

The 1979 Meeting Schedule

- March 28 - West Bend CC, Dennis Willms Host.
- April 23 - Tripoli CC, Jim Belfield Host
- May 14 - Rhinelander CC, Paul Cooper Host
- June 31 - Beloit CC, Don Fergger Host
- July 17 - Mascoutin CC, Glen Gerth Host
- August 14 - Cherokee CC, Melvin Mork Host
- September 18 - Bulls Eye CC, Cliff Brandl Host
- October - Mee Kwon CC, Robert Gosewehr Host
- November 5 - Waupaca CC, Don Peterson Host.

The Directors in 1979 were Ron Gruenwald, Tom Harrison, Dave Murgtroyd, Wayne Otto, CGCS, Danny Quast, CGCS, while the officers were Jeff Bottensek, CGCS, Secretary Treasurer, Jim Belfield, CGCS, Vice President and Woody Voight, President.

Feature articles included “Some Ideas About Roots” by Dr W.H. Daniel, Purdue University, “Tee Marker Placement” by Palmer Maples Jr., CGCS in a article reprinted from Golf Course Management along with the column “For The Good of the Association” covering the State of Wisconsin’s Life Insurance Fund available to residents of Wisconsin for up to \$10,000 in coverage.

The Editors provided information to help members in their daily lives with a column titled “Getting Organized: How to Schedule Your Day” It is reprinted in its entirety and is still applicable today even though electronic tasks list may have replaced the paper list for some of us.

“If your workload keeps growing as fast as your workday seems to shrink, maybe your problem is a lack of organization.

A few minutes spent in planning can help you get more accomplished each day and help you run your operation more efficiently. Not everyone can be an efficiency expert, but even the most disorganized person can get more done by planning his work more efficiently. These eight suggestions can help.

- (1) At the end of each workday, take a few minutes to schedule the next day’s activities - phone calls, meetings, interview and projects. Make a list with the most important things to be accomplished at the top. As other important things come up, you may have to change your plans, but having a list can help you keep your priorities in mind.
- (2) Schedule work according to your own personal efficiency. Not everyone works at peak efficiency first thing in the morning, so you should schedule the important things for a time when you are at your sharpest.
- (3) Decide whether you would rather tackle the tough projects first and get them out of the way, or ease into them by finishing the smaller tasks first.

- (4) Tough problems take concentration, and it is impossible to concentrate when you are continually interrupted. If you know you are going to have to deal with a thorny problem, set aside some time for it. Let everyone know that you don’t want to be disturbed and make yourself work at it.
- (5) Use an action request form for assigning tasks to your subordinates. It should include a description of the job, a deadline, and a person responsible for its completion. This system makes for more paperwork, but it does make assigning jobs easier and gives you a written record for reference.
- (6) Take a close look at the things that make up your day. Some of them may be merely habit and no longer necessary. Cut Ruthlessly. A collection of minor tasks can take valuable time away from the more important duties.

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- (7) Group smaller tasks into one time period. IF you have to do similar things at different times during the day, try doing them all at once. Switching your concentration from on job to another can take more time than you think.
- (8) Don't agonize over decisions. There is a difference between spending a reasonable amount of time considering alternatives and delaying a decision because it is an uncomfortable one. If you have to make a decision make it. The only way you can avoid making a decision is by waiting until you have only one alternative remaining. That last alternative may be the worst of the bunch.

These eight suggestions may not make you an efficiency expert, but they may help you reevaluate your work habits. Not everyone works the same way, but it is important to find a system that works for you. Set your own schedule and follow it. You will be surprised at how much you can accomplish”

The second column we will print in its entirety is titled “Successful Speaking Made Easy”, a topic as valuable then as it is now.

“Almost everyone has to make a speech at one time or another. This unfortunate fact of life has caused many a chewed fingernail, but it is not necessarily a thing to be feared. A good speech can inform or persuade, win your friends and influence and generally help people understand and sympathize with our point of view.

