



WINTER

By David Brandenburg, Golf Course Superintendent, Rolling Meadows Golf Course



The winter season is here! For many of us, it means a normal workday and little or no weekend responsibilities. It is a time to reflect on the past year and plan for the next.

Looking back it is amazing how fast the season went. Some of the many things we wanted to accomplish at Rolling

Meadows were left behind in the rush to fulfill daily and weekly agronomic duties, but we did accomplish many of our goals.

Staff and agronomic wise, the year was a success. The operation ran smoothly and everyone seemed pleased. Business and budget wise, things could have been better but all we can do is plan for an improved 2003.

The WGCSA recently had its election of directors and officers at the Fall Business Meeting. Attendance was small but we appreciate those who did attend. Randy Witt's term as secretary was up and he chose to step off the board to focus on other things right now. I want to thank him for his two years of commitment to the board and the ideas and time he shared with us. Current board member Brain Ferrie of Horseshoe Bay was elected secretary and Brian Zimmerman of Milwaukee County was elected as a director.

Your board and association runs as a volunteer organization. Most of the current board members at one time asked to help with a committee or to be somehow involved in the association. If you are interested in board or committee service in the future, please let us know. If you are waiting for us to call you, that might not happen; so please call us. Some committee members serve to help and be involved but have no plans to run for the board itself and that is fine. Others join a committee as a stepping stone to board service. Whatever your goals are, your help is always appreciated because your time is a valuable resource.

In addition, at the Fall Business Meeting the members present approved the 2003 Scholarship and

Research expenditures. Annual contributions include \$500 to the O.J. Noer Foundation, the USGA Foundation and to cover the TGIF subscription for UW-Madison staff and students. Also, \$1,000 will be given to the Turf Diagnostic Lab at the Noer Facility, while our final \$1,000 payment to the GCSAA Investing in the Beauty of Golf Campaign will come due in 2003. We pledged a total of \$10,000 to the campaign five years ago and GCSAA now has a Foundation with over five million dollars to support research and scholarships.

For local research, approved was \$12,000 for Dr. Jung's Snow Mold Study and \$7,000 for Dr. Stier's Fescue/Colonial Bent Mix for Fairways. To learn more about these studies or any of these projects or any activities at the Noer Facility be sure to attend the WTA Winter Expo and the Summer Field Days and read the articles published in your Grass Roots.

These two researchers, along with Dr. Kussow and Dr. Williamson, have asked for member input on what research we want to see. Do not hesitate to call them to let them know your ideas on research that is important to your course. Along the same lines do not hesitate to call the WGCSA Chairman of the Scholarship and Research Committee to let us know what projects you want supported or looked at. The Chair of that committee is always the WGCSA Vice-President, so currently that is Marc Davison.

Enjoy your winter season and spend lots of time with those important to you.



GILL MILLER INC.
Golf Course Architects

122 North 2nd Street • River Falls, WI 54022
715-425-9511 • e-mail: info@gillmiller.com
visit our website www.gillmiller.com

Design • Renovation
Master Planning • Practice Centers

Member: American Society of Golf Course Architects