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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Environmental Committee Represents Our Association Well in Many Ways



The MGCSA was represented by Scott Austin, Environmental Committee Chairman, and Kevin Clunis, past chairman at the Minnesota Legislature during the reading and taking of testimony concerning a proposed pesticide bill.

The legislation addressed pre-notification and posting before pesticide application. The bill is sponsored by Senator John Marty of Roseville and was originally part of the groundwater bill in 1988. Prior discussion between Scott and Senator Marty helped inform the senator about concerns our association would have.

Scott also testified at the committee hearing on the proposed legislation. At the conclusion of the hearings the bill was tabled, but it read that pesticide application on golf courses must be posted on the first and tenth tee and in the clubhouse. It is still possible this bill could be brought up again in this session, but it is more likely to be brought up in the next session.

The Environmental Committee and its chairman have certainly had an important role in our association and will continue to do so. They were instrumental in assembling and distribution of the Compliance Guide and have been called on to testify in front of legislative committees twice and the St. Paul Task Force.

Questions concerning the Colochor issue continue to come in. There will be no "grandfathering in" of unused Colochor. What Colochor you may have in stock should be used according to label directions prior to July 1, 1994. After this date, if the supplier will not take it back, the product will have to be treated as a hazardous waste.

This past winter has provided many unintentional test indicators for superintendents to observe treatments for snow mold. While research for a comparable alternative for Colochor continues, it will be difficult to find a fungicide that will give season-long control for winters such as this one.

* * * *

Cliff Reynolds and Lake City host our first golf meeting for 1992.

* * * *

The GCSAA extended the deadline for the Legacy Award application to May 15th, 1992. People interested can contact the GCSAA at 913/841-2240.

—Rick Fredericksen, CGCS
MGCSA President

ABOUT THE COVER

Pictured on this month's cover are some of the superintendents and associates who participated in the MGCSA's hockey competition at Augsburg College this past winter. But now, with the arrival of Spring, it's time to tuck the hockey sticks aside and switch to your favorite golf clubs.

HOLE NOTES is published monthly except bimonthly December/January, February/March for \$10 per year by the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association, 240 Minnetonka Avenue South, Wayzata, MN 55391-1617. Ralph Turtinen, Publisher. Application to mail at second class rates is pending at Wayzata, MN. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to HOLE NOTES, 240 Minnetonka Avenue South, Wayzata, MN 55391-1617.

What Is IPM? How Does It Affect You?

By **JAMES D. GARDNER**
Golf Course Superintendent, Rochester Golf & Country Club

Exactly, what is this acronym or abbreviation that has pervaded the trade journals and golf course industry today? IPM stands for Integrated Pest Management, or as the environmentally correct version Integrated Plant Management.

The definition of IPM, as stated by Victor A. Gibeault and Associates, is as follows: "IPM—multiple tactics used in a compatible manner in order to maintain pest populations below levels that cause economic or unacceptable aesthetic injury without posing a hazard to humans, domestic animals or other non-target life forms."

Through one limiting factor or another, superintendents have always practiced portions of IPM, the classic example being that there is no monetary incentive to apply chemicals unnecessarily. As we move into the 21st Century, a total IPM program for your golf course will be required (written and practiced) to justify the high standards of today's golfers.

The basic components of an Integrated Plant Management program include scouting and monitoring, regulatory, genetic, biological, cultural, physical and chemical management. While each of these elements is important in the total program, it is the synergistic combination of all the components towards a common goal that is the strength of IPM. It also means that

by depending less upon one component (such as chemical), you have to increase another or all other components to continue to meet your standards and the membership's standards.

Scouting and monitoring are your eyes and ears of the turf environment and are the foundation for most turf management decisions. Routines of daily scouting and monitoring should be documented in conjunction with recorded environmental conditions such as high and low temperatures, relative humidity, soil temperatures, rainfall, etc. These climatic records in turn determine degree days (DD), which directly coincide to the temperature driving life cycle of all biological systems. The degree days become very helpful in determining timing of insect and weed control applications.

Regulatory influences insure seed source integrity (Oregon Certified Blue Tag) and perform a check and balance for new golf course products.

Genetic research today has become a hot bed of activity and a large recipient of many research dollars from different golf industry associations. Plant breeding to genetically develop improved cultivars of turfgrass to drought, insects and other pests will continue to bring us new choices for our golf courses.

The turf microenvironment has always been a dynamic biological relationship of antagonistic and protagonistic organisms, with the exception of new 100% sand greens. Today's biological research has developed turf pest specific organisms that can help control and keep them below detrimental populations, a current example being "Exhibit" for the control of cutworms by parasitic nematodes.

