

HOLE NOTES

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of the
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association

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Tom Johnson

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Scott Turtinen, Executive Director
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association
240 Minnetonka Avenue South/P.O. Box 617
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391-1617
TEL: 612/473-0557 • FAX: 612/473-0576
TOLL FREE: 800-642-7227

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT'S DESK

Change is Never Easy, But Change is Good



It is between periods of a close hockey game. The coach is diagramming a play to use on the chalk board. The players are attentively listening to the words and watching the gestures as the play is explained to the last detail. The horn sounds for the last period. The players rush to take the ice to follow through with the plan. Or will they?

Does this scenario sound familiar? After listening to Mona Bond at the March Mini-Seminar, are we as an association ready to be proactive in getting the message out to the public and inform them on their environmental concerns? After listening to Dr. Farrentino during the December Conference, are we making the contacts with the proper people and letting them know how good we are for the environment before they pass laws to significantly limit our options of turf management? I believe we are making the change. Change is never easy, but change is good. I asked our members to go out into their communities and get involved, and I can report some progress being made.

I opened my yap and now sit on the board of our local soccer association for developing a field management plan. But now I have access to more people that are in power. At the last MGCSA Board Meeting, we adopted an Environmental Impact Statement. The statement was developed by the Environmental Committee, chaired by Charlie Pooch. A copy of the statement is found elsewhere in *Hole Notes*. It will be printed in our roster next year following the Code of Ethics. Please use this statement on behalf of the association or for your own course.

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To improve our professional image, the Human Resource Committee, chaired by Bill Cox, is putting a complete survey together to bring out important information to share with our members. The survey questions are being assembled now, with help from the New Jersey GCSA. This survey is so important that each member of the board will be responsible for making sure we have TOTAL participation. You will hear more about this survey, soon but be prepared to fill it out and return it ASAP.

* * * *

I would like to recognize and thank the Associate Members for helping in defraying the costs of our MGCSA gathering in San Francisco. Part of their dues is earmarked for this endeavor along with our local hospitality night during our Annual Conference. Also, I would like to thank those Associate Members who contributed to fund the ice rental at Augsburg Arena for some impromptu hockey games. For those members who participated, please take the time to express your gratitude.

* * * *

The recently completed Mini-Seminar held at the Mall of America was outstanding. The speakers and topics were timely and the information was well-received. Fred Taylor and the entire Conference Committee did a great job of organizing the seminar. We would like some feedback from the membership on the facilities — good, bad or otherwise. Contact any board member with your comments.

* * * *

And finally, a big thanks to Jeff Backstrom and the entire staff at Cannon Golf Club for hosting our April outing (or was it an inning because of the weather). As a former assistant of mine, he did not learn from me how to make it snow in April! Hopefully, we can come back in the future and try it again. See you all at River Oaks G.C. on May 8.

— Kevin Clunis
President

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