

After looking at our line of irrigation products,
the PGA TOUR didn't raise any red flags.

Only this one.



JOHN DEERE GOLF & TURF
ONE SOURCE

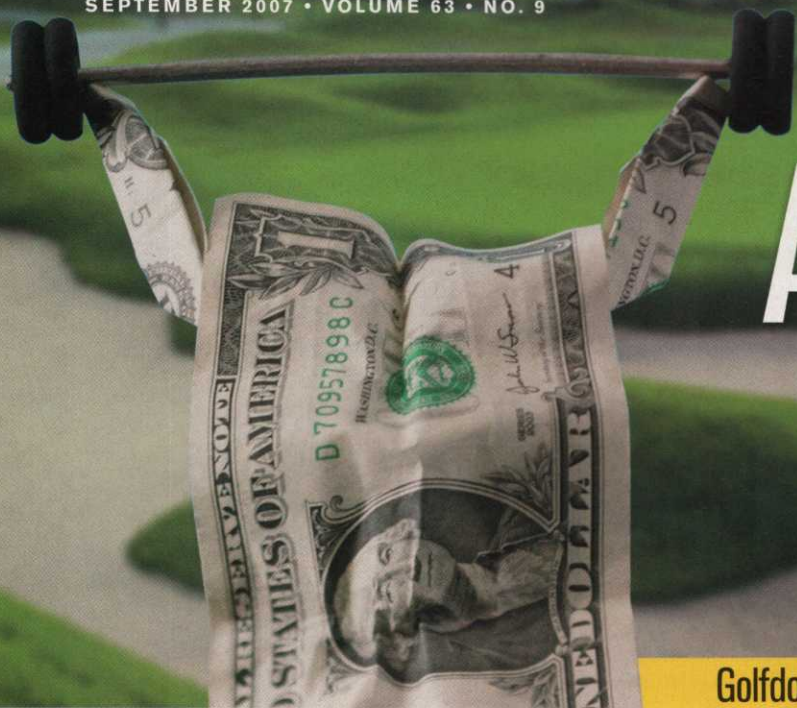


With the 23 Tournament Player properties they own and operate, the PGA TOUR naturally wants their courses to be in the best condition possible. And after using John Deere maintenance equipment for ten years, they were ready to take a look at what John Deere Golf Irrigation could do for them. Suffice to say, they were pleased with what they saw. Innovative, state of the art controllers, rotors, and accessories combined with legendary John Deere quality and service. To see what John Deere Golf Irrigation can do for your course, call your local John Deere distributor or 1-800-537-8233 today.



Golfdom

SEPTEMBER 2007 • VOLUME 63 • NO. 9



Are YOU Fiscal

Golfdom's Fifth-Annual Budget Guide

36

How to Tackle the Annual Budget... And Enjoy It!

It's not as horrible as you might think. Here are some tips to make the process ... shall we dare say ... fun.

By Ron Furlong

42

Post-Patent Exploits

Superintendents turn to generics to save money.

By David Frabotta



50

On History or a Hunch?

Superintendents discuss how they budget for pest management.

By Anthony Pioppi

60

Sand Dollars

Golf course maintenance budgets get bigger because of bunker maintenance boom.

