

COVER STORY



Top Left: Preparations on Hole 10.
Left: Deep bunker protecting the 3rd green.
Below left: 392 Yard Par 4 3rd Hole.
Bottom Left: Approach Mowing on 435 Yard Par4 10th.
Bottom Right: 188 Yard Par 3 16th Hole.
Below Right: Bridge on Hole 7.
Top Right: Old set of rollers ready for work.



COVER STORY

This challenge comes to light during the budget process when the staff is asked to hold or cut expenses without any corresponding repercussions on the course.

Colin expressed he feels very fortunate to have acquired the staff members he has to work with. He is sure to tell members there may be staffs as good as his but none are better. Working with Colin are:

- **Karl Wehausen**, aka “The Silver Fox”, Assistant Superintendent
- **Brett Hosler**, Assistant Superintendent.
- **Dan Dommer**, Equipment Manager.
- **Mark Bednarek**, Club Horticulturist.

The day was not all about raising research money. It was full of fun events too. The main event of the day was a four person best ball tournament.

The Winners Were:

1st Place - Darrin DiChristopher, Steve Fisher, Chris Goodwick, and Joe Brown

2nd Place - Tom Wentz, Mark Wentz, Mike Skenandore, Trygve Ekern

Middle Place - Dave Kloss, Jim Hasz, Scott Bartosh, Dominic Frese

Hardest Working Place - Karl Wehausen, Ryan Rusch, Dan Dammer, Marcus Verdun

Skills Event Winners:

Longest Drive # 5 - Tim Schmidt

Longest Putt # 7 - Ryan Rethetzford


Closest to Hole # 9 - Scott Bushman

Shortest Drive # 10 - Jon Hegge

Closest to Hole # 16 - Josh Hounsell

Longest Putt # 18 - Randy DuPont

There were other fun events both on and off the course. The most significant was a drawing for an Ipad II Computer with Mark Kienert from Bull's Eye CC taking home the prize. Additionally there was a door prize giveaway where every participant took home something, many prizes being worth more than the registration fee.

The day could not have been so successful without everyone's help including all the participants, door prize donors, hole sponsors, volunteers, and especially the golf course staff and Ozaukee Country Club members. The WTA is so fortunate to having everyone pull together to make the day perfect. Thank you to all the players and sponsors and we cannot wait until next year. 



Top Left: The Ozaukee Country Club clubhouse behind the 411 Yard Par4 11th Hole.

Left: The maintenance facility like many is a barn left over from many years ago.

Top Right: The 442 yard Par4 8th Hole is rightly named “Oak Grove”.



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Important WGCSA Member News!

By Chad Harrington, Golf Course Superintendent, Autumn Ridge Golf Course

Editors Note: This issue we are lucky to have two Presidents Messages. Outgoing President Jeff Millies says goodbye while incoming President Chad Harrington provides valuable new information for members to read.

Hello to all WGCSA members, as 2012 quickly comes to an end the WGCSA Board of Directors has been busy planning for next season. As a board, we met on October 20th and had a productive meeting as we reviewed the 2012 season of events and discussed various options and ideas to make the WGCSA stronger and more efficient in 2013.

The present WGCSA board under the leadership of Mr. Jeff Millies CGCS was able to have another successful year of events, education, and networking. Thanks to the generous support of the Affiliate Companies participating in our Industry Partnership Program we have again been able to offer free attendance at the GIS WI Hospitality Room (our single largest expense), funding of the Grass Roots Magazine, and help with funding our monthly meetings, website, and members handbook. We simply cannot thank the Industry Partners enough for the dedication to our membership and association for all they do.

With the strong support and financial security of the WGCSA we are happy to report that as we enter our 83rd year as an association we can hold the line on industry partnership fees as well as membership dues for all members. It has been several years since we have had a dues increase and we are happy to report that in these tough economic times we can continue to offer the same services and events as always without increasing your dues. As a board we have reviewed our services and offerings and have made some changes to help with efficiency. I want to take a moment to announce these

changes in procedure so you are all aware of how they impact you.

Our first change is that although we have determined we do not need to raise dues, we must address the ongoing situation of late payment of many members' dues payments. In the spirit of making sure as many members as possible renew dues by the February 1st deadline, the WGCSA board has approved that all

“Any members who do not renew by April 1st will be subject to a \$25.00 late fee in addition to the dues payment.”


members who renew dues by returning the renewal form and payment via mail or renewing online via PayPal with credit card, will receive a complimentary gift as an incentive. Likewise those members who fail to meet the February 1st deadline will then have an additional 30 day grace period to renew but they will not be eligible for the complimentary gift. Any members who do not renew by April 1st will be subject to a \$25.00 late fee in addition to the dues payment. Obviously we want all members to renew on time as it is truly beneficial for both the members and the association.

