

My Second Office

BECAUSE THE COURSE
IS YOUR FIRST

About our host

TONY MANCUSO, CGCS, director of golf course operations at Cherokee Town and CC in Atlanta has a thing for bulldogs. And for good reason: he's a Mississippi State Bulldog, having received a degree in agronomy and turf management from the school.

Prior to his position at Cherokee, Mancuso was superintendent at Bellerive CC in St. Louis. He would have been the host of the World Golf Championship-American Express in

2001... if it had happened. "I was the superintendent for the Tour event that was cancelled the week of 9/11," Mancuso says with sadness in his voice. It was one of the few Tour events ever cancelled before it even began.

Now in his tenth year at Cherokee, Mancuso's office proudly displays his Bulldog fandom, as well as the tournaments that he did (and didn't) get to host.



"You go for two years, getting ready for an event and just like that it was gone. Of course that was all for good reason."

1 HEY BULLDOG! Anything that has a bulldog, someone has bought for me. A lot of my bulldogs have stories behind them. I have this cross-stitch bulldog, a ceramic one, a lamp... Just about every bulldog that's in my office is a gift from a friend or my wife, daughter or mother-in-law.

2 TURNING A BLIND EYE When I was an assistant at New Orleans CC our club held the U.S. Blind Golfers Championship. I have this really cool poster of a golf ball with sunglasses on it. The

person who won was a member of New Orleans CC and he was my green chairman. A lot of guys can probably say they think their green chairman is blind, but I actually had a blind green chairman.

3 THE HAMBURGLAR STRIKES BACK You know the Wendy's 3Tour Challenge? It's three LPGA players against three Champions Tour players against three PGA Tour players. So there are nine players that play in it. The club I was at in Ohio hosted the very first Wendy's 3Tour challenge

because a member of our club was Dave Thomas, the founder of Wendy's. That poster contains probably seven or eight Hall of Famers. That poster was supposed to be signed by all of the players, but somebody got in there between when they signed them and the next day and stole all the posters!

4 A LITTLE MORE COWBELL Every student who goes to Mississippi State has their own cowbell. Typically you make your own, so when I got there in 1977, I made my

own cowbell. I literally welded the handle onto the bell. Sitting next to it is the little ball from inside the bell. I've actually rung the ball out of the cowbell twice. I lost the first one, but the second time somebody behind me found it. That's like a badge of honor — to have rung the dinger out of your cowbell.

BY MOLLY GASE //
PHOTO BY SCOTT MAY

Proud of your second office? Email us a photo of you in it to sjones@northcoastmedia.net, and we may feature you and your office in an upcoming issue of *Golfdom*.