



Left: Scott Bushman won the tournament in a score-card playoff with a score of 73.

Right: The Par416th Hole Plays 371 Yards.

Below Left: 485 yard Par5 4th Hole

Below Right: 557 Yard Par5 18th Hole with the historic clubhouse in the background.



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Above: Host Superintendent Tim Wegner

Above Right: 359 Yard Par4 9th Hole

Right: 164 yard Par3 5th Hole

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News and Notes From WGCSA Members

By Matt Kinnard, Pro Turf Solutions

Career Moves

High Cliff Golf Course in Sherwood, WI hired a new golf course superintendent this year. **Rodney Lesnick** became the curator of the 18-hole track in April and hasn't looked back. Rodney got his start working on a golf course at age 15 at the Oshkosh golf course, Westhaven. His Dad and Uncles worked there as kids, so, how bad could it be? As it turns out, being on the course was the perfect job for Rodney from the very beginning. With Jim Hall as your boss, how could it not?

Rodney graduated from Oshkosh West High School in 1997, then attended Anoka Hennipin Tech and worked at The Links at Northfolk in Ramsey, MN from 1997-2003. Before taking this job at High Cliff, Rodney had a nine-year run as the Assistant Superintendent at Royal St. Patricks Golf Links in Wrightstown, WI.

He is married to his high school sweetheart, Sarah, and they have two daughters; Emma, 5, and Alexa, 10 months. Rodney enjoys playing golf when he can, but with kids, the rounds went down and the handicap went up. Not a problem though, as he just enjoys being a dad right now and focusing on his new job. Congratulations Rodney!

Nick Bannach was hired as the golf course superintendent at Rock River Hills Golf Club in Horicon, WI. I hap-

pen to be familiar with this particular piece of property as I was once the superintendent at RRH. According to Nick, he applied for a job with yours truly when he was sixteen and in my infinite wisdom decided not to hire him. Hard to believe, I know, but he got over it. We happen to be good friends now and Nick quite clearly did all right for himself. He graduated from the Rutgers University Turf Program early this spring and completed a two-year internship at Galloway National Golf Club in New Jersey.

Nick is a real turf nerd and it's apparent to me now, that's all he and I talk about. Until writing this article I had no idea he has three wives, all named Carol, seventeen children and still finds time to sing in a mariachi band. In all seriousness, congratulations Nick!

Birth Announcements


Jered Kamin, Superintendent at The Legend at Bergamont in Oregon, WI and his wife, Amanda, had their first child earlier this summer. Ryan Allen Kamin was born on June 17. Ryan weighed in at 8lbs 9 oz and 21" long. Congratulation to new parents, Jered and Amanda!

Steve Houlihan's wife, Kate, received one of the best birthday gifts a mom could ask for, a baby girl. On May 23, Kate's 30th birthday, Brynn Anne gave

Mom a surprise birthday party at home. Steve and Kate weren't able to get to the hospital in time for a 2:58 a.m. birth, but with the help of first responders from the City of Pewaukee, Kate and Brynn were completely healthy after the delivery at home. At birth Brynn weighed 6lbs 14 oz and was 19" long. She joins her older sister Aubrey Grace in this growing family. Steve is the Superintendent at Bluemound Golf & Country Club in Milwaukee. Congratulations Steve and Kate!

Walking Down That Aisle

Eagle Creek Golf Course Superintendent, **Andy Noll**, married his bride, Tanya Rae Ritchie, at a park in Seymour, WI with their closest friends and family in attendance on May 10. Andy initially met Tanya while she was his daughter's daycare teacher and the rest is history. Andy isn't the only one with a turf background; Tanya has a degree in horticulture and turf management as well as nutrition and human development. The happy couple is planning a hunting and fishing trip during the winter off-season down south for their honeymoon. Congratulations!

Please call or email me with any significant news or happenings around the state so we can spread the good news. I can be reached at matt@pro-turfsolutions.com or (262) 720-0251 

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Wisconsin Turfgrass Association 2014 Golf Fundraiser

Benefitting the
**Wisconsin Turfgrass Research
Sustainability Fund**



University Ridge Golf Course – October 7

Where: University Ridge Golf Course
9002 County Road PD
Madison, WI 53593
(608) 845-7700

When: Tuesday, October 7, 2014

9:30-11:00 Registration

9:30-11:30 Range

10:30-11:30 Lunch

Go to universityridge.com for directions

11:45 4-Person Best Ball Shotgun Start

After Golf Hors d' Oeuvres, Reception, Prizes, Cash Bar

Cost: \$125 per person

Questions: (608) 845-6536

What: Golf, Cart, Practice Range,
Lunch, Door Prizes, Golf
Awards, Hors d' Oeuvres

Directions from Interstate 90/94: exit the beltline (Hwy 12/18) heading west, then turn south on Exit 258-Verona Rd (US 18/151), drive 2 miles to Cty PD (McKee Rd), turn right going west 3.6 miles to course on right

University Ridge Golf Course

University Ridge derives its name from the landscape features left by the retreating glacier. The course sits on the terminal moraine, where the Wisconsin glacier stopped, forming the ridge that separates the land into groups of rolling hills and valleys. The course is the official home to University of Wisconsin men's and women's golf teams. Robert Trent Jones Jr. designed the course which opened in 1991. The putting greens were resurfaced in the fall of 2012 and are playing their very best for current guests.

