



Opportunities Abound!

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



Thank you for the great turnout for our spring business meeting. I hope you all received the education and information you hoped to. It was nice to see a big crowd and I hope we can continue that at our summer meetings.

I have noticed some of our members never attend our golf meetings, and often wonder

why. Yes, it is a partial day away from work and family but we all need time off. I can truly say I have learned something from the host course every event I have played. Either a new idea or method of accomplishing the things we do. I also take home something from my conversations with other superintendents.

The current format offers education and golf in April, September and October so you have extra incentive to come. May is the Super-Pro, June and July are golf meetings and August is the WTA Field Day.

If you have never been to a meeting because you do not play that much, you have nothing to worry about. Although we have competition, it is secondary to having fun. So do not worry about your handicap as we have all kinds of players in our group. If you are new or have not had a chance to meet many other members yet, we will match you up with a foursome.

The summer meetings are also a great way to pay respect to the superintendents and facilities that invite us, while seeing how another course operates.

If you have not been to the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association Winter Expo lately give it a try next January and I know you will get value out of it. The Expo is always improving and I have heard from a variety of sources the Expo is going to be a "cannot miss" event for us and our staffs.

Dennis Robinson of Horst Distributing is chair of the Education Committee and he has expressed the committee has come up with some great ideas to make the show even better. Even though they have their own ideas do not be afraid to let the WTA know what you want to see and learn about. Your input is

invited and always welcome.

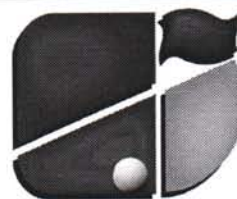
The education will be expanded to offer sessions for mechanics and general staff to attract more participants. They have planned some 'big name' speakers along with our own popular University of Wisconsin-Madison professors. The Expo will be January 6th and 7th so pencil it in on your calendar and plan to take your staff down for a terrific show.

I want to thank Kendall Marquardt for his service to the WGCSA Board of Directors. Kendall left the board this spring to concentrate on work and family and we appreciate his help during his time.

At the same time, we welcome Jeff Millies to the board. Jeff is the superintendent at Edgewood Golf Club in Big Bend.

By the time you're reading this, we will hopefully be well into a prosperous season, with good grass-growing and golfing weather. Remember to take time to get away from work to spend time with family and those important to you. Spending time away from work was one of my goals for last year and although I have room for improvement, I am getting better at leaving.

It is easier said than done as I take pride in my work ethic and there is always work we can be doing to improve our courses. No matter how hard we work, our jobs will never be done and a part of you wants to try. In the end, overworking will cause trouble in your life and make you less valuable to your employer. So get out and smell those roses! 🌹



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