

HOLE NOTES

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Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association

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From Your President's Desk

Successful MGCSA Scramble Raises Over \$4,000 For Scholarships



Rick Fredericksen, CGCS
MGCSA President

Dan Hanson and his staff had the St. Cloud Country Club in great shape for the June Scholarship Scramble. It takes time and commitment to host an event and even more so when it is for your peers. Thank you Dan and all the superintendents who volunteer their clubs.

The Scholarship Scramble raised approximately \$4,000 this year and supports the scholarship program for our state association. The people that participate in this event are superintendents and their staff who are in the industry or are considering getting into it. Each year we award 2-3 scholarships to students that are members of the MGCSA. Without the support of our members, including the vendors, the scholarships would not be awarded. A special thanks to Plaisted Companies, Hydrologic, Bracketts Crossing Country Club and Simplot Partners for helping sponsor golf holes and the dinner.

The TROE Center continues to materialize with work beginning on the research green. The Drive for the U program that is operating under the guidance of Paul Eckholm is helping in the process of constructing this research green at the new TROE Center in St. Paul. Each green will be 100 feet by 220 feet and will represent two soil mixtures common to this region - a USGA greens mixture and a typical 'push-up' greens mixture. Turf varieties for the greens have not been selected but contact Brian Horgan if you have a selection that you would like seeded in the research green.

Brian has informed us that along with variety trials on the green, they will do trials for nutrient and pesticide leaching, disease biology and control, weed management and fertility trials. Also, the USDA/ARS scientists have agreed to donate eight lysimeters and data loggers to be installed in the USGA green to be used in a post doctoral position to study pesticide fate.

Mark your calendar for July 25, and plan to attend the Turfgrass Field Day at the University of Minnesota - St. Paul Campus. There will be three different sessions to attend: Grounds and Arboriculture, Low Maintenance Turf or High Maintenance Turf. You will also have the opportunity to tour the area where the TROE Center will be built and to discuss the facility with Brian and Jon Powell. The program begins with registration from 8 - 9:30 a.m. and will finish by 2 p.m.

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CORRECTION -- reprinted from last month's column: Only those golf courses located in the 7 county metro area need to be licensed to apply phosphorous. They are Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington.

With the Governor's signature, the Phosphorus Bill will become a law effective January 1, 2004. Paul Eckholm, Brian Horgan, Bob Fitz, Larry Vetter and Doug Carnevale (MGA's Lobbyist) helped facilitate this bill. The bill addresses the application of Phosphorus in the 7-county Metro area. Golf courses that apply fertilizer that contain Phosphorous will be required to be certified. Out state governing bodies can also adapt this legislation to their local ordinances. The MGCSA has formed an Ad-Hoc Committee of five members that will help draft the certification course for licensing. Paul will chair this committee along with Brian Horgan.

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