

Tips:

Spreader Calibration

So the new assistant you hired needs retrained on spreader calibration. Don't worry. It's easy to teach and simple to learn, says Rich Hoopes, superintendent of the New Course at Grand Cypress GC in Orlando, Fla. Hoopes and Dan Haizlett of North Manchester, Ind.-based Spyker Spreaders, offers tips for proper spreader calibration:

■ **Accuracy.** First and foremost, make sure your settings are calibrated correctly. "The critical part of calibrating is that applications must be extremely accurate," Haizlett says. "Take the time to calibrate properly."

■ **Keep records.** Keeping records of what products are applied is vital, Haizlett says. Track how much product was applied on how much area and when it was applied.

■ **Read the label.** Make sure you're reading manufacturer's labels for fertilizer and pesticide correctly, Haizlett says. Remember that the calibration numbers on the bags are not the actual settings. They are starting points for calibrating.

■ **Size it up.** Remember that particle sizes change continuously, and this affects calibration.

■ **Mind the law.** If you're spreading pesticides, abide by the manufacturer's label. "It's the law," Hoopes notes.

■ **Set a pace.** Keep in mind that walking speed has an effect on the width of your spread pattern and effects the rate of material applied, Haizlett says.

Adds Hoopes: "When you're walking and calibrating, you're trying to duplicate the speed you'll use on the golf course. Then, you try to maintain that speed. Obviously, there's some human error, but you just do the best you can."

■ **Add a tray.** Haizlett points out that trays can be used to catch product during the calibration process. Spyker offers a new line of spreaders equipped with calibrator trays to make the process easier.

Finally, superintendents and their crews should assume that environmental restrictions are only going to get tougher. With that in mind, accurate calibration and record-keeping is that much more important.

"In Europe, there's very tight documentation of all products applied, even on homeowner's lawns," Haizlett says.

If the turf doesn't need it, you're not allowed to apply it, including nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium. "Tighter restrictions on fertilizer and pesticide use will continue in the United States as well, and if you can't demonstrate that you properly calibrated the spreader you're using, you may be asking for problems," Haizlett says.

For a set of calibrating instructions, visit the Spyker web site at www.spyker.com.

— Larry Aylward

Leaders

■ PEOPLE ON THE MOVE



Gary Grigg, former president of GSCAA, left Royal Poinciana GC to become president of Greenscape,

Robert Trent Jones Jr.'s construction division.

Las Vegas-based Walters Golf named **Sue Blitzstein** director of business development. The company also added **Larry Wright** as director of group and outing sales.

The National Golf Course Owners Association elected its new officers and board

members: **Bill Stine**, president; **Walt Lankau**, vice president; **Meriam Leeka**, treasurer; **Mark Seabrook**, secretary; board members **Charlie Birney** and **Charlie Floyd**.



Ed McLaughlin was named director of golf at the Swan-e-set Resort & CC in Pitt Meadows, British Columbia.



Coral Canyon GC in St. George, Utah, named **Gary White** its director of golf.

The GCSAA elected its new officers and board members at its show in New Orleans: **R. Scott Woodhead**, Valley View GC, Bozeman, Mont., president; **Tommy Witt**, StillWaters, Dadeville, Ala., vice president; **Michael Wallace**, Hop Meadow CC, Simsbury, Conn., secretary/treasurer; and directors **Ken Magnum**, Athletic Club, Atlanta, Ga.; **Jon Maddern**, Elk Ridge GC, Atlanta, Mich.; and **Dave Fearis**, Blue Hills CC, Kansas City, Mo.

Steve Burns, of Burns Golf Design in Fernandina Beach, Fla., was awarded a 1999 Excellence Award by *The Boardroom* magazine.

Jacklin Seed/Simplot Turf & Horticulture named **Larry Perotti** as technical services manager.

Michael McMahon was named director of marketing for Naples Grande GC in Naples Fla.

The Ohio Turfgrass Foundation announced its new officers and trustees for 2000. They include, **Randy Tischer**, president; **Len Dunaway**, president elect; **Mark Heinlein**, vice president; **John Mowat**, treasurer; **Mark Rawlins**, trustee; **Ted Durchik** and **Mark Jordan**, members of the Board of Directors.

Steven J. Petersen joined Gowan Co. as its Turf Division sales manager.

White Plains, N.Y.-based Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide hired **Tighue Shields** as vice president of golf management operations and **John A. Williams** as vice president of golf operations to develop the Starwood golf management team.

Joe Louis Barrow Jr., director of The First Tee, was elected chairman of the National Golf Foundation.

The Golf Course Builders Association appointed **Lee Hetrick** as its executive vice president.

DEATHS

Paul Frank, superintendent at Wilderness CC, died last month. He was a 40-year member of the GCSAA. Frank was a pioneer in new grasses and other technology, his greens were frequently used by scientists at the University of Florida for nematode research and other projects.

Let us know about your people on the move. Send information/color photos to *Golfdom's* Frank H. Andorka Jr. at 7500 Old Oak Blvd., Cleveland, 44130. Fax information to 440/891-2675 or e-mail to fandorka@advanstar.com.