



Geneva National Hosts WGCSA

By **Jim Van Herwynen**, Golf Course Superintendent, South Hills Golf and Country Club

The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association kicked off the 2008 monthly educational meetings at Geneva National Golf Club in Lake Geneva on Monday April 21, 2008. This event was the third and final year at Geneva National playing the Player, Trevino and Palmer courses respectively. This year we were blessed by having one of the best weather days of spring. It was a beautiful day with temperatures around 70 degrees which truly highlighted this beautiful piece of property. Host Superintendent Kevin Knudtson and his team did an outstanding job preparing the Palmer course to tournament ready conditions. As we all know to host a golf outing during the month of April in the State of Wisconsin is a daunting task - what a great job!


The day began with an enlightening presentation by Jake Britton, Control Consultant, for Clarke Mosquito Control out of Davison, MI. Unfortunately for me I did not hear his entire presentation due to registration needs, but here is what I took home from his presentation. There was a brief discussion of the mosquito life cycle and their biology. There are many different species of mosquitoes some of which are disease carrying and some that are just nuisance biting mosquitoes. Mosquitoes breed in many different habitats including small water sources. Some of the examples discussed were swamps, woodland pools, containers, ditches and water hazards on golf courses. I've even heard that mosquito larvae can live in collection pans under potted plants on out-

door patios and decks. Dumping the collected water on such planters can greatly reduce their numbers where people tend to congregate. Controlling mosquitoes can be done in two different ways. One method is larviciding, which is controlling them when they are in the larval stage of development. Secondly, as Jake puts it: "adulticiding", or controlling the mosquitoes when they are in the adult stage of development. Many products were discussed for larviciding from biological control products to insect growth regulators. Adult control products were also discussed at length along with various types of equipment used to apply the adulticides. You can learn more about mosquito control at www.clarkemosquito.com.

After the educational presentation we were treated to a fantastic "All-American Cookout" style lunch buffet and time on the practice range and putting green to warm up for the golf event. After golf we all gathered for hors d'oeuvres, camaraderie, beverages and the announcement of the winners for the days events. At the end of the day in first place with a threesome shooting a 61 were: Dave Busse (Rock River CC), Jon Burmania (Rock River CC), and Todd Freigen (Pendelton Turf). In second place there were three teams that tied with a 62. The team, also a threesome, that won due to the fact that they were the only team to birdie hole #9 which is the hardest handicapped hole were: Brian Schmidt (Reinders Inc.), Rod Johnson (Pine Hills CC), and Mark Petigoue (Thunderhawk GC). Hole event winners included closest to the

pin, hole #8 Rod Lesnick (Royal St. Patricks), closest to the pin, hole #13 Cubby O'Brien (Midwest Turf), and longest drive, hole #17 Brian Schmidt (Reinders Inc.). Congratulations to all of you and thank you to all of the vendor sponsorships that helped make this event a success. Please remember to register early, **participate** in the education, as there is much to be learned and I look forward to seeing all of you at the upcoming events. As always do not hesitate to call me with any questions or concerns you may have regarding any of the events this year at (920) 922-8455 or email me at jkvanherwynen@charter.net.

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