

Mj&C

TOURNAMENT MEETING
AT OSHKOSH COUNTRY CLUB

By Mike Berwick, Golf Course Superintendent, Golf Courses of Lawsonia, Inc.

Superintendent and WGCSA President Kris Pinkerton hosted the 2001 WGCSA Tournament at Oshkosh Country Club in Oshkosh on September 10. Sixty-seven members and affiliates played golf, and another six attended the dinner and the educational session.

After a brat and burger buffet lunch, the golf event began with a shotgun start at 11:30 am. Despite all the rain the previous week, the course was in superb "tournament" condition. The tree-lined course featured fast, true, and relatively small greens which demanded precision approach shots and delicate pitch and chip shots to get close to the pins, some of which were in extremely "challenging" locations. Areas of roped and staked seedings where over 80 trees had been before the storm this past June were indications of all the work that was required of Kris and his crew to ready the course for this and other events.

After golf, attendees met in the Oshkosh CC clubhouse and bar area for cocktails and conversation, followed by dinner. The delicious sliced roast beef dinner, along with a scrumptious caramel and chocolate ice cream sundae for dessert, definitely satisfied everyone's appetite and prepared them for the educational session.

Robert Vavrek of the USGA's North Central Region Green Section presented his much anticipated "Year in Review." Bob's presentation featured many photos of his travels during the 2001 season, mostly of what you don't want to see on your golf course. The year, as we all know, was very nasty with too much or too little of everything, including precipitation, heat, and humidity. The winter was tough on turf with snowmold damage

very prevalent, the spring started too cool for recovery and then turned too wet, with too much precipitation until mid-June. Then drought became an issue with low humidity and high temperatures, and it seemed that our irrigation systems, which had not even been used to that point, could not apply enough water no matter what we did. After that, high humidity and heat lingered on much too long and turf areas, especially *Poa annua*, simply could not survive. Luckily, by mid-August cooler, drier weather returned and some recovery began. Bob mentioned that, as usual, courses that could afford to and did resort to stringent water management and use of hand watering and syringing seemed to survive the best. All in all, we are all very happy that this season is drawing to a close. Thanks to Bob for another great presentation.

The golf prizes were then awarded as follows:

WGCSA Fall Tournament Winners:

2001 WGCSA Champion (Low Gross) - Brent Peterson (80)

Flight A (0-16 Hdcp.)

First	Wayne Otto (71)
Second	Mark Hjortness (73)

Flight B (17-32 Hdcp.)

First	Mike Lyons (71)
Second	Mark Kienert (75)

Peoria Event

First	Bob Salamone (61)*
Second	Pat Staehler (61)

*Won scorecard playoff

Winners of Flag Events:

#1 Longest Putt	Dewey Laak
#6 Longest Drive in Fairway	Allan Fude
#8 Closest to pin in One	Rod Johnson
#10 Longest Putt	Fuzzy Feldman
#14 Closest to Pin in One	Scott Bushman
#18 Closest to Pin in One**	Dan Webb

** Use of Club Car Carry-All II for 1 Year -

Note: Dan Webb graciously donated his prize to the O.J. Noer Research Facility



The USGA's
Bob Vavrek.

MISCELLANY

Special thanks to Reinders Brothers, Inc., Horst Distributing, Inc., Spring Valley, and LESCO for providing funding for beverages and prizes, and to Club Car Corp. for providing an extra beverage cart and the Carry-All prize. Also a big thanks to Superintendent Kris Pinkerton, Professional Kurt Larson, Club Manager Jack Richardson and the entire staff at the Oshkosh Country Club for inviting our organization and providing an enjoyable day. 🌿