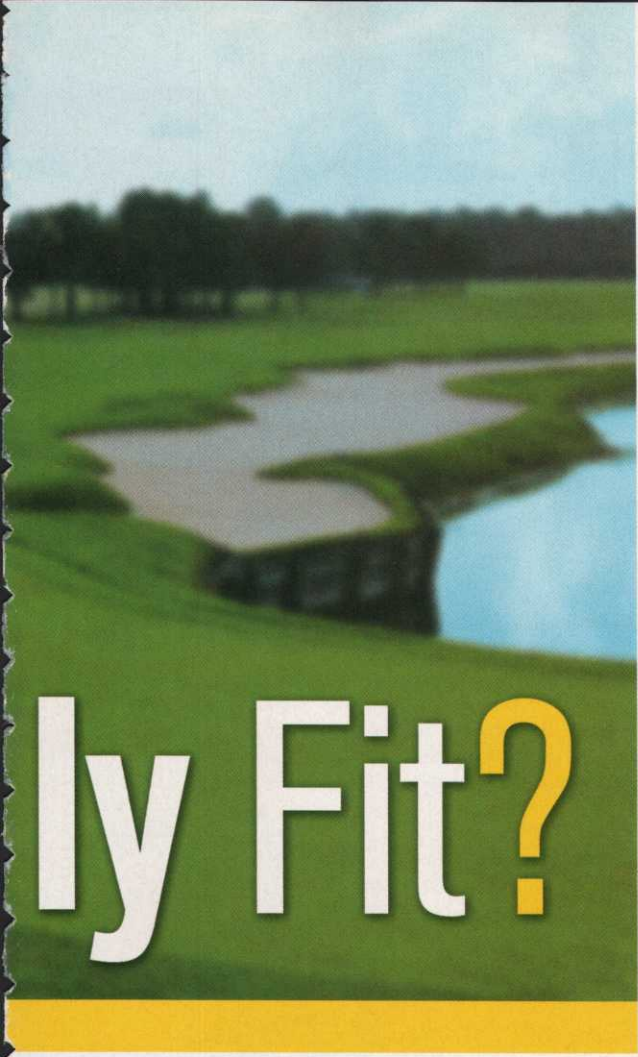
By Larry Aylward

66

You and Your Machines

It helps to consider the following when tackling the "Equipment Maintenance Repairs" line item.

By Ron Furlong



ly Fit?

cover story

BY GOLFDOM STAFF

You need the green stuff (money) to take care of the green stuff (your turf). We'll tell you how some superintendents are doing that in our five-part Budget Guide.

35

About the cover

Golfdom Art director Kristen Morabito designed our cover with photographic help from Punchstock and Mike Klemme.

82

Family Ties

Gourlay family has roots from Scotland to Kansas State.

By Anthony Pioppi



News with a hook

16 He's the Real Deal

18 Here Comes Penoxsulam

▼ Sizzling

If you're planning your 2008 budget, you might be able to use these products. Check them out starting on page 87.



columns

12 Pin High

Getting Held Up Without a Gun

30 Shades of Green

Create Your Own Value Proposition

32 Designs On Golf

Longing for More Short Grass

80 Turf M.D.

The News on Dew Is Good and Bad

120 Out of Bounds

Wallpaper

departments

8 We've Got Mail

14 Big Picture

16 Off the Fringe

28 Hole of the Month

116 Leaders

119 Classifieds

Turfgrass Trends

This month, *Golfdom's* practical research digest for turf managers discusses removal of overseeded ryegrass in the summer, among other topics. See pages 71-78

Online Exclusive



Read this story only at www.golfdom.com/onlineexclusive:

► Sixteen years in this profession has taught me a lot. My experience has also left me with some things I'd like to see happen.

By Charlie Fultz

Introducing The New Ice Chilled Drinking Fountain from Halsey Taylor...



- No more heavy, bulky coolers to clean & fill!
- Water is **chilled through self-contained coils**, so water source is never in contact with hands or ice.
- **No electrical hookup required.**
- Holds up to **30 lbs of ice** for long-lasting service.
- **Green polymer cabinet** stands up well to the elements & **resists rust.**

The sanitary and economical solution to cold drinking water on the golf course!



Halsey Taylor.

Satisfying Thirsts Since 1912

2222 Camden Court, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523 • 630.574.3500
halseytaylor.com

JEG

Cup Cutter

For Golf Courses

Highly recommended for sand greens. Will work for most push-ups greens. Free 30 day trial.

Cuts the fastest and most precise hole in seconds without damaging roots!

