

Social media

Congratulations on keeping us in the field updated and keeping Golf Course Industry alive and well.

I really enjoy any piece you do about the digital age like "The Social Networker" (October, page 24). This is the way things are going and we have to embrace it.

Eric J. von Hofen
Director of agronomy and building maintenance
Riviera Country Club
Coral Gables, Fla.

Want to access this article?

Enter <http://tinyurl.com/29ua2d3> into your Web browser to read "The Social Networker."

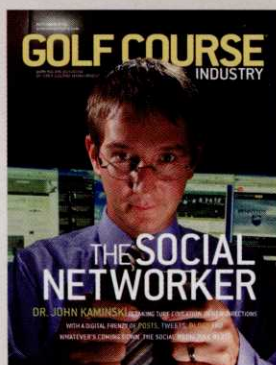


Figure it out

Good article ("Truth and Consequences") concerning required reciprocity. We have struggled with this issue at our chapter. I was not and still not supportive of it.

Also, I have brought up many times at meetings (some in the GCSAA HQ just down the road from me) the use of a sliding membership dues structure based on a maintenance budget ratio. Should the superintendent of Flinthills National (a friend of mine) with a budget from God in the seven-figure range pay the same amount as me with my five-figure budget? I have a landscape business, too, and used to be a member of the American Association of Nurseryman and there sliding scale was great for the mom-and-pop nursery. I have a feeling the GCSAA maybe more conducive to this approach in these times.

Kevin Fateley
President
Kansas Golf Course Superintendents
Association
Wildcat Creek Golf and Fitness

Hard times

"Truth and Consequences" was right on target. The genesis of GCSAA was from a local group of greenskeepers right here in Rocky River, Ohio. The health of the local chapters is and always has been the strength of the national organization. Take care of the locals and you will have a strong national.

The requirement of belonging to GCSAA if you belong to the local sounded good at the time except for the fact that the cost of

multiple memberships got pricey – the 1st and 2nd assistant superintendents plus the superintendent is a major expense even for a high-budget club. It's good to have the assistants as members of the local, but it's not necessary that they belong to the GCSAA as long as there is one GCSAA member from that organization.

These are tough times and clubs/courses are looking for every way to conserve dollars. This idea may cut a few assistants for the membership rolls of GCSAA now, but I think it would promote their joining once they became a superintendent.

Frank Dobie
Superintendent and general manager
Sharon Golf Club
Sharon Center, Ohio

"Catharsis"

Have been meaning to tell you what a great article you wrote ("Catharsis," August 2010, page 4)! Your experience mirrors my brother's adventure almost to a tee (pardon the golf term). Like you, he has taken the steps to right the ship and is back on the road to success. Congratulations and thanks for the courage to share your story.

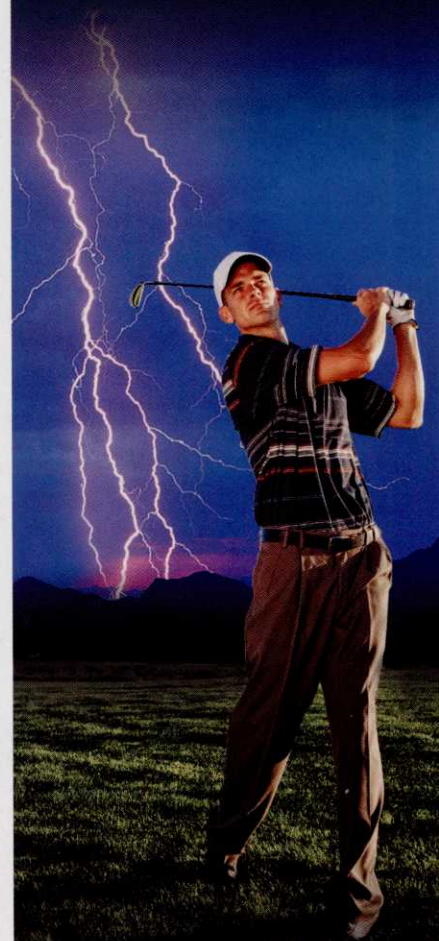
Editor's Note: Due to the sensitive nature of this feedback, the name has been withheld for privacy reasons. Readers seeking info about alcoholism and addiction can find out more at the Alcoholics Anonymous site: www.aa.org.

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