

Rochester Golf and Country Club has hosted 3 MGA Men's Amateur tournaments (1930, 56, 70), 3 MGA Women's Amateurs (1938, 52, 62), 1 State Open (1941), 2 Minnesota PGA's (1968, 78) and the 1967 Women's Trans-Mississippi.

In 1987 Rochester Golf and Country Club initiated a Restoration/Renovation plan directed by golf course architect Geoffrey Cornish. The plan evolved out of the green committee and the members pride in having an original A.W. Tillinghast golf course. The goal of this plan is to maintain the original character and integrity of the A.W. Tillinghast design. This plan includes re-establishing original green margins to regain some of the old Tillinghast "unique cupping positions". Also contouring of the fairways were marked by Mr. Cornish. This contouring reduced our fairway acreage from 40+ acres to less than 30. This will allow for more intensive fairway maintenance, playability improvements, create new interest to old straight line margins, accentuate shot values and show off the triplex mowing lines.

Tee recommendations were made for possible extensions and/or additions. It was also recommended that #1 tee be redesigned to correct an alignment problem, provide more teeing area and gain better usage of the site. Every existing bunker was evaluated to restore the original shapes that had been lost through time. Addition of lost fairway bunkers was recommended to coincide

with today's shot lengths and original Tillinghast shot values. Today's membership is very proud of their golf course and look forward to hosting the 1989 Minnesota Men's Amateur Tournament.

IN RECOGNITION OF SERVICE KURT ERDMANN

by **JAMES D. GARDNER**
Assistant Golf Course Superintendent
Rochester Golf and Country Club

Kurt started his career in the golf course business in 1944 at Soldiers Field Golf Course in Rochester. Sponsored by Paul Miller, he joined the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association in 1946. Some other superintendents that joined the state association around this time were George Ostler, Sr. (1949), John Fuller (1951), Lyle Cran (1951) and Irv Fuller and Gordy Miller (1949).

Kurt began his tenure at the Rochester Golf and Country Club in 1957. Bill Bergstadt was the club president. He joined the Golf Course Superintendents' Association in 1958 and attended his first conference in Chicago. As Kurt will attest to, there are many stories that involved George Ostler, John and Irv Fuller when they attended

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these national conferences. Just ask Kurt about the Polynesian Restaurant in Cleveland, Ohio.

Kurt was the president of the MGCSA for two years in the 1960's and was very instrumental in initiating and promoting the MGCSA research program.

Kurt's dedication and hard work for the profession and Rochester Golf and Country Club has gained him the respect and admiration of all his fellow superintendents and those who have worked for him.

As a young person in the business, I think we all are indebted to this second generation (Erdmann, Ostler, Fullers and others) of Minnesota golf course superintendents for their contributions and dedication to our profession. As they probably looked to the first generation (Emil Picha, Carl Anderson and Harold Stadola), those of us in the third generation look to them and hope to follow their example.

Upon retirement, Kurt and his wife Lavinna hope to spend more time with their three children and three grandchildren. You can bet that Kurt's boat and fishing gear won't be collecting dust anymore. I know that all of those people who have been fortunate enough to be a part of this profession with Kurt wish him a long and very happy retirement.

GROOMING REEL GUIDE

by Helmut Ullrich, The Toro Company

1. Introduction

As you know, grooming is an old technique, but the "groomer" is relatively new. It is associated with the golfer's desire for faster, truer and healthier greens. There has been much discussion among superintendents, and articles have been written in trade publications concerning the actual benefits this tool provides. Because this management practice is so new, there has been little, if any, scientific research conducted to determine the long-term effects of grooming. It is difficult, therefore, to make precise recommendations on the use of a grooming reel. This is further complicated by the many variables which play a major role in achieving desired results. Some of the variables which must be considered are:

- General condition of the green
- Variety of grass on the green
- Season of the year
- The turf-management program
- Variation in traffic
- Stress periods, especially heat and humidity

All of these vary from golf course to golf course, and usually from green to green on the same course. The use of the grooming reel, therefore, requires a thorough understanding of agronomic aspects of the turf on the green which, in turn, determines the depth of setting and the frequency of use. It is recommended strongly that the superintendents experiment S-L-O-W-L-Y to achieve best results.

- Grooming, in essence, removes more leaf area.
- Grooming provides some of the same benefits as verti-cutting.



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Overseeder II Mix	Fairways, tees, athletic fields.	Rapid germination and establishment. Withstands heavy traffic and resists diseases. Penetrates compacted soils.
Medalist North Mix	Fairways, tees, cart paths, wear areas.	Quality turf for high traffic areas. Clean mowing and disease resistant.
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Medalist Brand Overseeding Products	Winter overseeding of dormant bermudagrass.	Establishes rapidly and evenly. Tolerates traffic while providing a superior putting surface. Smooth spring transition.



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