

First, we have to tell you that daddy's office is not nearly as cool as we thought it would be. He always calls it "Golfdom Global Headquarters," but that's a bunch of hooley. His office doesn't even have a ceiling.

One of the other people here told us it's called a "Cube Farm," but it doesn't look like any farm we've seen. The only thing they seem to grow here is big piles of paper.

Before daddy bolted off on his fishing trip, he told us to write about what we think of his job and the golf business. All we really know about dad's job is that he flies around the country going to "shows" where they give out mini-flashlights, key chains and other cool stuff he brings home to us.

That doesn't seem very tough, but he always claims to be "too tired" to help us with our geometry homework. Mom says he isn't really tired — just "math-challenged."

Superintendents, on the other hand, sound like they have really hard jobs. Daddy says they get up at "O-Dark-Thirty" — whatever that means — and spend all day making sure everything gets mowed and that the grass stays healthy. They also get to ride around on really cool little carts and tell the crew how to do stuff.

A couple of times when we've gone along with our dad to visit superintendents at their courses, they always seem to be in their offices working on their computers, signing bills or reading daddy's magazine. That looks boring to us.

They should get to spend all day outside on the golf course — getting dirty, running through those humongous sprinklers and having fun. But daddy says they have to manage a pretty big operation and that takes a lot of their time away from the good stuff. What a bummer.

Sometimes they get yelled at by golfers for silly things. "The grass is too long!" one golfer will say. Then, on the very same day, another golfer will say, "The grass is too short!"

This is goofy because the superintendent is the one who went to college and is the

A Kids-Eye View of the Golf World

BY PAT JONES' BOYS



Michael Jones



Ryan Jones

expert on how long the grass should be. We just don't understand why golfers do this.

Superintendents also have to take care of the environment, which is neat. We learned that golf courses are living, breathing things. Because of this, we have promised to be very careful to not take big, nasty divots when we play. Courses are also home to many kinds of birds and other animals. Superintendents are heroes because they help the animals and still make the environment even prettier. We wish all kids understood this.

We did research for this column by talking to superintendents' kids. They said their favorite things about their dads' or moms' jobs were riding around the course with them or even helping out by chasing the geese with the goose dogs. Their least favorite thing is that their dads or moms spend too much time at the course, and they never get to take a summer vacation like the other kids.

So our conclusion (daddy said we should have one) is that we think all superintendents with kids should take them along to work more often, spend less time at the course and make sure to go on a summer vacation. OK?

Now that our column is done, we have a few other things to do while daddy's gone. He said something about selling a bunch of ads, calling a whole list of people on the phone and then giving some speeches at chapter meetings. Sheesh. When we grow up, we're going to have real jobs ... just like superintendents.

PAT JONES IS AWAY
AND COULD NOT
WRITE HIS
REGULAR COLUMN.
HIS YOUNG SONS,
MICHAEL AND RYAN,
ARE FILLING IN FOR
HIM THIS MONTH

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