JEG Corporation is proud to introduce its newest product, The Power Cup Cutter. In a matter of seconds you are able to make a perfect cut without damaging the root system. There's no twisting or turning, you simply push down. There's no guessing the height of the plug nor prying the plug apart. It's all done quickly and efficiently with the same result each time.....a perfect cut! Life just got easier!

The JEG Power Cup Cutter includes a Milwaukee Drill model 28 Lithium Ion, depth gauge, cup cutter, blade, cup setter (not shown) and two 28 volt batteries.

Special Features:

- Perfect cut each and every time with sharp, crisp edges
- Root system stays intact
- No twisting or turning. The Power Cup Cutter does all of the work
- No guessing the height
- Plug removes easily with no prying
- Quick set up
- Superintendent tested and approved
- One battery does 27 holes



JEG
INCORPORATED

Make your course JEG-Ready.

11446 Rogues Road, Midland, VA 22728
Phone: 877-534-2003 Fax: 540-788-4416
www.jegcorp.com

Golfdom

www.golfdom.com

EDITORIAL STAFF

Larry Aylward EDITOR IN CHIEF 216-706-3737	laylward@questex.com
David Frabotta SENIOR EDITOR 216-706-3758	dfrabotta@questex.com
Kristen Morabito ART DIRECTOR 216-706-3776	kmorabito@questex.com
Geoff Shackelford CONTRIBUTING EDITOR 310-451-5877	geoffshackelford@aol.com
Joel Jackson CONTRIBUTING EDITOR 407-248-1971	flgm@aol.com
Anthony Pioppi CONTRIBUTING EDITOR 860-344-8895	apioppi@earthlink.net
Mark Luce CONTRIBUTING EDITOR 816-943-1923	mLuce@sbcglobal.net
Jim Black CONTRIBUTING EDITOR	greenkeeperjim@yahoo.com
Ron Furlong CONTRIBUTING EDITOR	rfurlong5@gmail.com
Karl Danneberger SCIENCE EDITOR	danneberger.1@osu.edu
Mike Klemme PHOTO EDITOR 580-234-8284	mike@golfoto.com

CLEVELAND HEADQUARTERS

600 SUPERIOR AVENUE, EAST
SUITE 1100
CLEVELAND, OH 44114

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

American Society of Irrigation Consultants P.O. BOX 426
ROCHESTER, MA 02770; 508-763-8140; WWW.ASIC.ORG



GOLFDOM ADVISORY STAFF

Jim Barrett , ASIC JAMES BARRETT ASSOCIATES	John Gurke , CGCS AURORA CC
Pat Blum COLONIAL ACRES CC	Steve Hammon TRAVERSE CITY G&CC
Joe Boe WINDERMERE GC	Jim Husting , CGCS WOODBRIDGE G&CC
Terry Bonar , CGCS CANTERBURY GC	Jim Loke , CGCS BENT CREEK CC
Bill Coore , ASGCA COORE & CRENSHAW	Walter Mattison (IN MEMORY)
David Davis , FASIC DAVID D. DAVIS ASSOCIATES	Steve Merkel , CGCS LANDSCAPES UNLIMITED
Tripp Davis ASGCA ASSOCIATE	Jim Nicol , CGCS HAZELTINE NATIONAL GC
Michelle Frazier-Feher , CGCS	James Simonini ROBERT TRENT JONES II
Charlie Fultz SHENVALEE GOLF RESORT	Bobby Weed , ASGCA WEED GOLF COURSE DESIGN

ASSOCIATIONS



American Society of Golf Course Architects 125 N. EXECUTIVE DR.,
SUITE 106, BROOKFIELD, WI 53005; 262-786-5960; WWW.ASGCA.ORG



Golf Course Superintendents Association of America
1421 RESEARCH PARK DR., LAWRENCE, KS 66049-3859; 800-472-7878;
WWW.GCSAA.ORG



Golf Course Builders Association of America
727 "O" STREET, LINCOLN, NE 68508; 402-476-4444;
WWW.GCBA.ORG



National Golf Course Owners Association 291 SEVEN FARMS DRIVE,
SECOND FLOOR, CHARLESTON, SC 29492; 843-881-9956;
WWW.NGCOA.ORG



Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment 1156 15TH ST. NW,
SUITE 400, WASHINGTON, DC; 202-872-3860; WWW.PESTFACTS.ORG

syngenta

1-866-SYNGENTA
syngentaprofessionalproducts.com



Conditions worthy of devotion.