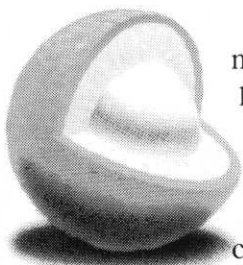
Cultural management strategies have been used by superintendents from the beginning of golf to help control pest problems. Sound cultural practices of fertilization, irrigation, mowing and thatch reduction help insure the turf's health and therefore increase that plant's ability to overcome adverse pest pressure. A good example of good cultural management to decrease disease pressure is to manage your irrigation applications so that the turf foliage stays as dry as possible for as long as possible.

Physical means of control include providing good surface and subsurface drainage, good air movement and the use of sharp mowers to help reduce conditions that predispose the turf to higher pest incidence.

Contrary to popular perception, IPM doesn't mean the abandonment of chemical use. Pesticides are a component of an integrated plant management program, and whose use and/or decreased use becomes directly based upon the strengths of and/or weaknesses of the other components of the IPM strategy. When pesticides are applied, choose the most effective chemical to that specific pest, and also the least toxic to non-target organisms.

I encourage each superintendent to write and develop a total IPM program for his or her course. By continuing to show our professionalism as environmentally sound stewards of our golf courses, we will have the ability to use all the management tools available to us, rather than let those not in tune with our industry to make all those choices for us.

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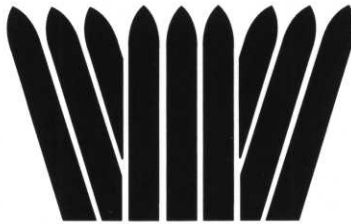
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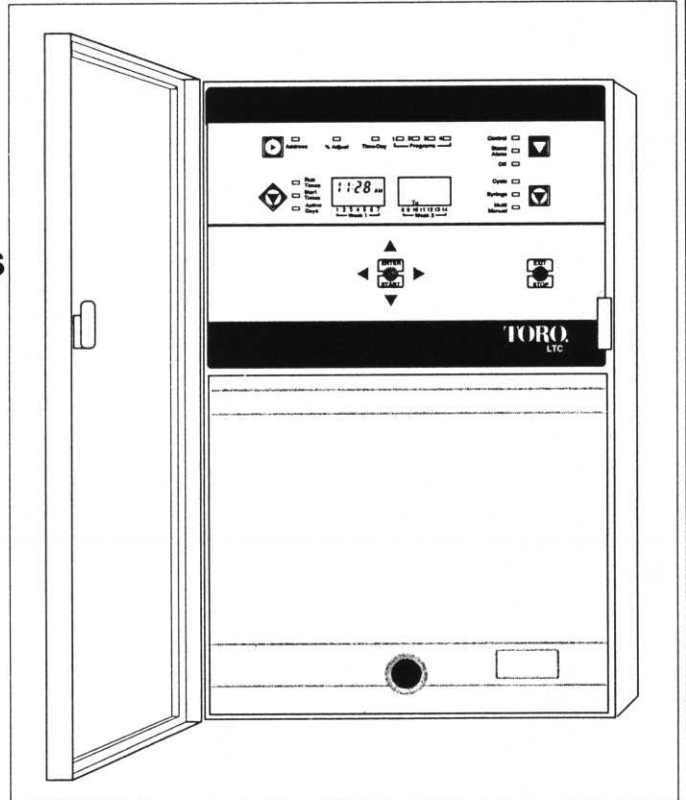
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SOME THINGS SHOULD CHANGE . . . AND SOME THINGS SHOULD NEVER CHANGE

By Warren J. Rebholz, Executive Director Minnesota Golf Association

I have been asked to review changes in golf course preparation that I have observed in the last 20 years of conducting competitions all over the state of Minnesota.

It's sort of strange to start an article on changes by making the statement that one of the most important considerations in golf course preparation has *not* changed, and I hope never will! That consideration is the 100% cooperation I have and continue to receive from the golf course superintendents at every site where a tournament is scheduled. Rarely can I make a universal statement, but in all my 20 years I have not met one (even one) superintendent who wasn't interested and willing to cooperate to the fullest of his/her ability to put the course in the finest condition possible for the golf competition. I, in turn, have never been unreasonable in what I have asked of the golf course.

The first thing I can think of that has made in important improvement in conditioning a golf course is the stempmeter. I know it has led to some problems as well, but, for tournament golf, it gives us a measurement of green speed so that we can make a good judgment of which direction "up or down" we wish to go. In most cases we probably try to speed the greens up, maybe six inches. For our Amateur Championship I like to use 9½ feet unless the greens are really undulating.

