

HOLE NOTES

Official Publication
of the
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association

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FROM YOUR PRESIDENT'S DESK

Plan to Attend Mini-Seminar On March 13



As the puck is shot into the corner, the defenseman retrieves it and pulls up behind the net. The player looks up the ice to determine a plan for the attack. There are many options to get the puck up the ice, but which is right? A quick look at the coach as he makes a simple hand motion and the player begins the journey up the ice.

When I was elected President of the MGCSA, my first reaction was what do I do? I have a few ideas of what I think I should do, but how could I be sure? To answer this, I set out to talk to some of the "established" members of our association. Our conversations were enlightening and beneficial to me. It helped me shape some ideas I have to lead the association through the year. I will be taking these ideas to the board of directors for consideration and implementation. I thank the strong supporters of our association for their input.

Make plans to attend the Mini-Seminar on Monday, March 13 at the Mall of America. Fred Taylor and the Conference and Education Committee have put together a diverse and thought-provoking agenda. Come with a professional attitude and interest as the topics will stir up emotion. Registration has been sent out and additional information about the Mini-Seminar is found elsewhere in this issue of *Hole Notes*.

One of the issues that we are closely following is an OSHA safety requirement. If you attended the session at our annual conference, it dealt with the mandatory use of an OSHA-approved roll over protection system (ROPS) on all off-road golf course equipment that has a 20 HP rating or more. This would be for all equipment since 1968. We are currently following up on this requirement and will include notifying the USGA, GCSAA and legal counsel as it affects our members. Our Ex-Officio Joe Moris is handling this project and has been exploring all options on this issue. We have invited Don Strot, Sr. OSHA inspector, to talk once again to our association at the March Mini-Seminar. On another related issue from OSHA, the hard hat question will be discussed in detail.

A few changes are in order for our monthly membership outings. On a recommendation from the Industrial Relations Meeting in December, we will no longer have equipment displays. The interest has dwindled to an all-time low. All the equipment from the associate members can be seen at the MT&GF Summer Expo in August at the Resurrection Cemetery in Mendota Heights. I encourage all of our members to participate in this function to support the MT&GF. Also at our monthly outings, there will be guided tours of the host superintendent's maintenance facility. Watch for the times on the registration flyer to be included in the tour. We will continue to offer speakers to discuss relevant topics if the facility has the technical support available. At our April, May, June and October meetings where we have no structured golf event, we do now. We will have a sign-up for a membership mixer for those interested. The board welcomes these changes for our diverse association.

So far as President of the MGCSA, I have averaged over 100 phone conversations per month on association matters. If there are any comments or questions that Scott Turtinen can't answer at our office, feel free to call me. See you all at the Mall of America in March!

— Kevin Clunis
President

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