

HOLE NOTES

Official Publication
of the
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association

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FROM YOUR PRESIDENT'S DESK

National Show in Florida Was A Nice Respite From the Frozen Tundra



As winter loses its grip, we look forward to another golf season. The GCSAA National Conference and Trade Show in Orlando was a nice respite from the tundra and gave hope that we would again see green grass soon.

Educational opportunities were again the keystone to this year's show from multiple seminars, to getting a first hand view of all the new products and equipment, to comparing experiences with fellow superintendents, and developing ways to incorporate the latest research into our golf courses. The MGCSA reception on Friday night was a great chance to socialize with fellow members and meet spouses and families. A big thanks to our associate members for their sponsorship and to Butch Greeninger for setting up the details and arrangements for this reception.

* * * *

Coming up in March, we have a couple of super educational seminars available to the MGCSA members. The Mini-Seminar on March 13 concentrates on employee and employer relationships bookended with agronomic talks. On March 14 & 15 a two-day seminar is being offered by the GCSAA called "Design, Construction and Renovation for IPM." Golf course architect Micheal Hurdzan leads this outstanding and informative seminar. Remember you don't have to be a GCSAA member to sign up for this seminar. Call 1-800-472-7878 to register for this seminar.

As you can see we have a lot of educational vehicles available for us this spring. In turn, we must also continue to educate the golfers and the members of our clubs. Two great media venues to make them more aware of our profession and responsibilities are ESPN's "Par for the Course" and USGA's "Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program." Please contact myself or the MGCSA office for more details. Another way that MGCSA reaches the golfing public is by having a booth at "The Great Minnesota Golf Show" staffed by superintendents.

* * * *

The GCSAA membership approved some new by-laws this year in Orlando pertaining to chapter affiliation, dual membership and Assistant Superintendent classifications. These by-laws all passed by a wide margin. The chapter affiliation by-law insures tax and insurance compliance between national and local chapter. The key details to the dual membership by-law affect only Class A and B members. The definitions of Class A, B and C members for both our chapter (MGCSA) and the GCSAA are the same after we passed the MGCSA by-laws at our December annual meeting. The new membership definitions will be in the new MGCSA roster this spring. The GCSAA dual membership by-law only affects **new Class A & B members after July 1, 1997** and requires that new members join both the MGCSA and the GCSAA. All Class A and B members who are currently MGCSA members in good standing or those which join the MGCSA prior to July 1997 will not be required to join both associations.

Class C (Assistant Superintendents) membership, again relating to MGCSA's amended by-law definitions, dues will be half the amount of Class A and B dues in the GCSAA. However, your right to vote at the national level will be lost. Your right to vote on the state level (MGCSA) will continue to be allowed. I have attempted to condense these by-law changes and will be happy to answer any further questions about them.

(Continued on Next Page)

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The MGCSA is continuing to pursue association health insurance, so please fill out and return any insurance related questionnaires or forms as we continue on this venture.

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Your club should have also received a request for four tee times in the MGCSA Turf Tourney on June 10-14. Please contact Fred Taylor with your date and tee times.

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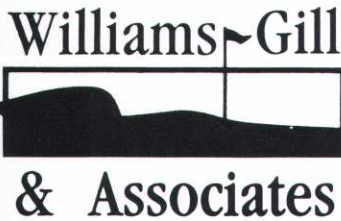
The Minnesota Department of Agriculture will again be running the Waste Pesticide Program with collection sites scheduled for counties north of the Twin Cities this spring. This is a great program to responsibly

dispose of any waste pesticides you have at no cost. Call the MDA at 1-800-657-3986 to register your products and for a list of collection sites and dates in your area.

* * * *

In closing, my sympathy goes out to Randy Nelson's family. Randy was a friend and mentor to many people in the golf course industry...we'll miss you and God Bless. — James D. Gardner, CGCS

President



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