The advent of triplex mowing of fairways has made a big difference in tournament preparation. Nicely mowed triplex fairways generally run faster than conventional mowing, which shortens the way the course plays but also allows errant shots to reach the rough faster. It also pretty much eliminates the "flyer" lie. Because these fairways are cut quite short, if you have to skip a cutting because of weather it will not make that much difference the next day.

Speaking of bad weather—which is what turns golf administrators' hair grey if they have any—much improved methods of draining golf courses allow us to get players back on the course much faster after a rain delay. Along this same line, irrigation systems that are able to selectively control the amount of water put on a given area reduce those chronic casual water soft spots that used to plague golf courses.

Modern rotary rough mowers are able to cut three-inch grass at a nice, even height without the problem of grass bending over and not getting cut. If the rough is uniform and thick, three inches is plenty for the state's best amateurs. We like a secondary cut of rough at two inches just off the fairway the width of a mower. The area around the bunkers and greens is treated the same way.

The mechanical sand rake is another time-saver that allows for very early start times. This machine does a very acceptable job, but it is only as good as the operator and the staff person who does the sand clean-up with a rake to put the finishing touches on the bunker. The driver must take care not to continually gouge the edges of the bunker which undercuts the face and, in the long run, could cause a collapse, or at least an unsightly overhang.

I can't speak of chemicals with any real knowledge, but I do know that great strides have been made in the last 20 years. The condition of modern golf courses depends on their ability to head off turf diseases. This results in turf conditions that are fairly constant, avoiding the extremes of no grass or too much grass. Modern golf courses come out of the winter in much better shape because of chemicals and the ability to cover greens and tees with a plastic material. This gives us a bigger jump on the start of the golf season and makes the scheduled May golf competitions able to be played on finely conditioned courses.

In the last 20 years I have established some wonderful relationships with golf course superintendents. I am truly impressed by their continued efforts to learn more and improve their course conditions. I can't predict what will happen in the next 20 years, but progress will be made that probably will do away with aerifying and other turf techniques that cut into the quality conditions each season.

I have to believe that modern golfers are spoiled by the superb conditions they play under. Sadly, this has eliminated some of the skills that more variable conditions forced golfers to acquire. Still and all, golf will continue to grow, maybe not at a "breakneck" speed but steadily, because it is played outdoors and has such a wide variety of circumstances that it is never boring but endlessly fascinating.

MGA Names New Executive Director

The Minnesota Golf Association (MGA) Board of Directors has selected Ross T. Galarneault to succeed Executive Director Warren J. Rebholz, who will retire on January 1, 1993.

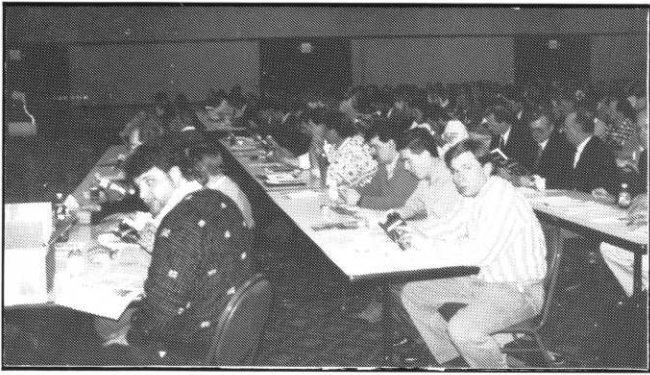
Rebholz announced his retirement just over a year ago. He will step down after a 20-year career as the MGA Executive Director.

Galarneault has been on staff at the MGA for the past eight years. He joined the MGA as a part-time intern in 1984 and became its Technical Director in 1985. In 1990, he was elevated to his current position, Assistant Executive Director.

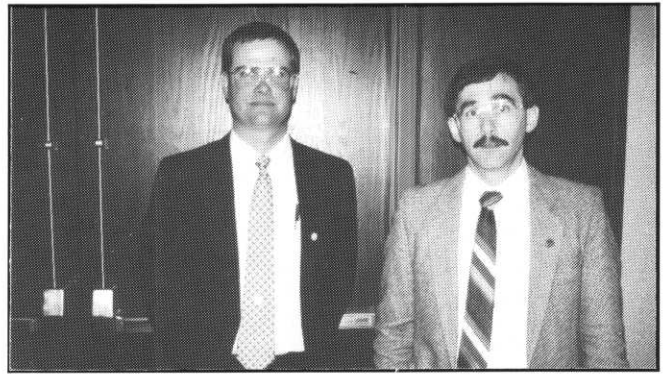
A native of St. Cloud, Minn., Galarneault was awarded an Evans Scholarship and attended the University of Minnesota. He was graduated from the university's Institute of Technology in 1984 with a BS in Computer Science with an emphasis in Management Information Systems.

