

HOLE NOTES

Official Publication
of the
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association

2003 MGCSA Board of Directors

Officers

President.....Rick Fredericksen, CGCS
Woodhill CC
952/473-5811 Fax: 952/473-0113
r_fredericksen@msn.com
Vice President.....Rob Panuska
Waseca Lakeside Club
507/837-5996 Fax: 507/835-3472
rpanuska@prairie.lakes.com
Secretary.....Mike Brower
Minnesota Valley Country Club
952/884-8733 Fax: 952/884-1289
mjbrow@qwest.net
Treasurer.....Michael Brual
Faribault G & CC
507/334-8101 Fax: 507/334-9653
mikebrual@faribaultgolf.com
Ex- Officio.....E. Paul Eckholm, CGCS
Heritage Links GC
952/440-6494 Fax: 952/440-4655
epeckholm@msn.com

Directors

James Bade.....Somerset CC
651/457-1161 Fax: 651/455-2282
jbade@aol.com
Joe Churchill.....Simplot Partners
888/828-5354 Fax: 651/633-6779
joe.churchill@simplotpartners.com
Barry Hines.....Mill Run Golf Course
3905 715/834-5942 Fax: 715/830-2123
superhines@aol.com
Greg Hubbard.....Manitou Ridge GC
651/777-1436 Fax: 651/777-7198
greg@manitouridge.com
Jack Mackenzie, CGCS...North Oaks Golf Club
651/484-1024 Fax: 651/484-5411
jmackenzie426@msn.com
Ted Schirck.....Hydrologic
763/542-1188 Fax: 763/546-7515
tschirck@hydrologic.net
Steve Shumansky.....Perham Lakeside CC
218/346-6071 Fax: 218/346-6079
plcc@eot.com
Dan Swenson.....River Falls Golf Club
715/425-2838 Fax: 715/425-0160
rfg@presenter.com
Richard Traver Jr., CGCS.....Monticello CC
763/295-3323 Fax: 763/271-0124
supytrav@soncom.com

Editor

Richard Traver, Jr., CGCS
supytrav@soncom.com



Editorial and Business Office:

Scott Turtinen, Executive Director
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association
240 Minnetonka Avenue South, P.O. Box 617
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391-1617
Tel: 952/473-0557 Fax: 952/473-0576
Toll Free: 1-800-642-7227
E-mail: scott@mgcsa.org

From Your President's Desk

MGCSA Continues To Be A Leader In The Green Industry



Rick Fredericksen, CGCS
MGCSA President

As long as I have been involved with the MGCSA, I am proud to say that our association has been the leader in the green industry and remains the leader. We have championed environmental issues, we have led the way in sponsoring research and we have been active in helping guide legislation. Unfortunately the State of Minnesota - Board of Electricity interpreted a new piece of legislation that will affect all golf courses in the state.

The Low Voltage license requirement stems from a 2002 revision of a two-decade old law. The reworded law requires personnel that install or perform maintenance work inside irrigation controllers to be licensed or work under the supervision of a licensed employee. One licensed employee can have up to two staff members working under the licensed employee. A tight timetable does apply to the initial testing process. The association has secured a training opportunity for our members and staffs. On March 12, at Edinburgh Golf Club in Brooklyn Park, there will be a training class to prepare for the State exam. You will have until April 30, 2003 to take the test. To take the test you must first apply for the application to take the test. I know, it is crazy, but the consequences of not testing are severe.

Beginning May 1, 2003, to be eligible to test for the exam you will be required to complete three years of approved experience or completion of an approved technical program. Forms for registration for the training class have been sent out. Contact Scott at our association office for more info.

* * * *

The Green Expo was a short two months ago and from all indicators the conference and show was a success. Over 7,100 people were in attendance and with approximately one third representing the Minnesota Turf and Grounds Foundation. James Bade, MGCSA Conference and Education Chairman, did a great job of setting up this year's speakers. Presently he is organizing 2004's educational sessions. He values your input in selecting speakers. Please e-mail your ideas to James at jsbade@aol.com if you have a topic or facilitator you would like the membership to hear.

Having just returned from the GCSAA Convention and Show in Atlanta, I can only report from my observation that attendance was down as expected. The Opening Session featured former Ohio Congressman John Kasich. Obviously not well known outside of Ohio by the numbers in attendance, he had a good message in his belief in the American people. I know Atlanta was not the destination city people enjoy bringing their family to, but the majority of Superintendents were there to learn.

Why did our local Green Expo attract record numbers to downtown Minneapolis in January and the National had a drop in attendance? Obviously the combining of the MNLA and the MTGF shows dramatically increased the participants. However, the weather the past few seasons has impacted budgets, as has the downturn in the economy. Many of our members are being asked to reduce costs and make immediate cuts. Typically one of the first reductions is the travel and education line item. As President of your Association I pledge that we will hold the line on MGCSA costs and remain fiscally responsible

* * * *

As I write this article, our country is becoming increasingly involved in a war with Iraq. Some of you may have sons, daughters, staff members, or know of others in the military that are stationed abroad or here. Our thoughts and prayers are with them as they are called into service. Please let me know if you have children stationed here or over seas. E-mail me at r_fredericksen@msn.com. It is my intent to develop a database for those interested, to be able to send their support to our service personnel.

-- Rick Fredericksen
r_fredericksen@msn.com

HOLE NOTES (ISSN 108-27994) is published monthly except bi-monthly 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. Periodicals postage paid at Wayzata, MN. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to HOLE NOTES, 240 Minnetonka Avenue South, Wayzata, MN 55391-1617.