

# HOLE NOTES

Official Publication  
of the  
Minnesota Golf Course  
Superintendents' Association

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

### Some Suggestions About Dealing With Course Problems, Environmental Issues



This spring opening has shared with us both its tolerance and unforgiveness. Golf courses across this entire region have had varied degrees of turf loss from a mixture of winter's fickleness.

Direct low temperature kill, wind desiccation damage, crown hydretion and fluctuating temperatures have all attributed to our winter damage. Poa Annua seems to be the hardest hit in all areas.

With the cool early spring we have had, we will certainly see slow progress in the recovery. A recent article in *Grounds Maintenance*, March 1990, issue by Dr. James Beard could help your club membership understand that this was not as mild a winter as they thought. The rules still apply...no two courses are alike.

**In this next decade**, we will see a flurry of environmental issues. Pesticides will, without a doubt, be at the head of such a list. The general public will not necessarily act with informed concern, but with emotional haste. All of us as members of MGCSA portray the professionals that we are in all of our daily routines. As we deal with our club memberships and the public in general, we as Professional Golf Course Superintendents must be extremely cautious in not only our actions but with what we place on public record.

As a member of MGCSA, you not only speak for yourself but for our association as well. Be prepared to publish or post documented data that is in our trade periodicals on Pesticide Use, Water Quality, Integrated Pest Management or any other pertinent research. Let the professors at our universities and research facilities speak for us with hard data, rather than our own emotional haste to diffuse a situation that we are not necessarily equipped to handle.

**A recent EPA development** of requiring mandatory liability insurance for Underground Storage Tanks (UST) has sparked a new insurance program for UST. The GCSAA has sponsored the only UST insurance program in the country thus far. By October 26, 1991, you **must** have liability insurance coverage for all USTs. For more information contact GCSAA at 1-800-472-7878. This program is not restricted to GCSAA or MGCSA members. (See Page 12.)

**The Minnesota Research Trust Turf Tourney** is scheduled to be held on June 15. Twenty Twin City clubs have once again shown their kindness and interest in the MGCSA by allowing us to hold this annual event at these great golf courses. Although it is not intended to be a superintendent-sponsored event, I would like to ask all of our members to support this event by posting the flyers in your pro shops and seeing to it that this information stays visible, and that perhaps your club organizes one or two groups.

**May's flowers** hopefully will be in bloom at Oak Glen CC on May 15th. Host Superintendent Pete Mogren will certainly welcome us with open arms, and maybe even some more rain!

—Kerry Glader  
MGCSA President