All other commitments take a backseat when golfers connect with superior course conditions.

Our portfolio of herbicides helps keep courses weed free. Among these, Barricade® herbicide, a pre-emergent, provides season-long protection against crabgrass and 30 other weeds. Monument®, a post-emergent for use on warm-season turf, controls all major sedge species and a broad spectrum of both grassy and broadleaf weeds. Together, they provide comprehensive control of *Poa annua*.

Syngenta has a long tradition of providing products and experience to make the most of your course. Courses that make golfers question why they have any other hobby.



Important: Always read and follow label instructions before buying or using these products. ©2007 Syngenta. Syngenta Professional Products, Greensboro, NC 27419. Barricade®, Monument®, and the Syngenta logo are trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company.

The Only Pro-Active Organic Predictable & Consistent



Other Quality GroPower Products:

Humus based fertilizer/
soil conditioner formulations
45% Magnesium • 35% Manganese

Over 48 products to choose from!

GRO-POWER

Since 1966

(909) 393-3744 • www.gropower.com

Golfdom

BUSINESS STAFF

Patrick Roberts PUBLISHER 216-706-3736 proberts@questex.com
Petra Turko SALES ASSISTANT 216-706-3768 pturko@questex.com
Natalie Lepien PRODUCTION MANAGER 218-279-8836 nlepien@questex.com
Rhonda Sande PRODUCTION DIRECTOR 218-279-8821 rsande@questex.com
Jessica Borgren CIRCULATION MANAGER 218-279-8858 jborgren@questex.com

ADVERTISING STAFF

CLEVELAND HEADQUARTERS

600 SUPERIOR AVENUE, EAST, SUITE 1100
CLEVELAND, OH 44114

Kevin Stoltman GROUP PUBLISHER kstoltman@questex.com
216-706-3740 FAX: 216-706-3712
George Casey NATIONAL ACCOUNT MANAGER gcasey@questex.com
216-706-3752 FAX: 216-706-3712
Dave Huisman REGIONAL SALES MANAGER dhuisman@questex.com
732-493-4951 FAX: 732-493-4951
Brian Olesinski ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE, CLASSIFIED bolesinski@questex.com
216-706-3757 FAX: 216-706-3712

MARKETING SERVICES

Reprints 800-290-5460 ext. 100 golfdom@reprintbuyer.com
Ilene Schwartz CIRC. LIST RENTAL 216-371-1667 ilene@krolldirect.com
Subscriber, Customer Service 866-344-1315; 615-377-3322 questex@sunbeltfs.com
Books, Directories, Current Issues, Back Issues, Photocopies,
CD-Rom 866-344-1315; 615-377-3322

CORPORATE

QUESTEX MEDIA

Kerry C. Gumas PRESIDENT & CEO
Tom Caridi EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & CFO
Robert S. Ingraham EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
Tony D'Avino EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
Claudia Flowers EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT
Don Rosenberg VICE PRESIDENT & GENERAL MANAGER
Seth Nichols VICE PRESIDENT, DIGITAL MEDIA
Diane Evans VICE PRESIDENT, HUMAN RESOURCES

Golfdom does not verify any claims or other information appearing in any of the advertisements contained in the publication, and cannot take any responsibility for any losses or other damages incurred by readers in reliance on such content.

Golfdom welcomes unsolicited articles, manuscripts, photographs, illustrations and other materials but cannot be held responsible for their safekeeping or return.

