

HOLE NOTES

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

SCOTT HOFFMANN, CGCS

Spring has officially arrived, but unfortunately in Minnesota, Mother nature sometimes forgets to look at the calendar. With the golf season quickly approaching, most of us begin making predictions as to the extent of winter damage we may expect on our golf courses. Past experience shows us our predictions are right up there with the weather man, but if I may draw a consensus of opinion from superintendents I have talked with, there seems to be a guarded optimism that we will enjoy a minimum of winter injury this season.

There seems to be some confusion as to the new Minnesota Pesticide Control Law concerning posting of golf courses and certification of applicators. I hope the following will clear up any questions:

- 1) Golf course posting is NOT a state law, but the new law has left the door open for municipalities to require posting within their jurisdiction. Check your local ordinances.
- 2) Unless applying restricted use materials, certification beyond that of the superintendent is not required. However, the smart superintendent is requiring his applicators be certified as part of normal training procedures and as protection for the applicator, the superintendent and the club.

Thanks to Don Lindblad and Kim Sandvig of Majestic Oaks for once again hosting our March Mini-Seminar. After Don sharpens his pencil concerning meal and break expense, we are always treated to a very cost-effective educational experience. This year's "Mini" was a record breaker in the attendance department, with no small part of that due to the exceptional group of speakers brought in by our education committee consisting of Kerry Glader, Dan Hanson and Jim Nicol. Great Job!!

Bernard E. Wiley, one of our Life Members, recently passed away. I hadn't had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Wiley, but if one can judge a man by his legacy left to the Minnesota turf industry in the form of Milt and John Wiley, I can safely say his presence will be missed by all that knew him.

Our April meeting has again been arranged to be held in one of the more tropical regions of our state with Dale Wysocki promising golf to all who are up to the challenge so early in the season. See you at Faribault Golf and Country Club on the 11th.