HOLE NOTES

Official Publication of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association

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FROM YOUR PRESIDENT'S DESK

Some Final Thoughts As Your President



There is the writing on the wall. The old vet is getting less and less playing time as the team advances further through the playoffs. He is being replaced by a younger, faster player. All is not lost because the vet has become a fan favorite and takes a token shift to appease management. As the team enters the championship game, the vet figures this is his last game of his career, and it will be time to move on. With the game half over, the star player takes a punishing hit and cannot continue to play. The vet takes a regular shift on the top line. Toward the end of the game with the score tied, the crafty vet puts all his learned skills to use as he sidesteps an oncoming attacker to put himself in alone on the goalie. The goalie figures the "old guy can't shoot and will try to deke him" but the old vet takes two steps and puts a smile on his face and lets go a shot past the ear of the goalie. The rest is history.

It was a cool, wet day as we gathered for our October meeting at Chisago Estates G.C. Host Dave Zimmer had a hot steak lunch for all the participants. Reports of more than 30 hardy souls ventured out to play a round of golf. Thank you, Dave, for taking the time to host the meeting.

It was brought to my attention that there was a problem associated with our recently completed Stodola Research Scramble. The member-guest format that has been approved since the inception of the tournament went very well. The scores were great, the dinner was excellent and both golf courses were in perfect condition. The problem occurred after the awards when the participants went to cash in their gift certificates. There was verbal abuse, by our guests, to the staff of The Minikahda Club. An eyewitness to this situation did report the abuse did not come from one of our members but we are still responsible for the actions of our guests. Behavior like this is unacceptable nor tolerable in our association. Enough said!

Another matter that was recently brought to my attention stems from an article our *Hole Notes* editor Tom Johnson submitted. It was an article dealing with ethics in our association. If you look in our roster, there is a Code of Ethics that is standard operating procedure for our association. If any member feels that there is a breach of ethics, or even a maybe, should bring it to the attention of the president of the MGCSA. All matters are conducted in the utmost confidentiality. Rumors and hearsay are real downers in our profession. It is everyone's responsibility to act accordingly to the code of Ethics, including reporting such breaches of conduct. The president is elected to serve the association, and this matter falls into my hands. If I can help anyone with this matter, pick up the phone. I am there.

With this issue of *Hole Notes* is the last time this president gets to put his thoughts into words. The power of the press is incredible. I get to talk and you listen. But I have had my say for a year and there will be a new president in place to continue the leadership of our strong association. For me, my time as president has been rewarding and has opened many doors of opportunity. It is an experience I hope everyone could achieve. But as I go, there are many people to thank. To James, John, Tom and Joe of the Executive Committee, your work was really sincere on running association business. To Bill, Butch, Dick, Tom, Monty, Charlie, Dave, Fred and Pat, your work on all the committees and fulfilling my goals for the year was truly outstanding. The Board of Directors never gets enough recognition, but I do say thank you. It would be a shame by not saying thank you to Scott Turtinen and staff for keeping our organization going (and nagging me to get my articles in on time). And to my wife Nancy and my four children, thank you for allowing me the time to fulfill my role as president.

And with that, the real hockey season begins for me, again.

- Kevin Clunis, CGCS, President

HOLE NOTES is published monthly except bimonthly December/January, February/March for \$2 an issue or \$20 per year by the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association, 240 Minnetonka Avenue South, Wayzata, MN 55391-1617. Scott Turtinen, Publisher. Application to mail at second class rates is pending at Wayzata, MN. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to HOLE NOTES, 240 Minnetonka Avenue South, Wayzata, MN 55391-1617.

Fred Taylor .