HOLE NOTES

Official Publication of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

49 Teams Compete In Successful Stodola Research Tournament



Many thanks to Rick Fredericksen and Dale Wysocki for organizing the Harold Stodola Research Tournament. A total of 49 teams competed, 32 at Oak Ridge Country Club and 17 at Golden Valley Country Club. This format enabled everyone to finish at approximately the same time. Consequently, nearly all of the players attended the banquet having eliminated the morning play and open time frame during the afternoon. Next year we would like to coordinate the tournament so that pros, managers, greens chairmen and superintendents can play to promote comradeship among the club officials.

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The Research Committee has asked Dr. Stienstra to conduct a study to determine which of the alternative chemicals presently on the market will provide protection for turf against snowmold. As of 1994, mercury will be banned in Minnesota unless the law can be changed. So as not to be caught off guard in 1994, tests will be implemented over the next two years providing a guideline as to which chemicals will aid in the prevention of snowmold as effectively as mercury. We do not want to resign from using mercury "cold turkey" in 1994.

While research is exploring alternatives to mercury, the Environmental Committee along with the Department of Agriculture will attempt to ammend the law to exclude golf courses from the mercury ban. Grace Sierra Chemical Company stated they will reregister the chemical so that on a national level mercury would be available, however, state law for use of this chemical would still require change.

During the ensuing months you may be asked to write various congressional figures requesting them to support a change in the pesticide law that would allow the Department of Agriculture the power to regulate chemicals, not individual states.

* * * *

Our next meeting will be at Hastings Country Club on October 7. See you there. — Tom Fischer

President, MGCSA



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