Questex Media provides certain customer contact data (such as customers' names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses) to third parties who wish to promote relevant products, services and other opportunities which may be of interest to you. If you do not want Questex Media to make your contact information available to third parties for marketing purposes, simply call toll-free 866-344-1315 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. CT and a customer service representative will assist you in removing your name from Questex Media's lists. Outside the United States, please phone 615-377-3322.

**NMP
GOLF
CONSTRUCTION**

CONSTRUCTION
RENOVATION
RESTORATION
DRAINAGE
IRRIGATION

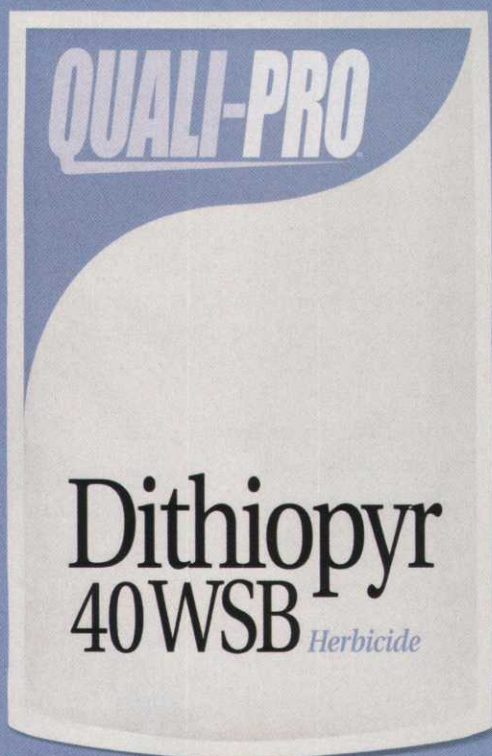
TEL: 888-707-0787
FAX: 888-707-3219

www.nmpgolf.com

25 Bishop Ave., Suite A-2
Williston VT. 05495
info@nmpgolf.com

Concept: Studio Don Gores

The latest addition to *Portfolium enormicus.*



What it doesn't do is almost as good as what it does. New Dithiopyr 40 WSB from Quali-Pro® does provide the outstanding broad-spectrum control you expect, with an application window wide enough for both pre- and early post-emergent control of crabgrass, in a formulation that doesn't stain. The newest addition to the industry's most comprehensive product portfolio, Dithiopyr 40 WSB does just what you expect — season-long extermination of crabgrass and more than 40 other tough annual grasses and broadleaf weeds.

For more information about Quali-Pro products, call 800-979-8994 or visit www.quali-pro.com.

QUALI-PRO®

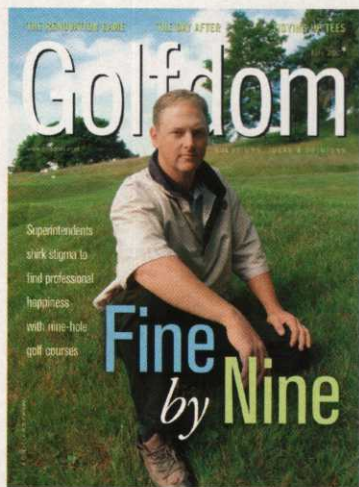
PROFESSIONAL TURF & ORNAMENTAL PRODUCTS

©2007 FarmSaver.com, LLC. Quali-Pro is a registered trademark of FarmSaver.com. Always read and follow label directions. Professional products, performance and people, backed by the strength of Makhteshim-Agan Industries, the world's leading manufacturer and distributor of post-patent agrochemicals.

Experience the ProPoints Difference – More Points, Faster Rewards. Register today at www.propointsonline.com.

We've Got Mail

LETTERS FROM THE FIELD



Fine With Nine?

Yes, I am fine with nine (July cover story). I have been the superintendent of and have worked at a couple of 18-hole courses, and the nine-hole course where I currently work suits me just fine.