You may never have given a speech before, but if you do your homework and follow a few simple rules, your audience will never know the difference.

The first step is to learn as much as you can about your audience. What you say must be of interest to the people you address. The things

you tell your local garden club may be of little interest to a commercial farmer. Retail merchants interests are different from those of a mothers club.

Nothing will make you lose your listeners faster than a speech aimed at the wrong audience or one full of misconceptions about the group you are addressing. A little advanced questioning can arm you with a few key facts and issues of special

interest. If you work these into the first part of your speech, the audience will be yours until you walk off the podium.

On the other hand, you are an expert in your business, not theirs so don't overdo it. Your audience wants to hear a different point of view, not someone telling them how to run their business.

Next, you must decide how you can be helpful and interesting to

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your audience. Ask yourself why you have been invited to speak to this group of people. What can you tell them that they don't already know? What information about your subject can they put to use? If you can't contribute something useful, you might as well go home.

Make sure you have a clear purpose in addressing this group. What can you accomplish for your profession? Persuasion is one of the most important motives in public speaking.

Now that you have a goal in mind, start gathering facts. Make a list of all the facts, points, examples, quotations, and statistics you can put together. Allow yourself enough time to research, write and edit your speech. Don't get off your subject and don't try to cover too much ground in one talk. Keep a notebook or file for your excess material so you can use it another time.

Make sure all your data are correct and up to date. If you talk about legislation and regulation, check for recent changes. You must speak with certainty and authority if you are to be convincing. If you have doubts about some of your information, don't use it. Incorrect information can do more harm than good.

After you have gathered all the information you need, it's time to start writing. If you are not an experienced writer, it might be best to write the entire speech out word for word. Start by arranging all of your various points in logical order. As you shuffle them around, one will seem to naturally follow another. If the order seems logical to you, then it will seem logical when you deliver it.

Remember that every member of your audience is a individual. When you are writing your speech, pretend that you are talking to just one of those individuals.

Next, read your speech through several times. If you have a tape recorder, read the speech into it and then play it back to see what further changes you want to make.

Be picky. Cut out dull or superfluous remarks. Use only a few adjectives. Tone down exaggerations. Use short simple words and sentences. Do not use slang. If you are not sure about grammar, look it up or go to someone who does know and ask for help.

Time your speech. Make sure it is under your allotted time. If you are to speak for 30 minutes, make sure you do it in 25. No matter how good, informative, or entertaining you are, your audience will love you more for finishing earlier than they had expected.

Finally, have your speech typed so it is easy to read without losing your place.

As you look back, you will find you have invested a good amount of time and effort on this speech, but you can get a log more mileage out of it in the future by updating and modifying it for other assignments.

Don't think you won't get those assignments. Good speakers are always in demand, and, as an expert on the subject, you are the man people want to hear."

The feature titled "Wasted Minutes Cost Money" showed mem-

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bers how much money can be lost when employees are not working as much as expected.

“Those long coffee breaks can cost you money. If you have an employee earning \$16,000 for example every hour of goofing off on the job costs you \$8.58. Every minute is worth 14.4 cents. If 15 minutes a day is wasted, it costs you \$500 for the year.

Here is a table, reprinted from the Maine GCSA Newsletter, which shows just how serious this problem can be. Keep in mind these figures are only direct payroll costs. Total cost in taxes and benefits can be much larger. 

