WGCSA

Lake Arrowhead Golf Club Hosts Joint Meeting

By Brett Grams, Chapter Manager, Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association

August 20th was the date for this years Annual Member Guest and joint meeting with our co-hosts from the Northern Great Lakes GCSA. High skies with a cool breeze welcomed the 60 + attendees for a picture perfect day of education, golf, and camaraderie.

Our very own Doug Soldat was our speaker for our educational hour. Dr. Soldat discussed the various research activities currently taking place at the OJ Noer Research Center. Both the NGL and WGCSA have contributed significantly to the UW and it is always good to hear about how the funding is being used.

After a question and answer session a burger buffet lunch was served prior to heading out to golf.

Lake Arrowhead Golf Club is a residential golf community located south of WI Rapids. The facility has played host of multiple WGCSA meetings over the years we were able to play the Pines Golf Course which is the flagship of the 36 hole complex. The geography of this part of central Wisconsin is flat terrain, shallow topsoil, and a very well drained sandy subsoil. The golf courses at Lake Arrowhead were carved out of the oak and pine forests. The Pines course was built in 1984 and designed by Ken Killian and Dick Nugent. Mr. Killian returned to design the Lakes Course which opened in 1998.

Our Host Superintendent Eric Jasin originally was responsible for the Lakes Course as it opened and remained as the Superintendent until last season when he took over the duties as Superintendent of the Pines Course. Like the rest of the Superintendents in the state Eric struggled with the hot dry weather and extended droughty conditions. The stress from the summer season was not very evident the day of our meeting! As I toured the course I was impressed by how healthy the course was given the challenging weather





throughout the state and a majority of the country.

The format of the days golf event was a two-man best ball. The fair weather and excellent conditions allowed many golfers to play some great golf. In the net division Mike Werth and Dennis Dary came in first place with very impressive score of 60. Just one stroke off the pace was Mark Thurow and Mike Judkins who carded a 61. The gross division winners were Mike Lyons and Craig Haltom who fired a 70 which was two better than 2nd place finishers Jon Hegge and Joe Knudtson who shot 72.

Flag event prizes went to Scott Bushman – Long Drive, Tom Speltz – Long Putt, Jesse Hoff, Closest to Pin, and Todd Fregein – Long Drive.

Many thanks to our generous sponsors of our monthly meetings! We simply could not provide attendees the great prizes and hole events without the companies who offset these costs. Our events are very reasonable thanks to the industry partners who support each of our monthly meetings.

Special thanks to Premier Golf Car for sponsoring the Hole In One Challenge and to our very own Randy Witt, CGCS for sponsoring a round of drinks after golf. As many of you know Randy is currently the Superintendent of Hong Kong Golf Club but his heart still resides with us here in WI. I am confident that when Randy can make it to one of our meetings we will gladly return the gesture!



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