MGCSA Turf Tourney Nets \$10,880 For Research

Thirty-four foursomes played 18 holes of golf at 12 Minnesota golf clubs during MGCSA's 15th Annual Turf Research Benefit Week from June 4-7. The tournament raised \$10,880 for the MGCSA Research Fund.

Money generated from this event goes into the MGCSA Research Fund. Over the years this money has funded many timely research projects which directly benefits all golf courses. This Research Fund also insures that State specific problems are researched and the Research Trust Fund that continues to grow will guarantee continued dollars into the future.

The MGCSA would like to thank the following clubs for participating in this year's event:

- + Dellwood Hills Country Club
- + Izaty's Golf & Yacht Club
- + Minnesota Valley Country Club
- + North Oaks Golf Club
- + Oak Ridge Country Club
- + Olympic Hills Country Club
- + Rolling Green Country Club
- + Stillwater Country Club
- + The Minikahda Club
- + Town & Country Club
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HOLE NOTES 31





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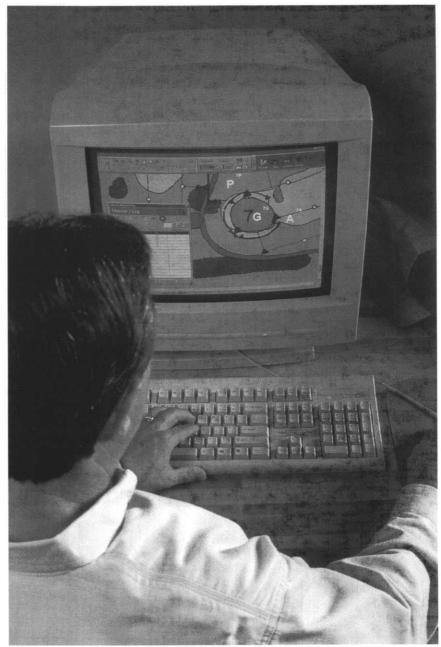
The demands on golf course superintendents have never been greater. Fewer resources and additional regulations have made managing a golf course difficult under the best of circumstances. To stay on top of the game, superintendents are asked to work harder and smarter. When it comes to irrigation, a central control system by Rain Bird[®] is one of the most intelligent choices around.



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Contact Information: Ted Schirck, Todd Folie

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THE BLUES

By STEVEN A. MANN

Twin City Seed Company

Kentucky bluegrass is a species that exhibits a great range of genetic diversity. Kentucky bluegrass reproduces asexually, therefore the seed from a mother plant is essentially identical to the parent plant. Genetic diversity in Kentucky bluegrass for the end user is critical. Blends and mixtures containing genetically different Kentucky bluegrass varieties reduce the opportunity for an individual strength or weakness of a Kentucky bluegrass cultivar to express itself over time. therefore, single varieties of Kentucky bluegrass may not provide enough genetic elasticity against abiotic and biotic stresses during the growing season. Many distinct types of kentucky bluegrass have been released, and these varieties have been classified into 14 groups based upon growth and performance.

Blends and mixtures containing Kentucky bluegrass should include complimentary and compatible but different varieties for optimal long term turf performance. For example, a mixture of "Other" type (Allure), "Aggressive" type (Julius) and "Midnight" type (Midnight) Kentucky bluegrasses will provide broad genetic diversity for improved disease resistance and agronomic performance.

Seeding

Dates: Spring and fall when soil temperatures are above 60 degrees F.

Rates: 2-3 lbs./1000 sq. ft. on new seedlings. 1-2 lbs./1000 sq. ft. on established turf.

Depth: sow at 1/4 to 1/2 inch. Generally, Kentucky bluegrass

is slower in germination than other cool-season grasses.

Cultural Practices

Soil preparation: Prepare a firm seed bed, free of clods, sticks and vegetative debris.

Seed should be in contact with soil.

Soil pH: soil is best maintained at a neutral pH of 7.0. Of the cool-season turfgrass, Kentucky bluegrass is the most susceptible to variation in soil pH conditions.

NPK requirement: In the northern regions, 4-6 lbs. N/year.

Water use: an ET rate of 7-8 mm per day places Kentucky bluegrass into the medium water use category for cool-season turfgrass.

Mowing height: Most Kentucky bluegrasses should be mowed at 0.75 to 2.0 inches, though some tolerate 0.5 inch mowing height under optimal growing conditions.