We will have more information on this new change at the Fall Business Meeting which begins at 11 AM on December 4th prior to the Symposium in Kohler, WI

The other important change to make members aware of is that we will no longer be using regular mail to announce our monthly and business meetings. We have determined that our members can get this information electronically (email) efficiently and since all monthly meetings and notices are easily found on the Home Page and Calendar on our web-

site. We have offered this option for several years. The majority of our members already are opting for email notification for monthly meetings so this does not affect the vast majority in any way. Please understand that the mailing of the Dues Renewal Forms, ALL editions of the Grass Roots, and the annual Members Handbook/Directory will continue to be mailed conventionally like they always have. The change to electronic delivery pertains to meeting notices only. In addition you will still be able to download and print off the hard copy of meeting notices from either the emails themselves OR by going the Home Page of the WGCSA website. These hardcopies can still be mailed into the WGCSA office as in the past if any members prefer registering and paying this way.

We want to be proactive in our communication of these changes, and trust that you will be appreciative of the fact that the WGCSA leadership is doing all we can to make the association beneficial to each and every member as we can. Holding our costs, improving our efficiencies, and offering as many educational and networking opportunities as we can continues to remain our ONLY priority! We would enjoy answering any questions or concerns you have. Any and all ideas that you feel can improve the association or help our members is always welcome as well! Feel free to contact me at charrington@wgcsa.com or via phone at 920-905-1120 or Chapter Manager Brett Grams at bgrams@wgcsa.com or via phone at 920-643-4888.

Be on the lookout for your 2013 membership renewals to arrive in the mail any day. PLEASE review the instructions and return your membership renewal as instructed and on time to receive your complimentary gift! Thanks in advance for your cooperation and THANKS for being a member of the WGCSA! 

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Foot Golf

By Bruce Schweiger, Agronomist, Midwest Turf Products

What a year it has been for Wisconsin golf! The year started with a bang, the temperature heated up and the rain was spotty at best. Records temperatures were seen everywhere. With all the happenings in golf like the Women's Open at Kohler there was a huge first happening in the Wisconsin Dells. On July 22nd the first US Foot Golf Championship was played. Foot Golf has been alive and growing in Europe and had it's first ever event at Chula Vista Resort. What is foot golf you ask well let me explain it to you.

Foot Golf is played on a regulation golf course and the player uses a number size 5 soccer ball. Play is from the forward tees and you play to specialized cups at the end of each hole. The cups for this event were 2 1/2 inch flower pots with a regulation putting green cup cut into the bottom to hold the flag. These cups were not placed in the

putting greens but near the green usually in the rough, allowing organizers to incorporate trees and bunkers into the course. The players and organizers understand the traditions of our game and are very understanding. The players wore turf shoes and not soccer boots, so they did little or no damage to the course. They also dressed in more traditional golf attire and like many of our league players they rode in golf cars, more on that later.

This new form of golf blended well with the more traditional game. The day of the tournament they were able to have regular play before and after the event with little or no effort.

The players were able to complete 18 holes in around 2 1/2 hours. On the day of the Tournament they closed the first tee and 1 1/2 hours after the last tee time the tournament kicked off. The first players easily caught the

traditional golfers before they could finish.

Many of the participants rode in golf cars and when asked why the answer was very simple, "we need to have the golf car so we have someplace to carry our beer." OK so these guys are very much like our normal players. When asked about the lack of clubs each player said they play with between 10 and 12 clubs or 5 to 6 different ways to strike the ball with each foot.

When interviewing Bill Kehoo the Superintendent at Chula Vista he made the following observation. A certain person felt they should cut the cups on the putting green but Bill was able to convince them that this was not possible and the repair would be very difficult. Bill rode with the organizer and set-up the course, marking each hole and assessing the difficulty of each pin placement. Once the pin locations were located it took 2 workers 4 full days to set cups.



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Each hole had to be hand dug and the material hauled away, then the cup set and leveled with a sand base with a regulation cup in the bottom of the 21 inch flower pot. When these holes are not being used they are covered with a ¾ piece of plywood painted green, to allow regular play to continue and not become a hazard to golf balls or ill driven golf cars.

As far a golf course set-up Bill was done. As we talked he pointed out that the players did virtually no damage, limited divots, no pitch marks on greens, divot bottles were not needed, putting area height way over 0.11” and no disease control was requested. He also made a point to say

that these players can complete 9 holes in just over an hour and that this might be a great way to bring revenue to Chula Vista in the fall. As we all know leagues end late August to early September many times due to lack of daylight to complete 9 holes. These foot golfers can play much later into the year.