You are invited to play where the Badgers play. Course superintendent Phil Davidson and all the golf course staff from University Ridge welcome you to this WTA event. Proceeds from the golf outing will be used by the UW-Madison turf faculty to develop new techniques for managing turfgrass for today and the future.

ENTRY FORM – WTA Golf Outing Fundraiser

Name: _____ Phone: () _____

Name: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

of People Attending ____ x \$125 per person = _____

You May Also Sponsor A Golf Hole or Make an Additional Tax Deductible Contribution

Optional Tee Sign Golf Hole Sponsorship x \$100 = _____

Name To Be Printed on Tee Sign --- _____

or Additional Tax Deductible Contribution = _____

- Please make check payable to WTA and return to 2502 Highway M / Verona, WI / 53593
- Refer questions about the outing to Audra Anderson at @ 608-845-6536 or ajander2@wisc.edu
- Registration deadline is Monday, September 29, 2014
- You may register by yourself or as a foursome

Perfect Day / Perfect Summer

By Tom Schwab, Manager, O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility, University of Wisconsin-Madison

This has to be the most perfect summer for growing grass with moderate temperatures, adequate soil moisture, and low disease pressure for most areas of Wisconsin. The grass has stayed green all summer and golfers have been happy. It was also a great summer for the annual WTA Summer Field Day. Large crowds descended on the OJ Noer Facility for the big educational event put on by the UW-Madison turf professors, students, and staff on July 29th. There were 221 attendees, 35 more than last year, and 59 vendor representatives working 28 booths at this year's show.

It's hard to know why so many more showed up this year but I'm guessing attendees heard about the great education being offered and realized they couldn't afford to miss the event. They were not disappointed.

Education came in the form of six general presentations in the morning

followed by a trade show around lunch time. Six golf turf presentations and a sports turf meeting were featured in the afternoon.

In the morning general turf presentations, Dr. Doug Soldat presented information on how to select grass seed to get the best results for given expectations. He said you get what you pay for when buying from reputable seed dealers. But he warned that when buying seed on the internet, you may get terrible seed that is very expensive. He also talked about how to read a seed label, and how to choose the best variety for different uses.

Another presentation was by the newly hired UW Extension entomologist PJ Liesch. PJ talked about tree and shrub ornamental applications. Many attendees commented that it was nice to have education beyond turfgrass, because they all deal with more than turf in their daily activities.

Turf Diagnostic Lab manager Bruce Schweiger gave a great presentation on fertilizer spreader and speed calibrations. In addition to putting down the correct amount of nutrition, he talked about the economics of what misapplications cost. He also talked about several common mistakes applicators make that can be bad for the turfgrass and environment. One lawn care attendee mentioned that he will have his employees re-calibrate their ride-on units more often because of what they learned from Bruce.

Factors affecting weed control was another important subject that attendees enjoyed. Scott Gilbertson from Reinders and Jeff Schmidt from PBI Gordon presented good information about weed life cycle, application timing, product formulation, environmental factors, and application equipment that all affect weed control results.



Left: Bucky is always present for WTA Field Day

Below: Bruce Schweiger gave a clinic on how to get more accurate spreader applications




NOTES FROM THE NOER

Great information was also shared by Dr. Paul Koch and Dr. Chris Williamson on rust management for home lawns and Japanese beetle life cycle and control. All the morning sessions were top notch and that led up to another form of education by way of the ever popular trade show.

This year there were 28 companies represented that helped attendees with all their commercial questions. Exhibitors had information on seed, chemicals, equipment, nutrition, putting green materials, irrigation supplies, and more. Note the list of the Field Day Exhibitors, listed here, and show them your support for helping bring Summer Field Day and all its education to you every year.

Following lunch and the trade show came the afternoon golf turf research tour at Noer and an off site meeting for sports turf managers which was held at Oregon High School. The golf turf tour included education on:

- Winter Damage and Recovery in Chicago-land. Presented by Dr. Ed Nangle from the Chicago District Golf Association
- Reduced Risk Management of Dollar Spot. Presented by Dr. Paul Koch
- Water Volume and Nozzle Impact on Dollar Spot Development. Presented by Mr. Bruce Schweiger
- Dollar Spot Research Roundup. Presented by Dr. Paul Koch
- Potassium Requirements of Putting Greens. Presented by Dr. Doug Soldat
- Cooling Turf with Fans and Irrigation. Presented by Dr. Doug Soldat

Both the morning and afternoon education made it worth every penny to attend Field Day. Everyone we heard from said it was one of the best ever. All attendees left Field Day with numerous ideas to put into practice back on their own landscapes. I hope you were able to attend. And I hope the perfect weather continues through the fall. 



The Water Volume and Nozzle Impacts On Dollar Spot Plots Were Very Popular.

