

It's that time again: Open season on grouching

It's June again, which means it's time to endure the comments from touring professionals who can't fathom the course conditions insisted upon by United States Golf Association officials.

The U.S. Open stops at Baltusrol June 17-20, after which superintendent Joe Flaherty Jr., who's presiding over his fourth major championship, can breathe a well deserved sigh of relief (see story page 12).

I guess Flaherty and superintendents everywhere can be thankful that Open contestants grouse to the USGA about course severity. All too often it's the super who takes the heat on

such matters.

Anyway, in the spirit of Open grouching, I'd like pass along some words of wisdom on tournament preparation from Ted Horton, the director of golf operations at Pebble Beach and the former head superintendent and director of golf at Westchester Country Club, site of a regular PGA Tour stop.

Horton believes the sequoia-like rough at U.S. Open sites isn't necessarily unfair but far too easy, in a way. He believes good/smart players who play into the rough simply take the stroke and chop a sand wedge



Hal Phillips, editor

back into the fairway.

The trick, he explains, is to grow the rough just long enough to encourage foolish players to attempt a full shot, which ideally results in a meager advancement and another shot

from the rough. Pretty sneaky, eh?

This may be common knowledge to many of you, but it struck me as making cunningly good sense.

...

If I were to comment on the military course bill currently mired in the bowels of Congress, it's almost certain to take

up more space than the news update which appears on page 31 this month. Suffice to say, don't hold your breath waiting for movement on this bill, which would privatize the nation's 240-plus military golf facilities.

Sen. Dennis Deconcini (D-Ariz.) introduced the bill last summer and resubmitted it in January. But don't be surprised if he and his colleagues don't address Senate bill S.234 until the summer of 1994, when DeConcini runs for re-election.

Funny how these things work out...

...

Our condolences and respect mean diddly to an Oregon seed

Continued on page 45

ASGCA, TGIF, NGF, ASTA, RISE, GCBAA, USGA, CMAA...

Acronymphobia. Society's got it in general — the golf industry included. And the government's suffering from a case, big-time.

Indeed, a demented filmmaker-type could make a mind-boggling, yet intriguing, documentary:

"The Acronym Creators: A society held hostage"

What are the signs of acronymphobia? Overlapping duties, duplication to the quadruplicate, tongue-twisting departmentese... just a general confusion, diffusion, evasion, paperwork profusion. We won't even guestimate the cost to Mr. Taxpayer America.

My latest run-in with acronymphobia came just this month. With my shoes just cooling from a trip to cover the GCSAA conference and GCBAA banquet, I headed out for the ASGCA meeting wondering if a representative would be there from the EPA, or perhaps the state DEP. I just knew that on the plane, the pilot was concerned about the FAA. An NBC film crew for *Dateline* was on board, probably contemplating actions by the FCC.

Once there, we all got together with officials of the IA, and on a pleasant Sunday in May met with the USGA. Now, it's off to a seed company field day, prepared to hear a NJDA rep talk, knowing the NJLA would conduct a class on pesticide applications,



Mark Leslie, managing editor

and fully expecting to see friends from the ASTA and ASPA.

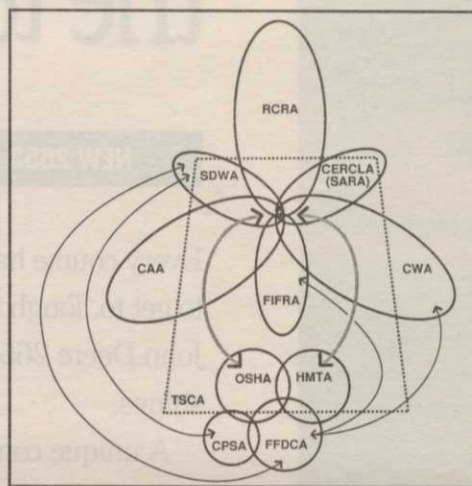
I'm USTed, FIFRAed, OSHAed, AIDSed and Oprah-Winfried to the point of — agh-h-h!

How can a sane society keep up with an insane maze of government, social and business acronyms that even those involved in the acronyms probably have a

hard time identifying?

Take a look at the chart accompanying the story. It shows just one microcosm of one tiny segment of society which affects golf course superintendents, builders and architects. It regards the interrelationships and overlapping of federal environmental, health and safety laws. Do you know these: CAA/Clean Air Act; CWA/Clean Water Act; CERCLA/Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation & Liability Act (Superfund); FIFRA/Federal Insecticide, Fungicide & Rodenticide Act; RCRA/Resource Conservation & Recovery Act; SDWA/Safe Drinking Water Act; TSCA/Toxic Substances Control Act; CPRS/Consumer Product Safety Act; FFDCA/Federal Food, Drug & Cosmetics Act; HMTA/Hazardous Material Transportation Act; OSHA/Occupational Safety & Health Act.

