



INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

BY GEORGE OSTLER

The Industrial Relations Committee was formed in 1979 as a direct communications vehicle to the Executive Committee for the benefit of the Associate Members. The idea behind the formulation of this committee was to get together with several Associate Members along with two or three Superintendent Members at an informal meeting to exchange ideas, make recommendations, discuss any problems that may exist and talk about the affairs of the association in general.

When this committee was formed, it was decided by the board that the committee should be chaired by the ex-officio because of his recent past experience on the Executive Committee. It was decided also that there should be at least one officer of the present Executive Committee on the Industrial Relations Committee along with one other Superintendent Member who has had experience on the board. The two Superintendent Members presently on the committee other than myself are Dick DeSplinter, president, and Keith Scott, past president.

The first committee meeting was held on March 27, 1980 at the Town and Country Club in St. Paul. Eight of the ten members were present at the meeting which proved to be energetic and informative. Some of the highlights of that meeting are as follows:

The M.G.C.S.A. publication, HOLE NOTES, was discussed at some length. The committee feels that the advertising space should not exceed the space used for educational and informational articles which has happened in the past. It is felt that the last two or three issues of HOLE NOTES was greatly improved in that regard. Some suggestions were made that might improve the publication. It was suggested there be a letter to the editor section, include a membership application in at least two issues during the season, encourage Associate Members to send in articles which should not be business oriented, to name a few.

The Associate Members feel the advertising rates should not be increased due to our limited circulation. They feel HOLE NOTES advertising is quite expensive compared to other publications they use with very large circulations. It was suggested we try to increase our circulation by sending issues to other associations such as the Arrowhead Turf Assoc., Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and possibly to the Northern Iowa group.

The committee feels that due to the high cost of mailing and related expense, the HOLE NOTES recipients should be identified in a more precise manner, such as Supt., President, Green-chairman, etc. It is a known fact that a lot of HOLE NOTES issues lay in the clubhouse offices and eventually end up in their waste baskets which is an awful waste.

The new meeting format was discussed, particularly in regard to the Associate Members' equipment displays. The general feeling is that the new time will not hurt their equipment exposure but will make it necessary for them to set up their displays on the evening before or on the morning of the meeting day. It was decided by the committee to recommend that no equipment be displayed at the annual picnic or the annual golf tournament. The annual picnic is a day when the superintendents enjoy getting together with their families and families include children of all ages. The committee feels that the possibility exists that a small child could get seriously injured running around or climbing on the equipment. The ever popular annual golf tournament is a special day set aside for the enjoyment of the superintendents and their guests and the committee feels equipment displays should not be a part of that event.

In regards to the operation of the association, the Associate Members feel the M.G.C.S.A.

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is operated in a high caliber and business like manner and are happy to be associated with it. It was stated that we have done a good job over the years keeping control of our association. Unfortunately, in some other states big business has moved in and gained control of some associations. Hopefully, this will never happen in the state of Minnesota.

The subject came up in regard to the Associate Members role in the M.G.C.S.A. The Associate Members feel their memberships should not be just for business. The committee feels there is a lot of knowledge and expertise in the Associate group and that the M.G.C.S.A. should take more advantage of their talents than we have in the past. There are a lot of superintendents scattered throughout the five state area who need and want our help but do not know how to go about getting it. The Associate Members could do a lot for the association in that area by carrying membership applications with them as they travel, telling of the benefits the association has to offer, explain the procedure for joining the association, etc. Also, I feel this group could do a lot for the association in the area of public relations.

The subject of education came up briefly. It was noted by some of the Associate Members that a lot of superintendents in out state areas desperately need some basic down to earth education on turf management. The committee thought perhaps this type of education could be offered in a split session or along with the more technical talks at the Annual Conference. It was suggested also that some type of correspondence course could be offered.

It was suggested that the out state members be recognized for their efforts and time spent on the road when they are able to attend a monthly meeting. A mileage perimeter would have to be set up for this purpose around the metro area. Any superintendent coming to a meeting from beyond the perimeter would be recognized as a small token of appreciation by the association.

The next meeting of the Industrial and Public Relations Committee is tentatively set for the latter part of September 1980.

1980 MEETING SCHEDULE

MAY 5	NORTH OAKS GOLF CLUB	SEPTEMBER	ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
JUNE 9	TOWN AND COUNTRY CLUB	OCTOBER 13	HASTINGS COUNTRY CLUB
JULY 14	BRAEMAR GOLF CLUB (FAMILY PICNIC)	NOVEMBER 10	HANSON HOUSE, LONG LAKE
AUGUST 11	LAKE CITY COUNTRY CLUB	DECEMBER	M.G.C.S.A. ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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