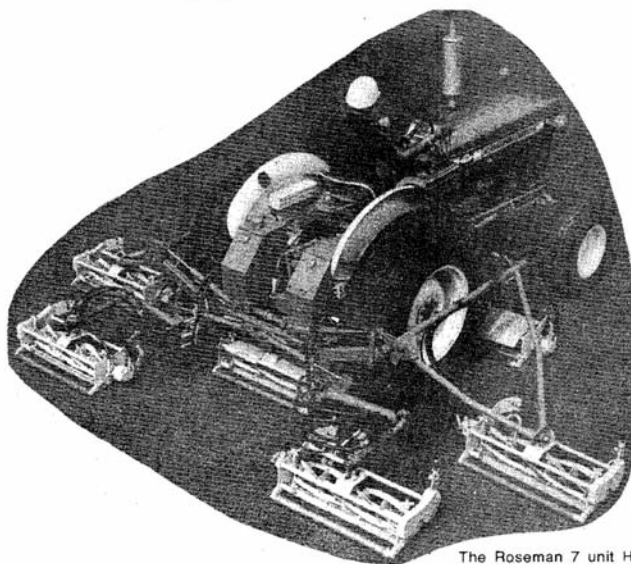
<i>If You Earn</i>	<i>Each Hour Is Worth</i>	<i>Each Minute Is Worth</i>	<i>In a Year 15 Min Daily</i>
\$8,000	\$4.29	7.2 c	\$250.00
\$10,000	\$5.36	8.9 c	\$312.50
\$12,000	\$6.42	10.7 c	\$375.00
\$14,000	\$7.51	12.5 c	\$437.50
\$16,000	\$8.58	14.4 c	\$500.00
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\$25,000	\$13.41	22.4 c	\$781.25
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Rolling With the Changes

By **Jake Schneider**, Assistant Superintendent, Blackhawk Country Club

If you've had the misfortune of reading more than one of my columns, you're probably already aware that I have a sweet spot for UW-Madison, my alma mater. Boy or girl, I'm still trying to convince my fiancé that Bucky would be fantastic name for our first born. Although I'll swim across the Pacific Ocean before that happens, it doesn't hurt to dream.

Having spent 6 1/2 years as a first-hand witness of the research that takes place both in the lab and at the Noer Center, there is no doubt that our state's turf researchers are fully committed to using science to make our jobs just a little easier. The real meat and bones of every Grass Roots edition are the articles written by Drs. Stier, Kerns, Williamson, and Soldat and by future Dr. Koch. Each year, they conduct cutting-edge research that is both relevant and applicable.

Ok, ok, besides finding out that I have a mild, but hopefully treatable, obsession with Buckingham U. Badger, this article could have been written by Captain Obvious. There is little debate regarding the merits of the turf research taking place not only at UW-Madison, but also at the many other fine turfgrass schools that dot our great nation. Why is it, then, that it's so darn difficult to implement recommendations that are derived from credible studies?

A simple answer would be, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." In other words, if your course has been great for years, it may seem as if you have nothing to gain and everything (including your job) to lose by implementing new practices. At Blackhawk, a certain Monroe Miller (you may have heard of him) cultivated some of the finest putting surfaces in the state for 36 years, and it's more than a little intimidating for Chad and I to stray from the practices that kept him gainfully employed for 9 years longer than I've been alive. However, slowly, but surely, we are evolving.

On July 7, 2010, we didn't mow the greens in the morning (or the afternoon or the evening). Instead, we rolled them, and it almost seems wrong. Sure, there is lots of data, most notably from Dr. Nikolai and Michael Morris, touting the benefits of rolling in favor of mowing. But, it still seems wrong to not mow the greens in the middle of the week during the prime golf season. Combine this with using Bill Kreuser's growing degree day data for timing Primo applications, and things are getting downright crazy at Blackhawk. While implementing these practices isn't exactly living on the edge, we are fairly certain that they will improve the health of our *Poa*/more *Poa* greens throughout the summer stress. If not, certain associates at Michigan State and UW-Madison/Cornell can expect some less-than-complimentary emails.