I have a suggestion (and I wonder how much of our federal deficit we



could cut by implementing it): Combine and condense all the departments, bureaus, agencies, administrations and whoever and whatever else into either Air, Water and Land. OK, if you insist, add Materials or Workplace.

Think of all the paper-creators, paper-writers, paper-checkers — and paper-shredders — we could relieve from their tax-paid duties to foist their wisdom on the real world.

Right! They could all come on over to Golf Nation and help us out at the GCSAA, ASGCA, TGIF, PGA, NGF, ASTA, RISE, GCBAA, USGA, PLCAA, NGCOA, PGMA, IA, CMAA, NCA ...

Letters

HARVEY ADDENDUM

Dear Mr. Harvey,

I am a great admirer of yours and, as such, am reluctant to write this letter, but feel compelled to comment on your March 25, noon report concerning pesticide use by golf course superintendents. As Executive Director of RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment), the national association representing manufacturers, formulators and distributors of pesticide products used on golf courses and other urban uses, this issue is very important to me and my members.

The Wilmington, North Caro-

The above letter has been reprinted with permission of the author.

lina Conference Coordinator has informed me that there are no studies which indicate that bird populations are reduced by golf course development. In fact, a number of golf courses have programs with conservation societies to improve bird and wildlife habitats. For example, the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program, administered by the Audubon Society of New York State and sponsored by the United States Golf Association, involves nearly 500 golf courses in 48 states. These courses are involved in nesting box projects, native grass restoration projects, aquatic environment enhancement projects and many other activities.

In addition, there are no studies which show that golf courses are polluting coastal fishing waters. In fact, did you know that the pesticides used by golf course superintendents are among the most carefully tested and regulated products in the world? Each product undergoes as many as 120 different tests required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to assure there is no unreasonable risk associated with the product, including test for human, wildlife and fish health effects and environmental fate before the product can be registered for use. Then, each product is subject to state-by-state review before sales within a state can occur.

Finally, virtually every golf course superintendent in the United States is certified and undergoes training and retraining in the responsible use of pesticides. I urge you to contact the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) to better understand the association's extensive education program.

In addition, if you plan to include comments in a future program about pesticide use in any non-row crop situation, such as golf course or other urban use, please consider RISE a resource for your research.

Thank you.

Allen James
RISE executive director
Washington, D.C.

Publisher
Charles E. von Brecht

Editorial Director
Brook Taliaferro

Editor
Hal Phillips

Managing Editor
Mark A. Leslie

Associate Editor
Peter Blais

Contributing Editors
Kit Bradshaw
Terry Buchen, CGCS
Vern Putney
Bob Spiwak

Editorial Advisory Board
Kevin Downing, CGCS
Willoughby Golf Club
Tim Hiers, CGCS
Collier's Reserve
Dr. Michael Hurdzan
Hurdzan Design Group
James McLoughlin
The McLoughlin Group
Brent Wadsworth
Wadsworth Construction

Production Manager
Joline V. Gilman

Circulation Manager
Brenda Boothby

Editorial Office
Golf Course News
PO Box 997
38 Lafayette Street
Yarmouth, ME 04096
(207) 846-0600

Advertising Office
National Sales:
Charles E. von Brecht
Bob Sanner

Marketplace Sales:
Simone Marsteller

Golf Course News
7901 Fourth St. North
Suite 311
St. Petersburg, FL 33702
(813) 576-7077

United Publications, Inc.
Publishers of specialized business and consumer magazines.

Chairman
Theodore E. Gordon
President
J.G. Taliaferro, Jr.



Copyright © 1993 by United Publications, Inc. All rights reserved and reproduction, in whole or in part, without written permission from the publisher is expressly prohibited.
POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to Circulation Manager, Golf Course News, P.O. Box 3047, Langhorne, PA, USA 19047. (215) 788-7112

Golf Course Marketplace

To reserve space in this section, call Simone Marsteller, 813-576-7077

RS#	Advertiser	Page
139	Accuform Golf Ltd.	43
113	The Andersons	18
107	Aquatrols	13
150	Bloch & Co.	44
109	Brouwer Turf Equip.	12
103	Ciba-Geigy	4-5
118	Ciba-Geigy	26-27
155	Contech Construction Products	44
164	Continental Bridge	45
105	Creative Curb Marketing	13
119	Cushman, Ransomes America Corp.	28-29
127	Envirogenesis	39
154	Environmental Compliance Systems	44
135	Flowtronex	42
163	Formost Construction Co.	45
156	Graphic Energy	44
115	Hoechst-Roussel	22
162	Innovative Golf Products	45
122	ISK Biotech	33
114	Jacklin Seed Co.	21
138	Jacobsen	48
104	John Deere	6-7
137	Kalo	47
128	Kuker-Parker Industries, Inc.	39
160	Master of the Links	45
161	Milona Turf Products	45
136	Montco Products	46
123	Nicklaus Design	34
129	NorthWoods Organics	39
131	Partac	40
153	Pavelec Bros. Construction	44
152	Pelican Marine	44
120	Pennington Seed	30
106	Perfection Sprinkler	13
130	Precision Small Engine	39
133	Precision Tool Prod. Co.	41
158	Quail Valley Turf Farm	45
125	Regal Chemical	38
134	Regal Chemical	41
111	Rhone-Poulenc	14-15
124	Rhone-Poulenc	36-37
101	Smithco	2
110	Standard Golf	9
157	Syntennico	44
117	Tee-2-Green	24-25
112	Toro Comm'l. Prod. Div.	16-17
121	Toro Comm'l. Prod. Div.	32
165	Trims International Software	45
126	U.S. Golf Hole Target	38
159	Unit Structures	45
108	Yamaha	10
151	Yard Edge	44