The best part about my job is that I have 10 children (golf greens) to look after versus 18 or so. Salesmen have snubbed me in the past. They seem interested until they discover I am at a nine-holer. Then it's, "Oh, you take care of a nine-hole golf course?" Then I never hear from them again.

The stress level is somewhat lower and, although I only have two part-time workers, I feel like I can pay more and give more attention to the 60 acres I manage vs. 180 acres or more.

Steve Taylor, Superintendent
Tri-County Country Club
Corbin, Ky.

Although my hours are longer at my club like other nine-hole superintendents, I know I'm a crucial part of the operation and feel very proud when we are recognized for excellence, like receiving an award for best nine-hole course in the Chicago-area two years in a row.

My course has a great location, and when temperatures are really hot or cold or windy, I notice that golfers will tolerate nine holes instead of braving 18. We might not make as much on our nine-hole green fees as an 18-hole facility, but like the saying goes,

"Many small sticks can be stronger than one big stick."

Doug Davis, Superintendent
Flagg Creek Golf Course
Countryside, Ill.

My nine-hole Donald Ross golf course is in great condition. I see local golfers line up to play 18-hole courses in worse condition because they want variety.

When I took this job, there was talk about adding nine holes. Four years later, it looks like it will never happen.

This position was the best learning experience I could ask for. I do not feel looked down upon by my peers. However, I feel it is harder for me to take the next step in my career path. I am happy as a nine-hole course superintendent, but I sometimes feel like I have outgrown my position.

Shane A. Miller, Superintendent
Tumblebrook Golf Course
Coopersburg, Pa.

Is Golf a Sport?

Editor's note: In July we asked readers, "Is golf a sport or a skill?" We asked this question in light of Angel Cabrera's U.S. Open win. The beefy, cigarette-sucking Cabrera defeated the sculpted and sineuwy Tiger Woods by one stroke at Oakmont Country Club to gain the nation's championship. Here's how some readers answered the question.



Golf is not a sport. Golf is a game, as is bowling, chess and poker. Our media mistakenly calls any competition a sport much as they mistakenly call George W. Bush a leader.

A sport can be a game, but a sport is an athletic competition where the determining factor is one's athletic ability. Also, in order for a competition to be a sport there must be a defense.

Hunting and fishing are not sports because they meet neither requirement. The other requirement is that the competition be

between two or more persons, therefore golf can't be included.

Richard J. Haberstroh
Emerald Greens Golf Course
St. Louis

I've been around golf as long as I can remember, and I recall hearing this same argument time and time again. I believe that golf should be considered a skill rather than a sport.

Steve Taylor, Superintendent
Tri-County Country Club
Corbin, Ky.

Golf is a sport that takes a lot of skill, natural ability and mental focus. Angel Cabrera is a strong bull, who happens to smoke. Golf is one of two sports in which you use every muscle in your body. Why do you think gymnasts, aerobic instructors and basketball, football and baseball players are so sore and contorted when they get done playing a round of golf, even with a golf car? Muscle memory.

I used to walk — carrying my clubs — 63 holes to 72 holes a day on a 7,500-yard course in Idaho. Man, those were the days. It takes stamina many times over to do that. I'm not talking about your golf car riders, who I think have ruined the integrity of golf and the physical aspect of it. As a holder of 29 course records and many amateur wins, I can only say I miss the day.

Joe Hubbard, Certified Superintendent
Broken Sound Golf Course
Boca Raton, Fla.

Editor's note: We sought Webster for its definition of "sport." Here's what the dictionary had to say: An athletic activity requiring skill or physical prowess and often of a competitive nature, as racing, baseball, tennis, golf, bowling, wrestling, boxing, hunting, fishing, etc.