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NOTES FROM THE NOER

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SOIL SOLUTIONS
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SPRING VALLEY
SYNGENTA
THE ANDERSONS
WAUPACA SAND & SOLUTIONS



Top: P.J. Liesch, the new State Extension Entomologist, sharing his knowledge on managing insect pests in ornamental trees and shrubs.

Center: Bruce Schweiger discusses research results.

Bottom: Representatives from Soil Solutions demonstrate their air injection machine to alleviate soil compaction.



Focus ^{is} on Performance

Multi-Use

Focus creeping bentgrass has been bred for versatility and can be used for tees, greens and fairways. It's adaptable and recommended for areas wherever creeping bentgrass is currently in use. Focus has excellent *Poa annua* resistance as well as fast recovery from aeration.

Quick Germination

It is quick germinating, even in cooler soil temperatures. Focus has active growth during cool temperatures to better compete with *Poa*.

Disease Resistance

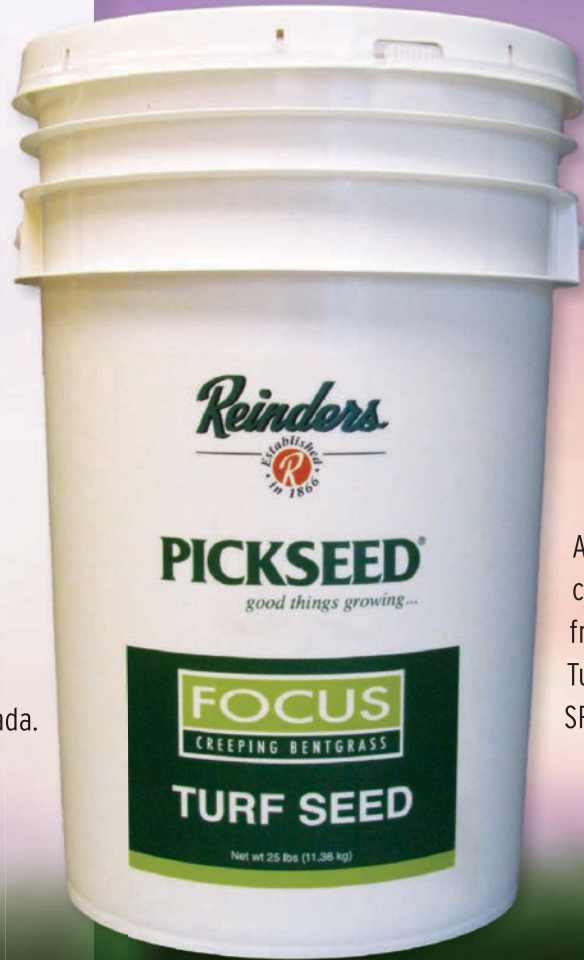
Focus has excellent resistance to dollar spot, pink snow mold and other diseases.

Heat Tolerant

It has outstanding summer stress tolerance and will handle the lowest cutting heights, even in the hottest days of summer.

Winter Hardy

Focus performs with great success in colder northern areas of the U.S. and well into Canada.



Available from Reinders, Focus creeping bentgrass is a release from Dr. Leah Brillman, Director of Turf Research & Technical Services, SRO Seed/Pickseed.

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State Amateur At Ozaukee Country Club

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

Ozaukee Country Club was a perfect host for the 113th Wisconsin State Golf Association State Amateur Tournament. Ozaukee was designed by the Chicago team of Bill Langford and Theodore Moreau with construction finishing in 1922. According to the club's website the course, the clubhouse and all related equipment was provided for around \$300,000.

Ozaukee has a long history of tournament golf and has hosted the Amateur in 1926, 1942, 1962 and 1989. The course also hosted the Western Open in 1929 which was won by Tommy Armour.

Playing around 6,750 yards the course isn't long by current standards but par is well protected by tree lined fairways, thick rough, large undulating greens with steep green banks.

To enter the 72 hole stroke play event players need have a handicap index of 9.4 or less, be one of the approximately 41 exempt players or qualify at one of the 9 qualifying tournaments. Players must qualify in the district of their home course unless providing a good reason why they cannot do so. 168 players make the field with a cut after 36 holes to allow the top 70 players and ties to play for the championship.

Four days of championship play will provide for the true state champion and winner of the Sinnissippi Cup. The cup received its name from the first championship in 1901 when the amateur was played at Sinnissippi Country Club which is now the Janesville Country Club. While players compete for individual honors WSGA member clubs with three qualifiers compete for the Yule Cup awarded to the low club after the first 36 holes of play.



The par five 5th hole plays 548 yards uphill to a green well protected by bunkers.

2014 WSGA Amateur Championship Qualifying Sites

DISTRICT #1A: The Golf Club at Cedar Creek, Onalaska

DISTRICT #1B: New Richmond GC, New Richmond

DISTRICT #2: Wausau CC, Wausau

DISTRICT #3: Oakwood Park GC, Franklin

DISTRICT #4: Cherokee CC, Madison

DISTRICT #5: South Hills G&CC, Fond du Lac

DISTRICT #6A: River Club of Mequon, Mequon

DISTRICT #6B: Washington County GC, Hartford

DISTRICT #6C: Watertown CC, Watertown

