

HOLE NOTES

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

DON LINDBLAD

The March Mini Conference was very well attended and probably a record breaker. I hope everyone who had questions got them answered. We surely had all the right people to answer any of the wide variety of questions that came up.

I believe Keith Scott and Mark Smith are progressing toward greater involvement by this association and other turf related associations in having an equipment display show sometime in June.

Please be aware that the Minnesota Golf Association has just published its new list of course ratings that now carry a slope number as well as the regular course ratings. The slope is the evaluation of the difficulty of a course as it affects the higher handicapper. This new wrinkle will allow the higher handicapper to increase his handicap on a difficult course but, alas, on the other side of the coin, he must decrease his handicap on easier courses. The average slope for men is 113 and for ladies 100. Since the accuracy of course rating depends so much on yardage, the superintendent must make sure by correct rotation of tee markers that the course plays the distance it was rated from at all times.

What I like to call our "spring opening meeting" is being held at Owatonna Country Club this year. I know Randy and his staff will be ready because he knows so many of us are more than ready to start playing some golf along with the fine educational subjects that are given to us at each one of our monthly meetings. Hope to see an even bigger turn out at Owatonna than we had at last year's April meeting in Mankato.