

HOLE NOTES

Official Publication
of the
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association

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FROM YOUR PRESIDENT'S DESK

The Second Season



The game is over. The hockey season has come to a close. Almost. The regular season is done but the playoffs are ready to start. The body of this old hockey player hurts all over. But somehow, some way, one must see it through to the very end and do the best job possible. A second season to make up from what the regular did not accomplish.

This season was one of the most stressful on plants, as well as humans, that we have faced (survived) in quite a few years. Reports ranged from fair turf conditions to poor. Playing "temporary greens" is not a pleasant term used around anyone associated with golf. But as some superintendents are waiting anxiously for the season to come to an end, the second season should begin. It is a time to renovate and return the golf course to as good condition as possible before the real end when Old Man Winter returns. Somehow, we must pick ourselves up and proceed as we know best. What we do now, the golfers will appreciate next year.

* * * *

Life seems to be going by at a faster and faster pace. Our jobs become more demanding, our families demand more attention and our free time diminishes. This trend is not only felt from our association, but from all walks of life. What the results of this one is that the time to do what we want to and do things we might like to do is making a major problem for our association. It became evident when Joe Moris began looking for candidates to run for the Board of Directors. Time after time he was told no, with most of the reasons being "not enough time, too busy with work." Volunteering to run for directors does take time. The work this Board has accomplished is tremendous. Getting involved in our association is *your* responsibility. This is ours together and cooperation by everyone is expected. Joe was able to round up a great slate of candidates after *way* to many calls and visits. Please think about this responsibility we have as members of this association. I will be expecting more cooperation next year at this time than was shown this year.

* * * *

Surveys are coming back and results are being tabulated. It is not too late to send the survey in if you have not done so. If we don't hear from you, we will be looking for you. Part of the responsibility of this Board will be to have 100% response from member clubs. We hope to have results back by the December Conference.

* * * *

Speaking of the conference, Fred Taylor and the rest of the committee are putting the final touches on this year's extravaganza. The conference position will have many more speakers than last year and the trade show is looking for 300 booths, double from last year. Please look for information and registration forms coming soon.

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I would like to thank all the participants at this year's Stodola Scramble. A debt of gratitude is owed to The Minikahda Club and Town & Country Club for allowing our association to host our prestigious event. Thank you to Doug Mahal, Bill Larson and their respective staffs for having their courses in excellent shape.

While I was unable to attend the Stodola Scramble, I was representing our association at a reception at Somerset Country Club, hosted by the USGA, honoring the state of Minnesota for being the first state to host all 13 USGA championships. It was a wonderful evening, capped off by surprise speeches from Patty Berg and Les Bolstad. It was delightful to listen to stories of golf from years before. What came to mind while I listened is that golf really hasn't changed, only that there is more participation. The game has tradition and let's be proud to be part of it!

— Kevin Clunis, CGCS, President

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