Galarneault has been active in various aspects of golf administration. He is currently the Executive Director of the International Association of Golf Administrators and serves on the USGA Handicap Manual Drafting Committee.

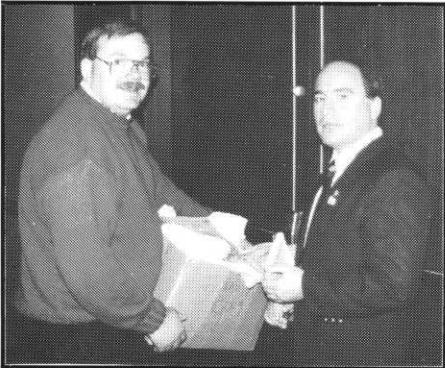
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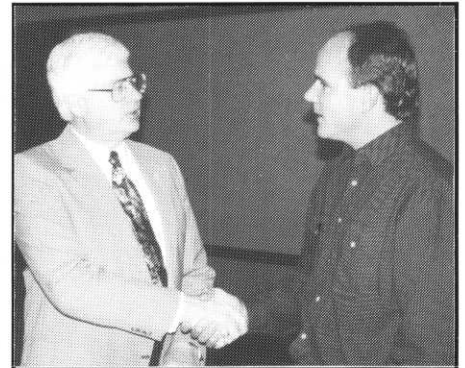
MGCSA President Rick Fredericksen, CGCS (left) and John Barten, Hennepin County Parks.



Dean Herzfeld, Minnesota Extension Service (left) with Rick Traveer of Monticello C.C.



Steve Poncin, MDA (left) and Steve Aunan of the David Fike Co.



Dr. Ward Stienstra, U of M (left) along with Bob Distal of Nemadji G.C.

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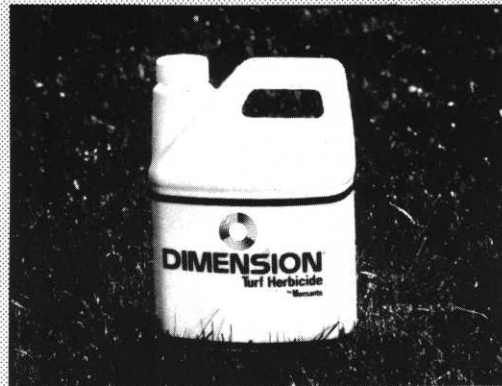
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Fox Hollow Set To Host MGA-PGA Cup Matches

The 16th Annual MGA-PGA Cup Matches will be held at Fox Hollow Golf Club May 26th. This event will feature the finest 40 pros and amateurs from the state of Minnesota. The tournament format entails an 18-hole round of concurrent single and four-ball matches between the amateur and professional team members.

Fox Hollow, located North of Maple Grove on I-94, is a Joel Goldstrand design. This unique layout contains a wide variety of challenging architectural design features; evidenced by the signature #3 island green, the double green-double fairway #17, plus Penncross bent grass landing targets on all par fours and fives.

Fox Hollow, a par 72, 6701-yard layout, is entering its third season of operation.



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1992 MGCSA Meeting Locations, Events, Sponsors

DATE	LOCATION	EVENT	SPONSORS
April 13	Lake City GC	Golf & Lunch	Wilbur-Ellis
May 11	Braemar GC	Golf & Lunch	Cushman Motor Co. E.S. Dygert Co.
June 8	Faribault CC	Golf & Lunch	North Star Turf Turf Supply Co.
July 13	Tartan Park	Garske Scramble	MTI Distributing Par Aide
August 17	Midland Hills	MGCSA Champ.	Long Lake Tractor RW Golf Cars
September 14	Wayzata CC Rolling Green	Stodola Scramble	None
October 12	Island View Golf	Golf & Lunch	Polfus Implement



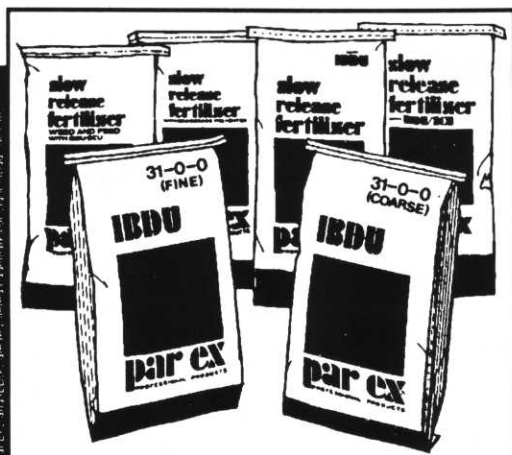
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