WGCSA

April Meeting At The Club At Strawberry Creek

By Scott Bushman, Golf Course Superintendent, Fox Valley Golf Club

The WGCSA held the first golf and education meeting for the 2014 season at The Club at Strawberry Creek on Tuesday April 22. The hosts for the event were Matt Kregel golf course superintendent and Jeremy Dahl assistant golf course superintendent. The Club at Strawberry Creek is a Rick Jacobsen design golf course that opened in 2006. The property was originally the Thompsen Strawberry farm. It was a 150 acres of self pick strawberry fields. The owners of the strawberry fields decided to downsize and a group of investors had been looking at this property. Four main investors decided to purchase the property and build a golf course. One of the investors is Jay Hilgenberg a retired all pro from the Chicago Bears. The golf course and the housing development is 385 acres is size with

the golf course consisting of 180 acres of that total. The golf course has a total of 52 acres of bentgrass, 44 of that acreage is fairways.

The day started with a presentation by Dr. Doug Soldat titled Sodium Bicarbonate and Iron buildup in USGA putting greens, should you be concerned? Doug presented the results of some of the studies done on the layering that can form at or near the gravel layers under USGA putting greens. The samples were obtained from golf courses throughout the U.S. Many tests were performed to determine the affects of Sodium Bicarbonate and Iron buildup. Doug talked a lot about the ph levels and how that has a big impact on the results of the studies. Optimum ph levels should be between 6.0 and 6.5.



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Dr. Doug Soldat gave a talk titled Sodium, Bicarbonate and Iron: Should You Be Concerened?

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After lunch 60 golfers participated in the four person scramble event for the day. The golf course was in excellent condition. Matt and his staff did a great job of preparing the golf course for the event. The cooler temperatures and being very windy made for a tough test of golf. It was not as difficult for a few teams as it was for others judging from the winning scores. The winners of the four person scramble with a score of 12 under par 60 were Mike Schmeiden, Brian Johnson, Travis Krauklis and Sparky Lockhardt. Flag event winners were Brad Legnaioli with long drive on #1. Kevin Knudtson long drive on #13. Darren Dase closest to the pin on #12. Mike Schmeiden closest to the pin on #8. Scott Bushman longest putt on #9. Thank you to all those who attended making this a successful event. Look forward to the next event on May 12 at West Bend Country Club.

TOP LEFT: First Place team of Brian Johnson, Travis Kauklis, Sparky Lockhart and Mike Schmieden.

TOP RIGHT: 5th Place team of Nick Strain, Aaron Goninen, Omar Zaldivor, Chad Grimm.

BOTTOM LEFT: 9th place team of Mark Thurow, Brian Kimbrough, Dave Kloss and Erich Lange.

BOTTOM RIGHT: 13th Place team of Cubby Obrien, Jeremy Dahl, Dave Busse and Randy Lusher.









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Our hosts Matt Kregel and Jeremy Dahl



Above: The links course played firm and fast for our event but did not match the in-season beauty of the mature native grasses in the file photo of the 8th hole below.

