

GOOD TIME DOWN ON "THE FARM"



By **Randy DuPont**, Golf Course Superintendent, North Hills Country Club

The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents' September meeting was held at The Bull at Pinehurst Farms. Superintendents and their guests were treated to playing the only Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course in the state of Wisconsin, which by the way was rated "America's Best New Daily Fee Course" by Golfweek in 2005. While the golf course itself is breathtaking, the property's history is quite fascinating.

For over 150 years Pinehurst Farms operated as a dairy farm in addition to its world-class breeding of Holstein cattle. A barn fire in 1993 marked the end of Pinehurst as a dairy farm, but signaled the beginning of the creation of a championship golf course.

In August 2000 construction began on the 400 acre parcel, previously known as Pinehurst Farms. Opened in 2002, the golf course meanders through meadows, woods, wetlands, and streams. While a majority of the fairways have generous landing areas, some require good course management off the tee. As in a typical Nicklaus design, approach shots into the greens require good shot-making. Green sites are protected either through well placed bunkering or forced carries over water or ravines.

The event for the day was a two-person scramble, and I believe there was a lot of scrambling going on during the course of the day for the sixty players who took on The Bull.

Low team gross winners, with a fantastic score of 66 were Gordie Waddington and Tom Reuter. In the net division, first place went to J. D. Huseboe and Dennis Dary

with a score of 60. Second place went to Larry Lennert and Greg Kallenberg with a score of 61.

Six hole events were also awarded. Closest to the pin winners were: Lee Merkel #3 and #7, Bryan Bergner #6, J. D. Huseboe #12, and Brad Fahlgren #15. In addition, Al Pondel won the longest drive on #10. I'm guessing the winners used their gift certificates to replenish their golf ball supply.

I would like to thank host superintendent Randy Witt for the great job he and his staff did. The golf course was in excellent condition.

Since this was our last meeting of the year, I would like to again thank all of the superintendents who hosted meetings this year, and would encourage others to consider hosting a meeting in the near future. ♣

