

HOLE NOTES

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of the MGCSA

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U of M Field Day Will Be A Great Time to Learn about Research



Scott Hoffman and Kerry Glader provided a tremendous amount of time and energy during their term on the Board of Directors during the mid-eighties. They envisioned a way to support turf research in the state when funds were needed. They probably did not foresee a University program that could have three professors supporting turfgrass located here in the state. They did know that a program providing research, out-reach, and teaching would need industry support. In 1989, the MGCSA created a trust fund, with the express purpose to:

+ Disburse monies for appropriate research projects concerning turfgrass and chemicals used in the development and maintenance of golf course turfgrass.

+ Solicit and otherwise procure donations and grants.

+ Receive and account for all monies.

At the June meeting, the Board of Directors discussed using the funds accumulated in the Trust Fund to help support the TROE Center at the University of Minnesota. The board concluded that there is not a better investment in turfgrass research that would help our association members. At this time though we are looking for a commitment from the University of Minnesota to partnership with industry to help build a facility at the research site. The MTGF is also looking for a similar commitment.

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The dues statement sent out in April included a line to make a tax-deductible donation to the Association for research. We have had over 160 dues statements arrive back at the association office with donations from \$25 to over \$100. With these donations we were able to raise over \$5,000 dollars! It is an enormous commitment our members have made to support the research program in our state. Along with the monies raised from the dues statement, the Turf Tourney that many of the clubs participate in continues to be a strong fundraiser. Another important fundraiser for us is the Research Tourney. This year's tourney will be held at Oak Marsh Golf Course. The event is great a opportunity to bring your greens chairman and other members of the board and explain the benefits of turf research conducted here in the state. There is one area we had great intentions of tapping, but due to time constraints we were forced to wait until next year to promote it. The Hole in One concept, which would have asked for donations from golfers, will be delayed until next year to better organize the event.

We are all aware of the benefits of research and we will continue to raise funds, but the true benefactor of our labor is the golfer. In the spring, he enjoys playing on green grass which has come out of the winter in great shape due in part to cover studies and snow mold trials supported by our members. He gets to play on beautifully maintained turf during the summer that utilizes the most advanced technology and information based on studies that allow our members to continue to provide the conditions golfers ask for. We would like to partnership with the golfers to help support research here in our state.

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The University of Minnesota Field Day will be July 24 starting at 7:45 A.M. The Field Day is a great time to learn about the research being conducted at the University and see many of the field trials. This is also a great opportunity to see the TROE Center and the future plans for the complex. We look forward to seeing you there.

Your President,
Rick Fredericksen, CGCS

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