

The Off Season Projects

By Brett Grams, Chapter Manager, WGCSA

As I am writing this article is early January. We have just received another snowfall here in Central WI. We are having what appears to be our third snowy winter in a row. We have plenty of the white stuff on the ground and hopefully the turf will benefit once again.

The off season of our industry is actually a busy one for me. I am assisting our *Grass Roots* Editor by working with our generous advertisers and Affiliate Companies in securing Advertising and Industry Partner Contracts for 2010. The membership renewal process is also in full swing with many of you using our new online registration and payment features of the website. The website is being updated with content on a regular basis so check in periodically to see what has changed and been added. Our interactive Calendar is also updated as I become aware of events that our members can benefit from. If you experience any difficulties or problems please let me know so I can correct them quickly.

Besides serving our members day to day needs, my main focus has now turned to the Golf WI for Turf Research Fundraiser. Those of you that heard me talk at the Fall Business Meeting in Kohler in November heard of our newest effort to rise funding for the UW Turfgrass Research effort.

The Golf Wisconsin for Turf Research Fundraiser mirrors other fundraising efforts by several chapters throughout the country. The fundraiser will be asking our membership and our member golf facilities to donate foursomes of golf (hopefully with carts) that will then be marketed and advertised to the golfing public of Wisconsin. Any interested golfer will be able to bid for these donated rounds of golf via an online auction that will run for a period of time early in the golfing seasons this spring. The winning bidders will then pay the WGCSA for the rounds of golf won in the auction. These funds will ultimately be provided to our talented educators and researchers at the UW. For more information you can log in to the members side of our website and learn more in the Chapter Chatter pages.

At this time I am creating the timeline and literature that will help communicate this effort to all our members and also help our members "sell" this idea to the decision makers at your courses. Like any new project the planning and implementation takes a lot of time. Anyone that is willing to help the board and I with this new program is very much appreciated. If you have ideas or suggestions to help make this large effort more successful would also be welcomed.

If you would like to contact me about the new GWiFTR effort or if you have any other questions about the WGCSA please feel free to contact me. I would enjoy hearing from you by phone or e-mail (920-643-4888, bgrams@wgcsa.com). Please enjoy the Winter Months as you prepare for the 2010 golf season!



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