



May/June 1984

By David Brandenburg, Golf Course Manager, Kolling Meadows Golf Course

Editors Note: This issue we highlight the WGCSA happenings from the May/June 1984 issue of The Grass Roots.

Seven members of the WGCSA were appointed by Dr. Irving Shain, Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin, to serve on a Select Committee to study the feasibility of building a University of Wisconsin golf course. Roger Bell, North Shore Golf Club, Tom Harrison, Maple Bluff Country Club, Rod Johnson, Sheboygan Pine Hills Country Club, Jerry Kershasky of Westmoor Country Club, Bob Musbach of North

Hills Country Club, Pat Norton of South Hills Country Club and Bill Roberts of Sentry World Golf Club were asked to serve.

The article goes on to say discussions on a possible golf course started in the 1950's and 60's with a faculty planning committee appointed in 1966. At that time it was proposed a housing development would be needed for the course to be financially feasible. The firm of Killian and Nugent was hired to develop the plans with a proposed 1974 opening.

Unfortunately, opposition from citizens, environmentalists and

special interest groups convinced the University and UW Foundation to not proceed. The project lay dormant until 1982 when the Fazio Golf Course Designers were asked to study the site. The Fazio plan along with a updated Nugent Killian plan were studied by UW officials, who concluded the project would have trouble obtaining the needed funds for construction and operation.

In the end, the Select Committee made up of the 7 WGCSA members, agreed that at the time there was not sufficient money to build a quality golf course, a requirement

Welcome the following New Members to WGCSA!

- Kerry Anderson**, E, Valent USA, Crystal Lake, IL
- Nicholas Ayers**, S, University of Memphis, Milwaukee, WI
- Patrick Bastron**, S, UW-Madison, Pleasant Prairie, WI
- Wayne Brandt**, SM, CNC Links, Manitowoc, WI
- Jeremy Braudt**, SM, Baraboo CC, Baraboo, WI
- Brain Danko**, SM, Oakwood Golf Course, Franklin, WI
- Brad DeBells**, S, UW-Madison, Madison, WI
- Mike Kudra**, C, Kenosha CC, Racine, WI
- Kathryn Lifke**, S, UW-Madison, Theresa, WI
- Daniel Lloyd**, S, UW-Madison, Madison, WI
- Brad Marks**, E, Sepro Corporation, Pendleton, IN
- Scott Nivalal**, C, Northbrook Country Club, Green Bay, WI
- Kevin Peterson**, SM, The Ridges Golf Course, Wisconsin Rapids, WI
- Jamie Plomedahl**, SM, The Bridges Golf Club, Lacrosse, WI
- John Rautmann**, C, Hidden Glen at Bentsdale Farms, Sheboygan, WI
- Jeremy Seiler**, C, Kettle Hills Golf Course, Jackson, WI
- Mike Semler**, D, The Bruce Company, Middleton, WI
- John Turner**, E, Bayer Environmental Science, Elburn, IL
- Jason Van Rossum**, C, North Shore Golf Club, Kaukauna, WI
- Tom Wanner**, E, Minnesota Wanner Company, Minneapolis, MN

all parties involved over the years agreed upon.

In 1984, that is where the project stood. As we know in the future University Ridge was built and operated as a successful golf operation, the University of Wisconsin can be proud of.



Dr. David Cookson wrote in his Players Perspective column that a golf course in Wisconsin should never be closed to walking play unless there is snow, or the thawing of turf on top of frozen soil.

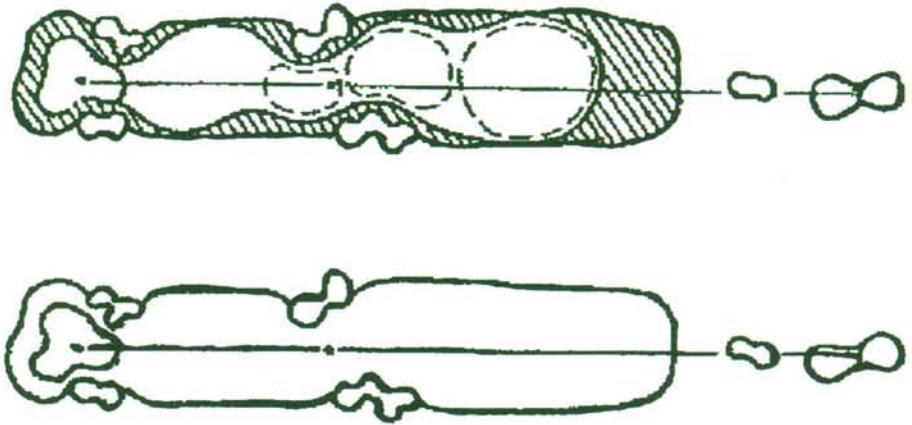
Dr. Cookson made reference to the short Wisconsin golf season and the all too often closing of courses due to rain. He felt that the hearty walking players who play in bad weather are quick to repair any ball marks and so small in number the amount of damage to the playing field is limited. In our favor, Dr. Cookson states it is the green superintendent who should make the call to close the course and when carts should be restricted.

The column finishes with "Golfers in Wisconsin are a hardy breed with a too brief season already. Don't totally close our course in season - ever! You will have better rapport with and respect from your members; you will take away a lot of headaches for yourself; and you will be doing what is right for those who love to play the game."



Bob Lohmann penned an article on the a newer concept called "Contour Mowing For Playability - And It's Worth It."

The column starts with; "Modern equipment utilization, unmaintained out-of-play areas, overgrooming is overspending, the natural look, native areas; these are all phrases of the 80s that everyone is saying and hearing. But let's not forget the elementary rules that a golf course must obey as stated by Bobby Jones over 45



This drawing by Bob Lohmann shows how contour mowing will reduce fairway acreage and playability of the golf course.

years ago: "The first purpose of any golf course should be to give pleasure, and that to the greatest number of players...because it will offer problems a person may attempt according to their ability. It will never become hopeless for the duffer nor fail to concern and interest the expert."

Bob goes on to explain the cost savings, and design factors that go into contour mowing. Reducing fairway acreage will save costs in mowing and product applications while adding distinction to the golf course features. ♣



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