QUAIL VALLEY FARM, INC.
 "Growers of Quality Turf Grasses"
 • Meyer Z-52 Zoysia • Tifway II
 • El Toro Zoysia • Tifdwarf
 • Tall Fescue • Tifgreen II
 • Sprigs • Big Rolls

(800) 666-0007
 P.O. Box 5508
 Little Rock, AR 72215
 (501) 280-0763

CIRCLE #158



Laminated Wood Pedestrian & Vehicular BRIDGES & SHELTERS
 Order Direct From The Leading Manufacturer in U.S.
 • Complete Prefabricated Packages • Ready for Fast Erection
 • Direct Distribution Throughout the U.S. • Custom Design & Engineering

UNIT STRUCTURES CALL Morrisville, NC 27560
 1-800-777-UNIT Tel. 919/467-6151
 FAX 919/469-2536

CIRCLE #159

Keep Your Divot Seed Mixture Where It Is Used ...
 ... in Divot Seed & Soil tee buckets next to the tee markers. Available in Cedar or Redwood slats and with companion Trash™ debris buckets.

Ask Your Golf Course Distributor for **INNOVATIVE MAINTENANCE PRODUCTS**

From *Master of the Links*

P.O. Box 283, Lockport, IL 60441-0283
 (815) 723-4444 • Fax (815) 723-4485

CIRCLE #160

Cut Cups The Same Depth Everytime
 This cup auger cleans out the last part of each hole. An adjustable ring gives you the exact depth you want.



Call for our Brochure - **800-456-4351**

Milona
TURF PRODUCTS P.O. Box 164 • Milona, MN 56354

CIRCLE #161

ORDER TODAY!

TOUR-LEVEL™ SAND RAKES



The ONLY Tour-approved rake with:
 * No-Splinter Oval Handle
 * Flow-Thru Smoothing
 * GE® LEXAN® Head

1-800-467-5514

Innovative Golf Products, 104-5 Griffith Plaza Drive
 Winston-Salem, NC 27103 FAX (919) 765-9955

CIRCLE #162

Formost Construction Co.
 Serving the nation for over 30 years.

IRRIGATION SPECIALISTS
 "Doing One Thing Well"

P.O. BOX 559
 TEMECULA, CALIFORNIA 92593

(909) 698-7270
 FAX (909) 698-6170

STATE LIC. #267960

CIRCLE #163



Nationwide delivery • Install in less than two hours

Golf Course Bridges!
1-800-328-2047

Thousands in use. Built to last.
 Sponsor Member

CONTINENTAL BRIDGE
 Route 5, Box 178, Alexandria, MN 56308 • (612) 852-7500

NGF
 NATIONAL GOLF FOUNDATION

CIRCLE #164

TRIMS
 Grounds Management Software
 Supports GCSAA S&R

**PERSONNEL & LABOR RECORDS
 EQUIPMENT SERVICE RECORDS
 CHEMICAL APPLICATION LOGS
 SPARE PARTS INVENTORY
 BUDGET & EXPENSES
 AND MORE !**

Call or Write for your **FREE TRIMS Demo Disk**

TRIMS Software, International
 6220 E Thomas Rd #303
 SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85251
 (800)733-9710



CIRCLE #165

Phillips comment

Continued from page 8

grower whose margin is ever narrowed by the slow eradication of field burning. But the golf course industry and, more important, its detractors owe these growers a great measure of credit for yielding to popular will and methodically pursuing alternatives to field burning, a time-honored routine practiced since man first discovered the miracle of agriculture (see page 1).

Growth in the golf course industry, like everything else, is an evolutionary process. Technology is developed and sometimes it's taken away.

But don't let it be said that industry members aren't willing to budge on environmental issues. Look to Oregon. Look to Washington, D.C., where the Environmental Protection Agency continually ups the ante on prospective registrants. Look to either coast, where developers trade land and alter profit margins to appease various environmental commissions.

By and large, the golf course industry has a good sense of when to fight and when to move on. If only the same could be said for its opponents.