

# John Hadwick

## Superintendent *of the* Jackrabbit Run Golf Club

**J**ohn Hadwick is the son of a son of a superintendent. The certified superintendent's late father, Joe, was superintendent of the Country Club of Lincoln from 1952 through 1983. His grandfather, Charlie, was superintendent of Jefferson City (Mo.) Country Club from 1912 to 1962. Hadwick's siblings are also involved in the business, as is his son, Shane, who works at Riverside Golf Course in Portland, Ore.

John 55, has spent more than 28 years at Jackrabbit Run Golf Course, formerly Grand Island Municipal Golf Course, in Grand Island, Neb. It can be assumed that golf course maintenance is in the Hadwick family genes.

**Golfdom:** What do you like most about your job?

For one, every day is different. I like working outdoors. There's also more than one solution to get the results you desire. I also like the people around me in the industry, including golfers.

**Golfdom:** How have you learned to deal with the pressures of your job?

Networking has always been a great way for me to deal with job pressures. I also get great support from my wife of 35 years. Family members in the industry are also been a tremendous asset.

**Golfdom:** In 50 words or less, describe a good day at work.

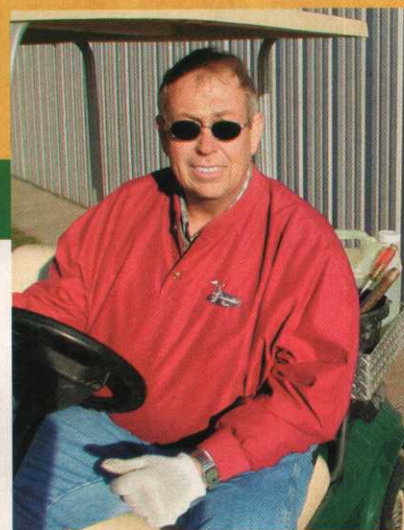
A good day is a normal day. It usually starts by 5 a.m. I do course checks prior to the crew arriving and spend time with my assistant to plan the day. Early mornings are spent assisting the crew with skilled tasks. Mid-days are spent doing administrative tasks. Late afternoons and evenings are spent doing chemical or fertilizer applications, and irrigation programming and checks.

**Golfdom:** What is the most important issue facing superintendents today?

Keeping golf an affordable recreation.

**Golfdom:** Finish this sentence: "The best thing that could happen to the golf course maintenance industry would be ..."

... better-educated golfers in regards to expectations in relation to the price they pay to play.



**Golfdom:** What's the best advice anybody ever gave you?

I don't think I've ever had any cases of best advice. Virtually all the advice I've received in the industry has been good.

**Golfdom:** What's the best advice you ever gave someone?

It's an old adage about not becoming complacent: "If you're not moving forward, you're moving backward."

**Golfdom:** Who are the three most influential people or groups in the golf course maintenance industry and why?

Steve Mona, CEO of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, because of his national exposure. Bill Bieck, president of the Nebraska Golf Course Superintendents Association, because of his influence on our state level. And family members in the industry because of their influence on me.

**Golfdom:** If you could have dinner with anyone, who would it be and why?

Tom Osborne, the former University of Nebraska football coach and current Nebraska congressman. He's a stand-up guy.

**Golfdom:** What is your favorite movie(s)?

All of the old Clint Eastwood movies.

**Golfdom:** What do you eat for breakfast?

Eggs — when I eat breakfast. ■

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