

**PennLinks at
OGA Members Club**

Sylvie,
goose
chaser

Zoe,
goose
spotter

Kirk Kunderick, Superintendent
on 14th green
OGA Members Course at Tukwila
Woodburn, Oregon
July, 2001
William G. Robinson, Architect

A lot of things can happen in seven years—but *Poa annua* in my PennLinks is not one of them.

"For one, I was a younger man when I was grow-in superintendent at the OGA Members Course at Tukwila. Now, I'm married, have two dogs, a cast on my foot, our course has a beautiful new clubhouse, and we've had more than 300,000 rounds played on our PennLinks greens since we opened in August, 1994.

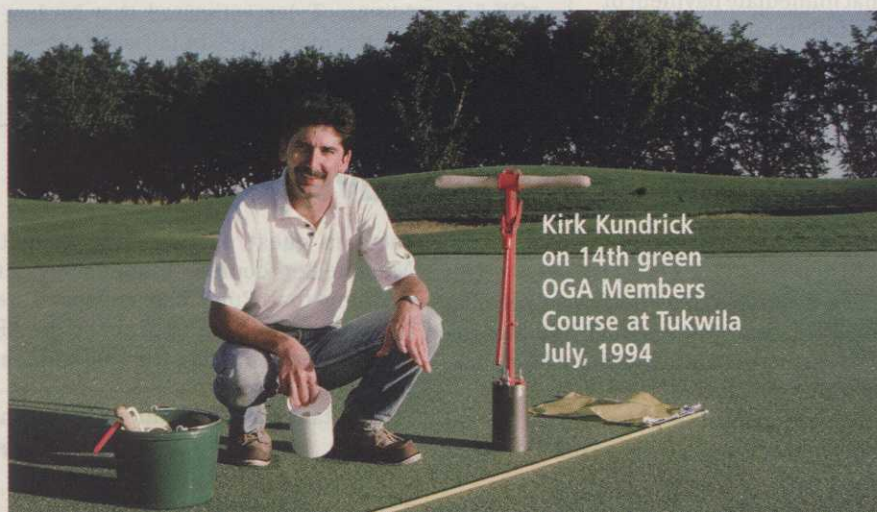
Our crew has managed to control *Poa annua* in our greens even though our public course is surrounded with hazelnut orchards where annual bluegrass thrives under the canopy of trees. To start with, PennLinks is a strong variety with good recovery from daily scars and wounds. When managed consistently with a balanced fertility program, and by aerifying in late May and mid-September—after *Poa annua* backs off the seeding stage—we can keep the nuisance grass in check. We've observed that alternative spikes don't disturb the putting surface, thus providing an ideal seedbed like steel spikes will. When *Poa annua* does occur in our greens, crew members

remove the individual plants with tools we've adapted for the job; like a sharpened screwdriver, weed cutter, and a plugger for stubborn plants. Collars are the buffer between the surrounds and the greens, and have some *Poa annua* growing in them. I plan to re-sod the collars this year to start afresh and stop the threat of encroachment.

We're open year 'round, and have consistently posted more than 44,000 rounds per year for the last seven years. Our PennLinks greens are cut at 0.110 to 0.115" in the summer, and raised to 0.135" in the winter. We strive to maintain country club standards with less than a country club budget.

I may not look as young as I did seven years ago, but our PennLinks greens do. Now if I could get rid of this cast and control those geese, all would be well."

Kirk Kunderick CGCS, Supt.



Kirk Kunderick
on 14th green
OGA Members
Course at Tukwila
July, 1994

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