Speaking of research, do you know how much it costs to fund a graduate student at UW-Madison to conduct a 2-year research study? Me neither, but it's a lot. As the end-users of said studies, I hope that you will be able to support the Wisconsin Turfgrass Research Sustainability Fund by attending the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association outing on October 4 at none other than Blackhawk Country Club. Chad and I are honored to be hosting the event, and as long as the weather cooperates, we promise that you won't be disappointed. Regardless of the weather, you'll be treated to Chef Todd's mouthwatering cookout and post-round hors d'oeuvres and one of the best views in Madison. To increase your chances of success during the golf portion of the outing, I strongly recommend working on your punch shots, and pack a leaf blower if fall makes an early appearance this year. Please register by September 28, and we hope to see you here. 🌱

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Seasons Rush By

By **Brett Grams**, Chapter Manager, WGCSA

Summer greetings! At the time of this writing the fourth of July has just “whizzed by” and we are now on our way to the dog days of summer. By the time you read this the back to school ads will be out. I find these ads as a good indicator of shorter days and cooler weather soon to come.

It is never too early to think about the future so I have already started my association planning for 2011. The WGCSA has some interesting things planned for the upcoming year. The Board of Directors will be implementing the new Assistant Golf Course Superintendents Committee while looking for growth in the PAR4 Fundraiser, and strengthening the Industry Partnerships. Another priority of mine to focus efforts that are core to Mission and Vision statements of the WGCSA. The Board of Directors and I

would enjoy your help or assistance as we plan for next year. Would you like to host a monthly golf meeting? What about taking a turn at hosting our Couples Outing? Would you like to be involved with any other chapter efforts? Please contact me if you would like to be a part of shaping our future!

I hope that all members will also consider participating in the remaining meetings and golf events for the year. The Wee One, WTA Fundraiser, Couples Weekend, and of course our Fall Symposium are great places for you to be involved.

I wish everyone a successful late summer season!

For this period we have one New Member as Ryan Knick, Superintendent at the Orchards of Egg Harbor has joined the WGCSA. 🌱

WGCSA's Certified Golf Course Superintendents

Chad Ball, Conway Farms GC	Dale Morrison, Trappers Turn GC
Jeffrey Barlow, Waupaca CC	Pat Norton, Nettle Creek / Ravisloe
Paul Bastron, Glen Flora CC	Kristopher Pinkerton, Oshkosh CC
Jeff Bottensek, Stevens Point C	Danny Quast, DHD Turf and Tree Products
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Doug DeVries, Reid GC	Dustin Riley, Oconomowoc GC
Carl Grassl, Retired	Clark Rowles,
James Hall, Westhaven GC	Jeff Ruesch, Grand View GC
Mike Handrich, Racine CC	Tony Radzki, Whistling Straits GC
David Hassel, Brighton Dale Links	Scott Sann, Greenwood Hills CC
James Hasz, Lake Breeze GC	Paul Schaefer, Prairie Isle GC
Mark Hjortness, H&H Fairway Enterprises	Scott Schaller, North Shore GC
David Jahnke, Washington County GC	Ken Schwark, Watertronics Inc.
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Rodney Johnson, Pine Hills GC	Randy Slavik, Wausau CC
Michael Kactro, Washington County GC	David Smith, Abbey Springs GC
Mark Kastenholz, Tipton Municipal GC	Robert Stephens, Indianhead GC
Mark Kienert, Bull's Eye CC	Gary Tanko, Sentry World GC
John Krutilla, Retired	Scott Thompson, Reinders, Inc.
Joseph Kuta, Hartford GC	Jack Tripp, La Crosse CC
DuWayne Laak, Retired	Randy Van Fleet, Merrill Hills CC
Michael Lee, Blackwolf Run / Whistling Straits	Jim Van Herwynen, South Hills G&CC
Josh LePine, The Legend at Bristlecone	Steve VanAcker, Crystal Lake CC
Bruce Livingston, Mascoutin Golf Club	Steven VanNatta, Owatonna CC
Kendall Marquardt,	Randy Witt, Hong Kong Golf Club
Jeff Millies, Edgewood GC	Bruce Worzella, West Bend CCA



Rainouts!

By David Brandenburg, Golf Course Manager, Rolling Meadows Golf Course

For lack of better words, the weather is rotten! Not only is it wet and humid, golf courses stink like rotten grass! I am hopeful by the time your read this sunny skies will prevail and pushing up bunkers, grading cart paths and pumping water from low areas will be distant memories.