A Thought to Ponder

On a recent visit to St. Andrews, Scotland, I picked up this little bit of history. In March 1897, the idea of a third course to relieve the pressure on the other courses came to fruition. Within a month the Town Council had an estimate from Mr. John Angus Jr. who undertook to lay out the course and have it ready for play in the current season. On 22nd June 1897 the 12 hole course was opened for play, coinciding with the day the town was celebrating Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, after which the course was named. – *Steven A. Mann*

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HOLE NOTES 33

Tools of the Trade



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Who Are BIGGA?

The British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association was formally created on January 1, 1987 from an amalgamation of the British Golf Greenkeepers Association, The English and International Golf Greenkeepers Association and The Scottish and International Golf Greenkeepers Association, forming a membership of 1,200. Today BIGGA boasts over 7,000 members which not only include Greenkeepers but also Associate Members and Student Members.

Eleven years later, in October 1998, BIGGA was proud to welcome His Royal Highness The Duke of York to officially open BIGGA HOUSE, the Associations' new headquarters. Housing 17 members of staff and with a state-of-the-art training room, the Association has the facilities to enhance further its services to its members and the greenkeeping profession.

Mission Statement

BIGGA is dedicated to the continuing professional development of its members and in serving their needs will strive through education and training for standards of excellence in golf course management throughout the greenkeeping profession.

Organizational Structure

The Association has a three-tiered structure, ensuring that there is a steady flow of information between grass roots level and the administrative headquarters. The major policy making body is the Board of Management comprising of a Chairman, Vice Chairman and Past Chairman together with one representative from each of the five Regions and two Guardians.

BIGGA's five Regions covering Scotland, Northern England, the Midlands, the South East, the South West and South Wales together with a section in Northern Ireland form the second tier. Each region has its own Board consisting of a representative from each of the Sections and is serviced by a Regional Administrator.

The Sections constitute the third and final tier. There are currently 27 Sections each with its own committee responsible for organizing events for Section members and administering Section matters on behalf of the Association.

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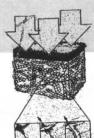
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Drive for the "U" Program

The Drive for the U is a program designed for in-kind donations to the University of Minnesota Turfgrass Research Center. All donations are tax deductible and will help to build the research center into a top notch facility. Paul Eckholm, CGCS, Heritage Links Golf Club. epeckholm@msn.com

Company	Commitment	Value	Time Frame
Century Rain Aid Miltona Turf Products Paul Eckholm, CGCS	6 Irrigation Heads Turf Maintenance Tools Reel Maintenance	\$950 \$325 OPEN	On-going On-going On-going
Hydrologic Gill Miller Inc.	Irrigation Materials Design Services	\$2,000 \$3,500	jj
E-Z-Go Golf Cars	Workhorse Workhorse	\$5,000 \$3,500	1 Season 1 Season
Bonestroo & Assoc.	Design, Construction, Services	OPEN	1 occorr
Twin City Seed	Bentgrass Seed	\$400	
Simplot Partners	Fertilizer Products	\$5,000	
North Star Turf	Two Mowing Units Top Dresser	\$33,819 \$7,495	On-Going On-Going
MTI Distributing, Inc.	Three Mowing Units	\$48,423	On-Going

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With the Grain--

(Continued from Page 23)

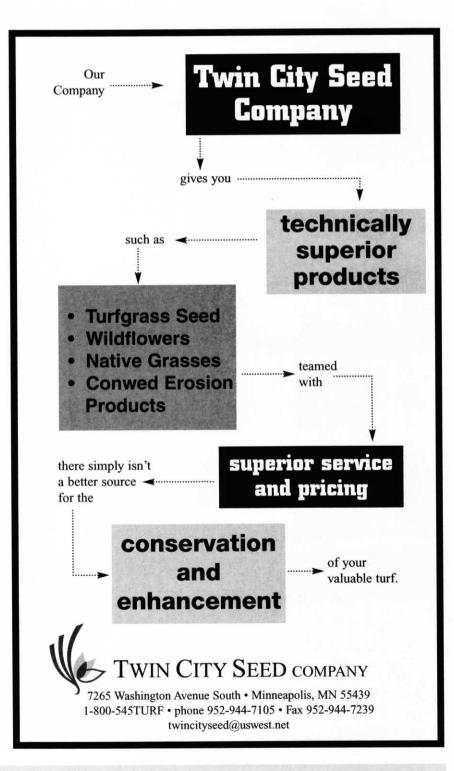
Superintendents face continual battles with sand. Each bunker takes on individual characteristics, just as a green that is in shade most of the day will play differently from one in direct sunlight. Cost and logistics make it practically impossible to renovate all bunkers at once, so many courses juggle their programs, replacing the worst bunkers as the need arises. The largest cost of a renovation program is not the sand, but trucking it to the site.

