COVER STORY

due to Jordan Niebrugge's opening 69-66. Rounding out the tem competition was The Legends shooting 442 and Merrill Hills at 449.00

The Bull is owned by Terry Wakefield and was built on a 290 acre site and opened for play in 1995.

Superintendent Tony Gonzalez entered the golf business through a summer job in high school working at then Ville Du Parc CC under Mike Handrich (currently at Racine CC) and Steve Allen (currently at Songbird Hills GC). When Eric Jasin (currently at Lake Arrowhead GC) joined the staff as Assistant Superintendent Tony realized the golf industry could be a viable career option.

Gonzalez graduated Michigan State and interned at Ozaukee CC before a brief stint at Westmoor CC. Tony has been involved at The Bog pretty much since the beginning giving him knowledge of the infrastructure and location of irrigation and drainage systems. Tony took over as head superintendent at The Bog in 1999.

The soils of the rolling golf course are mainly glacial till but the fairways were sand capped with 4-6" of sand during construction. The sand cap turned out to be a benefit but caused some problems but overall the South Shore/ Putter/ Penlinks fairways and tees have done well over the years and the course has hosted a number of statewide tournaments in its young life.

Bordering the Cedarburg Bog forces Gonzalez to pay attention to the environmental sensitivity of the bog. With such a large property the irrigation system is expansive and has over 1500 sprinkler heads. Tony explained that just checking each head for proper operation can take three days of longer depending on play levels and fall blowout is a 4 day operation.

In my time on the course the maintenance staff worked as a well oiled machine working through the golf course is quick fashion. Tony was quick to give credit to them for the condition of the golf course and expressed his appreciation for the job they do.

The 112th Wisconsin State Amateur Championship is in the books and the players were quick to give thanks to Tony and the maintenance staff for providing great conditions for the event. Congratulations Team!

<u>Future</u> <u>WSGA Amateur</u> <u>Championship Sites</u>

2014 - Ozaukee Country Club, Mequon - Host Superintendent - Brett Hosler

2015 - Erin Hills, Erin, Host Superintendent - Zachary Reineking

2016 - North Shore Golf Club, Menasha, Host Superintendent - Scott Schaller

2017 - Oconomowoc Club, Oconomowoc, Host Superintendent - Dustin Riley





ABOVE: Keegan Drugan son of WGCSA member Mike Drugan hits his approach shot into hole 7. Keegan finished tied for 37th place.

LEFT: 396-yard Par-4 2nd hole plays downhill to a well protected green.