

The Grass Roots

July, 1978

Volume 4 - Number 5

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WISCONSIN GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT ASSOCIATION



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Golf courses that have automatic irrigation systems are frequently accused of indiscriminate use of water. I believe a well-designed automatic irrigation system, set up properly actually conserves water.

We have used approximately 25 per cent less water since converting a manual hoseless quick-coupling system to automatic with individual head control. A Superintendent will spend much more of his time with an

automatic system than he did with a quick-coupling system and a night waterman. An automatic system has to be checked daily, especially during heat and drought periods. You will probably realize better control of water but you will be doing more than pushing buttons and pulling pins. Depending on the course, soil conditions and drainage - each Superintendent has to adjust and program irrigation for each situation. A Superintendent should design or help design his automatic system, especially if he has been using a manual system, since only he knows where the trouble spots are and how he can program applications.

The following was contributed by Bruce Worzella, Golf Course Superintendent, Bull's Eye Country Club, Wisconsin Rapids.

EDITOR

Don't Quit

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When the funds are low, and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.
Life is queer with it's twists and turns,
As everyone of us sometime learns,
And many a fellow turns about,
When he might have won had he stuck it out.
Don't give up, though the pace seems slow-
You may succeed with another blow.
Often the goal is nearer than
It seems to a faint and faltering man,
Often the struggler has given up
When he might have captured the victor's cup;
And he learned too late when the night came down,
How close he was to the golden crown.
Success if failure turned inside out-
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you can never tell how close you are,
It may be near, when it seems afar;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit,
It's when things seem worst that you mustn't quit.

On "Poa-bent" fairways the only way to irrigate is lightly and frequently. If supplemental water is applied daily, the incidence of localized dry areas is greatly reduced and playing conditions are similar day-to-day. Courses that are irrigated heavily and infrequently change drastically, before and after each application.

See you at Watertown Country Club on July 24th. Dr. Vargas will provide valuable information on disease control.

WAYNE OTTO