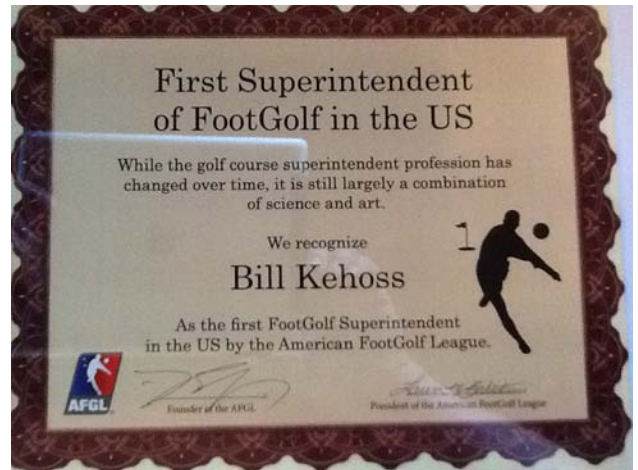
Now to the golf, this event had players from all over the USA and Europe. The course that they played at Chula Vista was 4230 yards with a par of 69. The winning player made it around that course in 80. At the conclusion of the event Bill Kehoss was recognized as the first Foot Golf Superintendent in the United States.

The course at Chula Vista remains set-up and ready for future play. I was informed that the Foot Golf League of America is in the process of trying to setup more event and leagues throughout the US. Chula Vista is presently setting up a league and this writer and his sons can't wait to give it a try.

Are you interested in foot golf for your course, then look at the following websites to get a better feel for this game.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qnxQNkT2PyE> American Foot Golf League

<http://www.footgolfwisconsin.com/#!> Wisconsin Foot Golf League 



Top Left: The foot golf cup

Bottom Left: The foot golf cup securely covered.

Top Right: Bill Kehoss, Golf Course Superintendent at Chula Vista Golf Club and the First Superintendent of Foot Golf in the United States!



Footgolf players in official dress.



golf industry show



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2013

Chapter Delegates Meeting

By **Jim VanHerwynen**, Certified Golf Course Superintendent, South Hills Golf and Country Club

As your Chapter Delegate I was privileged to represent the WGCSA for the 20th annual GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting. The meeting convened at the GCSAA Headquarters in Lawrence Kansas and the Hilton Kansas City Airport on October 5-7. The GCSAA Board of Directors, 2013 board candidates and 79 delegates representing 82 of the 99 GCSAA's affiliated chapters, twenty six of which were first-time attendees, were there to participate.

The weekend is filled with numerous discussions on the state of the GCSAA and the value they give their members, the industry itself and an exceptional opportunity to voice the concerns of your affiliated chapter. It is an opportunity to get intimate with the Board of Directors from the GCSAA, the candidates for new directors and other Superintendents representing other chapters who share the same passion for our profession and the game of golf as you do. Ideas from previous meetings are revisited, new ideas arise continuously and recommendations for the future are brought up

for discussion and possible implementation as the meetings are very lively, open and candid.

During the weekend we were all reminded of the effort that is put forth on a constant basis to continually improve the GCSAA and the offerings to its members and strengthen the relationships with everyone associated with the golf course industry. This is done through outreach efforts with media coverage and public relations at many events throughout the United States and the Environmental Institute For Golf (EIFG). All of the other programs in place such as the Affiliation Agreement, the Professional Development Initiative (PDI), Golf Industry Show (GIS), Certification, Field Staff Representatives and Public Policy are reviewed and tweaked as needed with input at these meeting as well as ongoing recommendations from the membership throughout the year.

As your Chapter Delegate I encourage you to get involved. Ask questions when questions arise through your state chapter or di-

rectly with the GCSAA. Visit their website at www.GCSAA.org as there are numerous opportunities to get the answers you need, or the education you desire through free webcasts, online forums, IPM planning guides, and the EIFG to name a few. Please be advised that the GCSAA can be and many times is our voice on Capital Hill when issues arise and trust me if you have been paying attention to the news the last few years we need a voice stronger and louder than ever before moving forward.

Take advantage of the Field Staff Representative as that is what they are here for to listen and aid chapter members in any way they can. The bottom line is and what I took from the meetings is that the GCSAA is in the forefront of environmental stewardship and sustainability and as importantly securing our future through industry efforts to grow the game, strengthen the industry's position with lawmakers, create greater affiliations between members and the Environmental Institute for Golf so as to put positive perception in the public eye which as you know has become increasingly important. The GCSAA listens to our needs and is continually reinforcing engagement on the chapter level to give you the member value for your participation. Below is a summary of the information provided by the GCSAA of the Delegates Meeting.

Citing the considerable amount of dialogue among participants, GCSAA President Sandy Queen, CGCS, said the association's 2012 Chapter Delegates Meeting was productive and will pay additional dividends in the future.

"It is important that our members know the 'what' and 'why' of GCSAA efforts, but it is equally important that we hear what our members have to say," Queen said. "We cannot make decisions or shape policy without that feedback. That is why I am so pleased that there was debate on what was presented. I continue to be impressed with the quality of representatives the chapters send to the meeting."




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