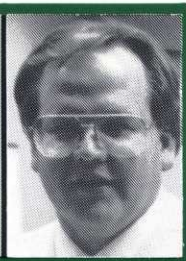


EDITOR'S CORNER

By Dale Wysocki
Faribault Golf & Country Club



Well, it's here. Spring at last. You realize that when I started writing this editorial, it's the early part of March and for a while there, if the weather had stayed above normal, we could have been playing golf by March 24. Scary thought. But anyway, I am thankful that our friend, Mother Nature has removed two inches of solid ice for me and all the snow has made a temporary exit, but this is March and who knows what is going to happen.

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The pesticide recertification was held March 4th at the Northland Inn and 249 members of the Association attended. Many comments are often heard regarding this event, and some of them have to do with, "Why do we sit through 8 hours of the same thing year after year?" I think with the coming changes in pesticide regulation and what we (as Superintendents) are doing to show other allied associations, our maintenance staffs and the people that we work for, that we are **Professional, Conscientious and Leaders**. Just because you have heard it before does not mean it's the same theme. With the changes that seem to be happening with every legislative session it's good to go and be made aware of the new changes. Your association strives to bring you the best education possible. With the Environmental Committee now being chaired by Scott Austin of Midland Hills Country Club, you know that the information that comes from that committee will be accurate and up-to-date.

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With our first monthly meeting just days away, it's time to get those marvels of technology out. I haven't even thought of swinging a golf club yet, although there is that bug that is just taunting me to go and grab a bucket of range balls and see if my slice or "cut shot" is just as accurate as last year.

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Speaking of monthly meetings, our first meeting is at Lake City Golf Club on April 13, with Cliff Reynolds as our host.

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Another thought that comes to mind is the Joe Garske Scramble at Tartan Park Golf Club in July. This event is a fund raiser for the Scholarship Fund is open to all members of the association. It's time to formulate your teams now for this competition.

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Many times over the last several years golf courses have really been taking it on the chin from certain groups. Now is the time to think about what you can write in your club's monthly newsletter on how a golf course does benefit the surrounding environment. If you have a copy of "Lawn and Sports Turf Benefits" by Eliot Roberts and Beverly C. Roberts of The Lawn Institute, read it and use the material provided to inform your membership of the environmental benefits. By providing our golfing members with accurate information concern-

ing the benefits of our finely manicured turf areas, together we can work towards a common goal that will be beneficial for everybody.

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MGCSA Scholarship applications are now available. To request an application, simply call the MGCSA office.

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Please extend your deepest sympathy to Randy Allen, superintendent at Tartan Park Golf Course. His father, Leon Allen, past away early in March.

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The MGCSA wishes a speedy recovery to Glenn Rasmussen.

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Also extend your sympathy to Tony Maginas. Tony's wife passed away.

— Dale Wysocki

USGA Announces Special Offer to Public Courses

As one of many activities, the USGA has an ongoing commitment to support the public golf sector.

In furtherance of this commitment, the USGA Executive Committee has authorized the USGA Green Section to provide special support to public golf courses defined as courses that accept green fees from the general public and do not have a membership that owns the course.

Specifically, the USGA would like to make a one-time offer to send one of its expert agronomy consultants for a full-day Turf Advisory Service (TAS) in 1992 for only \$700, its normal price for a half-day visit. This offer is available only to public golf courses that have not used TAS in 1989, 1990 or 1991.

It costs the USGA \$1,500 per course to provide this service. So why is it making such an offer that costs it money? The USGA hopes that by providing expert agronomic advice to public courses, it can help to improve the quality of playing conditions for many of the nation's public golfers and that is a goal that fits within the charter of the USGA.

"You need not be afraid that a USGA Turf Advisory Service visit will result in an increase in the cost of maintaining your golf facility," said Raymond Anderson, chairman of the USGA Green Section Committee. "On the contrary, the TAS usually shows a facility how to get the most out of a limited budget."

"Our staff of 16 highly trained and experienced agronomists provides on-course consulting services to more than 1,600 golf courses each year," he said. "Odds are high that our agronomists have seen your special course problems before and can give you quality solutions that will save you time, money and frustration. The staff is disbursed throughout the country in different regions and sees most of the turf problems experienced in a region as well as their solutions."

To apply for this one-time TAS offer, please send a letter of intent or purchase order, along with the name and telephone number of your course official whom the USGA should contact, to:

USGA Green Section
Public Golf Course Offer
P.O. Box 708
Far Hills, NJ 07931-0708