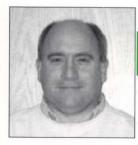
A successful sand-maintenance program is built on selecting quality sand grains, adjusting maintenance practices according to the inherent properties of the sand and weather, and gaining the understanding of those who play the course. Many times that takes just a simple reminder to a golfer that a bunker, after all, is a hazard meant to impede the player from reaching the hole.

> PLAN TO ATTEND THE SCHOLARSHIP SCRAMBLE AT DACOTAH RIDGE GOLF CLUB ON MON., JUNE 18 HOST SUPERINTENDENTE

MIKE NELSON

NEW WEATHER LINKS ADDED TO MGCSA WEBSITE CHECK THEM OUT AT: www.mgcsa.org/links



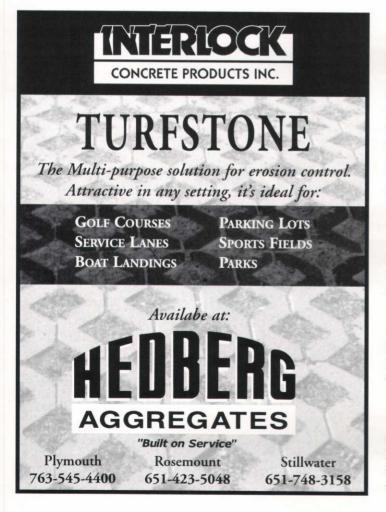




By Richard Traver, Jr., CGCS Monticello Country Club

Whoa, Who Left the Faucet On?

My heart goes out to all of you who have or had to deal with all the excess water this spring. I heard some real horror stories about flooding this spring and I hope all of you had good luck with your turf after the waters receded. The course I'm at was pretty much built on a gravel pit, so we're already pumping all the gallons we can to try and keep the turf alive. I don't remember which professor told me this, but in college we were told that 60-75% of all golf courses built, were built on land no one else could do anything with. With all the golf course construction that has taken place in the last 10 years, I don't know if that data is still accurate. However, keep in mind, you are not alone, and we are all pulling for you.



Brackett's Crossing

It was nice to see so many members show up at our spring outing at Brackett's Crossing. Thanks to Tom Proshek, his staff, and coworkers for helping to make the outing a success. While I personally wasn't able to get out and play, I understand the course was in great shape.

Thanks also go out to Dr. Powell for filling us in on his greens cover study. He now has a couple of years into this study and is able to start drawing some conclusions from his data. If you were unable to attend his presentation, he will have the information available on our website this summer. Also he would like input for future variations to this experiment. This is the kind of information we are looking for with our "Drive for the U" program.

GCSAA Logo Balls

As part of the 75th anniversary for the GCSAA, a display is being built to host as many member course logo balls as can be assembled. The GCSAA would like you to mail three logo balls from your club, one for the a display at the next GCSAA turf conference, and the other two to be auctioned off with the proceeds going to the GCSAA Foundation.

Mail the balls to: GCSAA, 1421 Research Park Dr., Lawrence, KS 66049-3859.

If you have any questions about the logo ball display or any 75th anniversary programs contact: Judy Ventsa, 1-800-472-7878, ext. 419.

GCSAA E-Commerce

At our last MGCSA board of directors meeting, we spent some time talking about the GCSAA and their involvement into E-Commerce. While I am not sure that this is the direction our organization should be pointing, one issue became boldly obvious. That is, that our local chapter relies heavily on local vendors. Our local vendors spend a large amount of time and money within our association and this type of spending might get cut if sales start to diminish due to internet competition. While we all have to deal with budgets and part of our job is to be fiscally responsible, please keep in mind that there is a cost to customer service, and whenever possible support our local vendors.

Retraction

While we still want to congratulate Steve Shumansky on his new son, I incorrectly stated his name in last months Hole Notes. His name is Nicolas, (hopefully spelled right), not Nathan. Sorry Steve.

Keep 'em Coming

Thanks to Norma O'Leary for her article on volunteer labor and Jack Kolb for his article on Mark Smith. Members submitting articles to the Hole Notes, helps give our publication a local flavor. Keep it up.

Until Next Month

Good luck to those of you who will be participating in the Scholarship Scramble at Dakota Ridge. Jeff Johnson and his committee have done a great job of putting this tourney together and it should be a lot of fun. Hopefully, I'll see you there, if not I'll see you in the next issue have a great month.



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"Our soil has become extremely friable, thanks to the organic products in the fertilizer," Fisher says.

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