd of superintendents seeking Continuing Education Credits for their GCSAA certification and for their own personal and professional development.

On Saturday morning the FGCSA Board of Directors held its Spring Board Meeting to conduct the business of the association. President Ray Hansen was pleased to recognize Jeff Hayden as the representative of the Seven Rivers Chapter, the 10th and newest chapter in the state association.



Everglades Chapter Board of Directors are (l-r), Dick McCoy (Windermere CC), Roy Bates (Imperial CC), Secretary-Treasurer Ric Mohr (Palmetto Pines CC), Odell Spainhour (supplier representative, Debra Turf), Mike Mongoven (City of Fort Myers courses), External V.P. Lou Conzelmann (Fiddlesticks CC), V.P. Steve Cairdullo (The Forest CC), Past President Mark Atwood (Bears Paw CC) and President Buddy Carnouche (Hole in the Wall Golf Club).



Dave Oliver won the Superintendent's Division for the third consecutive year.

Poa Annuia Classic Golf Tournament results:

Superintendent Division

Low Gross: 1st David Oliver ,
2nd Lou Conzelmann, 3rd Paul
Bondeson, 4th Larry Livingston.

Low Net: 1st Chuck Rogers, 2nd
Gary Smither, 3rd Jay Gratton, 4th
Ray Cuzzzone.

Team Championship

Palm Beach Chapter-Robert
Brumfield, Pat Kearney, Glenn
Klauk and Jerry Redden.

Supplier Division

Low Gross: 1st Morgan Evans,
2nd Keith Longshore, 3rd Glenn
Zakany, 4th Walt Shirey

Low Net: 1st Brad Reano, 2nd
Dick Bessire, 3rd Odell Spainhour,
4th Ted Owens.

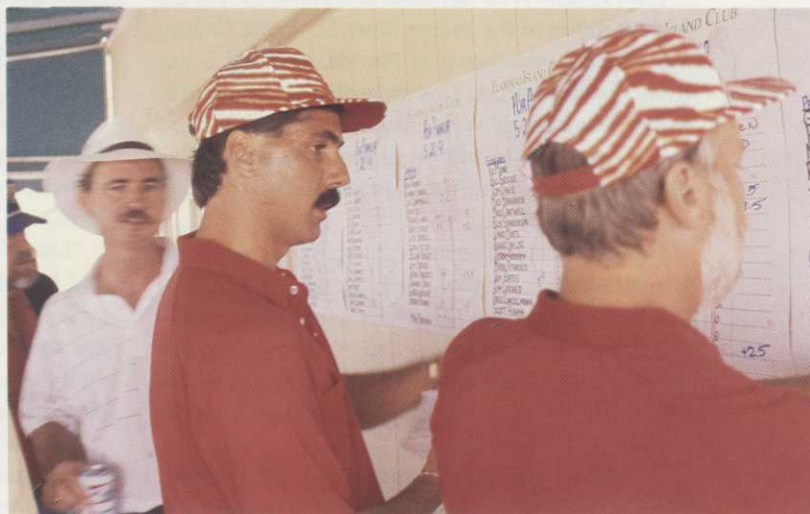


Chuck Rogers was the low net winner with a wide lead over Gary Smither.



The Palm Beach Chapter's minus-10 score took the Chapter Team Championship away from host Everglades Chapter at the Poa Annuia Golf Tournament, May 20. Team members were (l-r) Jerry Redden, Glen Klauk, Pat Kearney and Robert Brumfield.

Mark Henderson watches as Steve Cairdullo and Buddy Carouche post scores



Photos by Joel Jackson