

severely cold weather returns. If you covered your greens last fall you may want to watch the grass carefully and not be in any great hurry to remove them until daytime temperatures result in growth. It is also important to check under the covers regularly for disease activity.

The Poa annua should be reasonably safe as long as the grass does not sit in free water at the soil surface while it is exposed to freezing and thawing. The secret is to make sure that the melt water can run off if it is not absorbed directly into the soil. As winter continues we need to be sure that drainageways are free from obstructions so that water can move freely as the snow melts. Be sure to check for ice dams in water ways and be alert to free standing water.

It also looks like it could be a banner year for snow molds. Dr. Stienstra suggests that everyone should be alert for snow mold activity and that it would be prudent to be prepared to apply 1 oz. of 1991; or 4 oz. of Daconil; or 1/2 oz. of Calo-Clor per 1000 square feet if you observe much activity. Don't hesitate to call if any of those treatments don't work or if you see unexpected things and you think we can help.

Best wishes for a good "normal" year.

THE GREEN COMMITTEE AND THE SUPERINTENDENT



by KEITH SCOTT
Superintendent
Oak Ridge Country Club

As the superintendent at the Oak Ridge Country Club for the past 13 years I have had the opportunity to work with many fine green committees. I would like to share with you some of the procedures we adhere to.

The green committee is one of the most valuable and necessary working bodies in a country club. The way it functions can hold the key to success or failure for a superintendent.

Analyzing this committee could be broken down into three main areas:

1. How is the committee chosen?
2. What are its responsibilities and duties?
3. How does the committee work?

The most effective and successful green committees should be made up of a cross section of members with particular emphasis placed on low to high handicappers and young to older members. If women's play is a dominant factor at your club the ladies should also be represented. Members of this committee should be people who can communicate extremely well and whose judgement will be respected by the general membership.

Continuity is another factor in keeping a good green committee from year to year. Since I arrived 13 years ago people like Eli Budd and Charles Rubenstein have been involved on this committee. They keep the committee at 5-7 members per year, make sure that there is a board member on the committee and each year discuss committee appointments with myself. It goes without saying that these two gentlemen have been very instrumental in developing the golf course to where it is today.

The major responsibility of the green committee is to see that the objectives and the desires of the membership are carried out in terms of the maintenance and development of the course. Accomplishing the afore mentioned can be eased greatly by hiring a competent turf grass manager whose qualifications conform to the club's basic objectives. At the Oak Ridge Country Club an uninterrupted flow of communication is kept up between the general membership, the Board of Directors, the Superintendent, the General Manager and all other departments that may affect the golf course operation. This I find to be a key element in the working of a good green committee.

It is felt that meetings of the green committee are usually scheduled as need arises, rather than on a regular basis. We generally have four meetings a year - winter, spring, summer and fall. The winter

meeting is held in late November and is devoted to the study and approval of the budget. The spring and summer meetings are well suited to looking at the condition of the golf course in terms of player satisfaction. These two meetings can possibly be tied in with a golf outing. The fall meeting generally covers budget performance and changes for the coming year in regard to course modification and/or major construction.

The superintendent and the committee chairperson should agree on the time of the meeting and the agenda that is to be followed. Remembering that everyone is on a busy schedule, make sure that plenty of notice is given for the meeting. A properly typed agenda should be set up and minutes be kept for each meeting. At Oak Ridge we make sure that the golf pro and the general manager are invited to each meeting. Periodic reports to the committee and the general membership are a means of keeping them informed. Use the various club publications and it is a good idea the

report includes both accomplishments and failures.

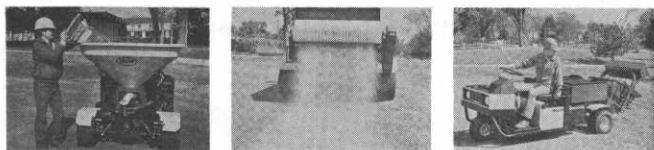
The superintendent should be alert to capitalize on any special pet projects of various chairmen and committee members.

In summary I feel that open communication between all people involved is a necessity and in my case I know that has developed a mutual feeling of loyalty and confidence with my committee and the general membership.

TRAINEE

A student majoring in horticulture at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls is interested in further training in golf course management through a work-study program at the university. He has had six years of experience at a nine-hole course and desires experience at an 18-hole course. If you might have a position for him during the summer of 1984 and would like more information about the student or the work-study program, please call Dr. Terry Ferriss (715)425-3852 or Dr. Donavon Taylor (715)425-3395.

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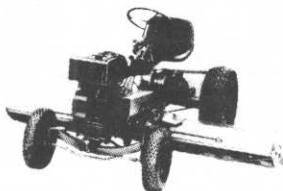
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