

## Teamwork

Continued from page 15

fit golf outings around the major agronomic events. Communicate to avoid surprises.

- Tour the course together. Playing the course together while discussing course preparations is usually not enjoyable for many superintendents. Seek other opportunities to meet and discover superintendents' issues. Bring solutions to the discussions – not problems.
- Handle complaints together. Prepare

correct answers together for predictable questions. Develop responses to questions about frost delays, aerification, rain closures, marking of the course and other expected problems.

- Be honest with one another. Nothing destroys trust more readily than dishonesty.

- Be supportive. There is room for more than one player on center stage. Be a team player and share your successes

with one another.

- Educate yourselves about the other's profession. Embrace opportunities to attend professional education sessions and conferences together. Be seen as a team.

- Play golf together. Embrace the two things you have in common – golf and business.

- Enjoy time away from the course together. Reinforce the relationship by

going fishing, bowling or to another sports event together. Get away from the business for a while.

Sure, we've heard all this before. But the exciting thing about this lecture is that we were talking to men and women who will soon be employed as golf professionals. We weren't preaching to the choir. We were telling our side of the story where it will do the most good. When any superintendent gets a chance to tell their story, the entire profession benefits. ■

*There is room for more than one player on center stage.*

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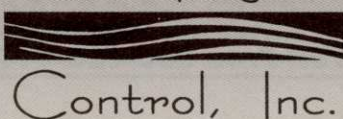
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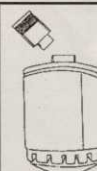
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