

A grand tradition — scorecard box

By TERRY BUCHEN

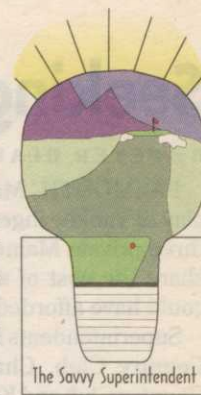
One simple pleasure golf course superintendents can provide their players is the scorecard box, a grand tradition never taken for granted.

"The box" usually contains scorecards, pencils, wooden golf tees, ball markers and, sometimes, even matches. They are usually positioned on the 2nd and 11th teeing grounds to help the needy golfer with extra supplies, or the player who simply

forgot.

Most boxes are made of pressure-treated wood that is glued and then screwed together for added strength. A water sealer is applied before painting it the club's favorite color, or sometimes staining it. A hinged cover protects the supplies from sprinkler irrigation and the elements. Some are made of metal that can be attained from golf supply catalogues, but most superintendents want the natural look.

Superintendents usually mount them on 4-by-4-inch posts, trees, ball washers, fence posts, etc., in the normal traffic flow of golfers. If superintendents at newer courses carry on the tradition of installing this simple amenity, it will never become extinct.



Scorecard boxes are cheap, easy to make, and helpful to the golfers.

Faubel comment: We must pay for more research

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The U.S. Golf Association is pursuing ways to reduce water consumption, fertilizer and pesticide use and develop acceptable plant materials.

The USGA Turfgrass Research Committee has done an outstanding job identifying areas which need to be addressed to make golf courses an environmental asset.

The need for strong local and national associations has never been greater.

The problem is a decline in active participation on relevant subjects by superintendents at the local and national level.

Everyone needs to ask themselves how much they are working for the total benefit of their profession and overcome the internal political aspects.

It always seems easier to let the other person do it.

Well, the other person is probably overloaded also or may be unwilling to do it. Increased job demands and family are important.

But what is going to happen when the other person doesn't do it.

If we recognize the need for more research and development then we must be willing to pay for the potential benefits.

It is more important than ever to look toward the universities and recognize what they can do for us.

Our associations can make the difference.

It is up to us to make certain the associations know what the industry needs are.

Only then can a realistic plan of action be drawn and conducted.

Knowledge is the only way we will continue to deliver the quality maintenance we have led the golfer to expect.

Are we or own worst enemy?

Or are we willing to make the sacrifices that must be made by supporting the people who have the skills that allow us to meet society's demands?



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