Executives Out of Touch With Workers

Once again in America, the new way of business has not learned from all the mistakes in years past ["Where is Respect For Its Own?" (June, page 32), which discussed the USGA's

Continued on page 10



OREGON FINE FESCUE COMMISSION

1193 Royvonne Ave. S / Suite 11 / Salem, OR 97302



OREGON GROWN FINE FESCUE

*Plant the Easy-Going,
Environmentally Friendly Fescues!*

**ORIGIN:
OREGON**



OREGON TALL FESCUE COMMISSION

1193 Royvonne Ave. S / Suite 11 / Salem, OR 97302



OREGON GROWN TALL FESCUE

The Only Number to Call.



"SG Express is the only number to call for golf course accessories. Fast, courteous service from knowledgeable staff makes my job so much easier. And with a click of a mouse, I can order online anytime — even from home."

— Luke Strojny
Poplar Creek Country Club
Hoffman Estates, IL

When SG Express members place their orders, they are immediately processed. In-stock items are shipped within 48 hours, and billing comes through the Standard Golf Distributor of their choice.

Experience our service for yourself.

1-866-SG-EXPRESS

(1-866-743-9773)

www.standardgolf.com

**STANDARD
GOLF COMPANY**

We've Got It All.

We've Got Mail

■ LETTERS FROM THE FIELD

Continued from page 8

decision to cut staff benefits.] Management 101 and the No. 1 rule from that class is "take care of the people who take care of you." To be in the USGA, you must be away from your family. There is no compensation high enough to replace that, believe me. I have lived it from my own experiences in corporate golf. To take care of your people and to show you care, you must provide some perks that motivate them, such as college tuition programs.

How do millionaires become that way? They take away from the people who helped them succeed nine times out of 10. I have had the privilege of working with many of the Green Section ladies and gentlemen for many years, and to cut anything from their jobs that was included before is a travesty.

PS: Next time there is a trip across country, perhaps Walter Driver and David Fay should take a minibus. Empathy begins at home.

Joe Hubbard, Certified Superintendent
Broken Sound Golf Course
Boca Raton, Fla.

Speeding Up Play to Create More Rounds

Editor's note: In an online column, Golfdom asked readers to share opinions on speed of play, most notably the need for more six-hole courses. Here's what some readers had to say:

When I was changing cups years ago, we had an oversized cup we used for low-key corporate outings. Not a coffee can as a gag, but a cup about 1.5 times as big as the regulation cup used by all golfers today.

Why not let the pros and early-morning golfers use the regulation (small) cup and normal fun golfers use the oversize cup?

We would play after work using the oversize cup, and it sped up things considerably. Even with pretty quick greens (which everyone likes, but which take a long time to get all golfers to putt out successfully), we would shave a couple minutes per hole as there was minimal time spent lining up the 4-footer, which as we all know is the one length all golfers spend the most time on. If you saved three minutes per hole, you'd save 54 minutes



for an 18-hole round. And we were good golfers. A higher-handicap foursome would probably save five or more minutes per hole. And the course layout, cut, grassing, tees, equipment can all stay the same.

It's a simple, easy and cost-effective way to get me — like yourself, a father with kids who need a lot of my time — back out on the course for a traditional 18 holes in less than four hours.

Of course, the oversize cup with six, nine or 12 holes would be even better for time-strapped people.

J.D. Huseboe
Irrigation salesman
Reinders Turf and Irrigation

I always thought that a nine-hole golf course with every three holes ending at the clubhouse would be great. Then you could have three-, six- and nine-hole leagues and a nice little clubhouse with some food and a bar. Bet it would work!

Steve Tyler
Standard Golf Co.

Only problem is that the United States Golf Association doesn't allow you to post your score from a six-hole round for handicap purposes. Now there is a place where we can start making six holes legitimate.

Helping to make golf a better game,
Kevin D. Coombs, PGA
Owner/General Manager
Beacon Rock Golf Course
North Bonneville, Wash.

We want to hear from you. You can e-mail your letters to David Frabotta at dfrabotta@questex.com, or fax to 216-706-3712. Make sure to include your name and phone number for verification. Letters may be edited for length or relevance.