After 26 years in the business golfers still surprise me. I have had an ongoing conversation with two regular players at our club about the rough. The golf shop had alerted me they were complaining the rough was too long and thick, and no doubt it was but in their opinion we had raised the mowing height of our rough and were offering the longer rough on purpose.

They played on a particular Friday when it so happened the holes they were playing were freshly mowed. They thanked me profusely for lowering the height of our rough mowers to a normal height, and even though they understood we were mowing the rough higher for a tournament we hosted they appreciated the fact we lowered the height back to normal. I thanked them for expressing their gratitude and explained the rough has been the same height for years and we just are not able to keep it as trim as normal because it is growing so fast. They listened and nodded but I could tell they didn't really believe me. How can two 65 year olds not understand when it rains the grass grows faster? They have been playing golf their entire life!

The next time they played they were on holes that hadn't been mowed in two days so they complained to the golf shop that we

raised the height of the rough mowers again! Hopefully the dry weather is coming soon!

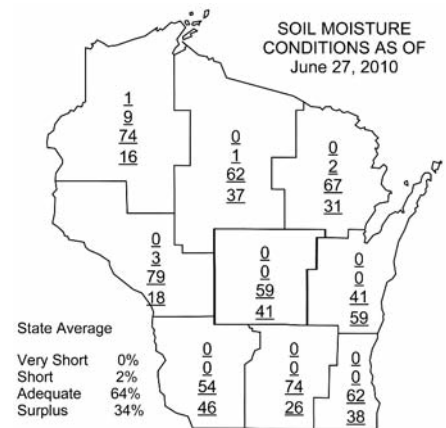
From the June 27 and July 25 US Department of Agriculture, National Agriculture Statistics Service Wisconsin Crop Progress Reports moisture map you can see the entire state has had ample rains and often too much rain over the past two months. Both months show only 2% of the state short on soil moisture and over 34% at a surplus of soil moisture.

If I had a dollar for every good intentioned golfer who said "at least you're saving money on irrigation water!" I would be a rich man. I just smile and say yes, even though the lost revenue from a single rain day equals half our total water pumping costs for the year.

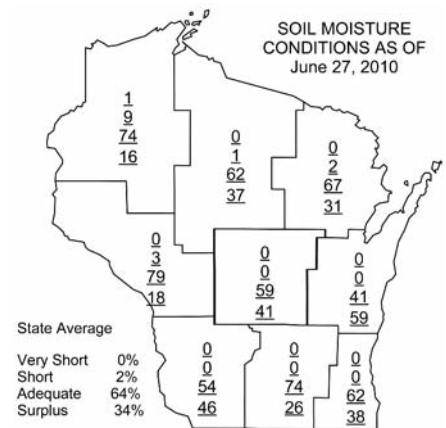
Wisconsinites have plenty of opportunities to watch some great amateur and professional golf. The State Amateur, Junior and Wisconsin State Open are free to all spectators, while GCSAA members gain complimentary entry into the PGA Championship and the BMW Championship.

- 92nd PGA Championship - August 9-15, Whistling Straits, Haven
- Wisconsin State Open - August 23-25, The Legend at Bristlecone, Hartland
- BMW Championship (Former Western Open) - September 9-12, Cog Hill Golf and Country Club, Lemont, IL

Our schedule of major events is growing with the announcement the US Open will be played at Erin Hills in 2017. Wisconsin is



Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office



Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office

quickly becoming a national player in professional golf.

- 2010 PGA Championship, Whistling Straits, Sheboygan
- 2011 US Amateur Championship, Erin Hills GC, Erin
- 2012 US Women's Open Championship, Blackwolf Run, Kohler
- 2015 PGA Championship, Whistling Straits, Sheboygan
- 2017 US Open Championship, Erin Hills GC, Erin
- 2020 Ryder Cup, Whistling Straits, Sheboygan