

Ready or not here they come! With the North getting cold weather and early snowfalls and Florida being mostly dry and sunny, this looks to be an excellent year for Florida golf courses.

*Here they come!
Are you ready?*

The fall has always been my favorite time of the year. The cool mornings, mild days, and the changing license plate colors say winter is approaching. This is the time of year when driving becomes a contact sport and shopping is a test of patience.

Since the summer of '96 was a picnic compared to the summer of '95, golfers will be in for a treat at their favorite courses.

This winter will provide a lot of opportunities for continuing education. In February the GCSAA will be holding its conference and show in Las Vegas. This is an event that should not be missed.

The conference allows superintendents to learn all the latest information and see the newest products for golf course management in one place. The FGCSA will be holding its state reception on Sunday, February 9. Look for more information in the mail. In March the South Florida chapter will be hosting its annual Turfgrass Expo in conjunction with the IFAS Field Day.

This event showcases equipment

from the major manufactures and allows you to compare them side by side at the Fort Lauderdale Research Station. The proceeds from this event support the research green at Fort Lauderdale.

During April the USGA will be holding its regional conferences in West Palm Beach and Orlando. The USGA program is an excellent one to invite your greens committee chairman or club manager to attend.

I am proud to announce that the state association has completed the GCSAA affiliation process. We received our certificate from the national after our November board meeting. By the time you read this, most if not all the local chapters will have also completed the affiliation procedure.

This past November I had the pleasure of attending the Florida Golf Summit in Tallahassee. The meeting was sponsored by the Florida Sports Foundation and included people involved with every facet of the golf industry.

I want to thank Tim Hiers for the excellent job he did at the economics and environmental roundtable discussions. We were able to meet a lot of important people at this event and hopefully were able to educate them about the importance of supporting turfgrass research.

Only time will tell if we were truly successful.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dale Kuehner, CGCS
President
FGCSA