

World gets smaller with e-mail

The advent of computer e-mail capabilities within the U.S. Golf Association Green Section has brought major strides in solving agronomic problems around the country, according to Jim Moore, director of the USGA Green Section Mid-Continent Region.

"The greatest thing about it to me," Moore said, "is that when somebody hires one of us, they get us all. That's been true since our inception, but even more so now."

The USGA's home page
e-mail addresses:
<http://www.usga.org>
<http://www.usopen.com>

Every night Moore and his colleagues sign onto their e-mail addresses and exchange questions and information.

"I have five or six notes every day from other fellows on the staff," he said. "Our whole staff is doing this, so for the first time in my 12 years here I feel very close to the staff."

Green Section logs on to cyberworld

Continued from page 15

"It represents the first phase of widespread use of our material. It will mean really serious industry access at a level that I'm comfortable saying, 'Anybody can use it for the first time.'"

Until now, TGIF's library has been accessible only through modem-to-modem hookups or through Telnet, an Internet site basically accessible only to academics.

"But once it's on the web that

changes the nature of access," Cookingham said. "There is a lot of other material becoming available and, with the web, things can be linked together readily and easily."

The web environment will "alter the nature" of TGIF's material, he added, saying: "TGIF has been text-retrieval. Within web structures, however, those limitations come off and we anticipate more presentation of non-text materials."

Noting that superintendents

don't have a good way to inform the general public, USGA Green Section Mid-Continent Region Director Jim Moore said: "I'm hoping this [web site] bridges the gap."

"People who come to this page are golfers. I have access to them now and they have access to me. They will see things they don't normally see."

Meanwhile, as golfers explore a plethora of ever-increasing topics on the USGA's home page (computer address), golf course superintendents also may want to take a look.

Long-term, Moore wants to try to build a forum with superintendents and USGA staff.

The entire Green Section staff, who have been on-line on CompuServe, will have Internet e-mail addresses soon, so inquiries can go directly to them.

Green Section brochures and reprints of Green Section Record articles have been entered into the site.

Asked if any in-house columns are planned, Knuth said: "I don't know yet. We're going to see how popular the Green Section part is and take it from there."

Moore, who wrote an article on soft-spike shoes, reported that one superintendent downloaded the piece and planned to put copies at every member's locker.

As Cookingham said: "From the end-user's perspective it's [Internet] much tidier, cleaner, easy to use and easy to understand. And it looks fancier."

"We've been printing and routing the questions people are sending in to the different departments and helping them respond," said web master Knuth.

"We're going to look at inputting a guided tour of the [USGA] museum and have all the USGA championships over 100 years," he said. "And there will be live scores during the three Opens. We have handheld computers at the greens. They are punched into a mainframe at our scoring trailer. Within 17 seconds after we get a score at the trailer, the golfer's hole-by-hole score will be on the Internet."

Delhi reports industry support

DELHI, N.Y. — The expanded Delhi College Golf Course will be a showcase for the latest in turfgrass technology, thanks to solid investment by turf industry leaders.

Loft Seed Co. Turf-Seed Inc., Tee-2-Green Corp., Agri-Turf, Seed Research and The Scotts Co. have donated newly developed seed varieties and cultivars for the new back nine at Delhi College Golf Course. The donations have a market value of nearly \$20,000, according to Diminac Morales, Delhi College Plant Science Department chairman.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

Introducing our new 1996 DS Electric with PowerDrive Plus.™

[Launching pad not included.]



Our PowerDrive® tech-

nology has really taken off. Last year, we created the PowerDrive System 48,™ the world's first 48-volt electric golf car operating system. It's the standard by which all other electric cars are measured.

And for 1996, we've developed a new DS Electric system – PowerDrive Plus.™ It features all the advantages of our original PowerDrive System 48. Plus we've added greater hill-climbing power, with controlled downhill speed for safer operation, and power regeneration to help the batteries last even longer. In fact, we back our exclusive 8-volt batteries with a 4-year, 800-round limited warranty.

Which system is best for you depends on the number of hills on your course and their grades. Let your Club Car representative help you decide. For a test drive, give us a call at 1-800-643-1010.



Golf's Driving Force.

Club Car®