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Member of MGCSA

State of the GCSAA-

(Continued from Page 19)

members. Increased student membership also is a focus, in addition to increasing the number of affiliate memberships and regular members through the 75th anniversary \$75 dues offer.

The association is collecting chapter membership applications to distribute with GCSAA membership applications in order to expedite the dual membership application process.

To reduce the time commitments placed on chapters, several chapter liaison positions to GCSAA have been eliminated. In addition, GCSAA staff has begun contacting every chapter on a monthly basis to determine chapter needs.

The association is examining its outreach efforts to limited-budget facilities in order to provide the appropriate and desired level of service to this member group.

GCSAA is contacting regional turfgrass associations to gather information about the conferences they host or sponsor. The information collected will be used to develop a philosophy regarding the association's participation at regional trade shows and conferences.

The association's accounting department is exploring the use of electronic funds transfers for repetitive vendor payments that will allow the department to focus on other association and member projects and programs.

GCSAA CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW SET FOR FEBRUARY 3-10 IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA

The human resources department is improving the staff performance management system to ensure that it is tied to the organization's goals and objectives.

The management information systems department has engaged gomembers.com to assist in updating GCSAA's membership database.

The Foundation's "Investing in the Beauty of Golf" campaign has raised \$4.79 million.

A staff reorganization has resulted in a new organizational structure that includes five centers in which association business is conducted. A strategy council has been formed to examine opportunities for new programs and services, and several staff teams are working in consort with member committees.

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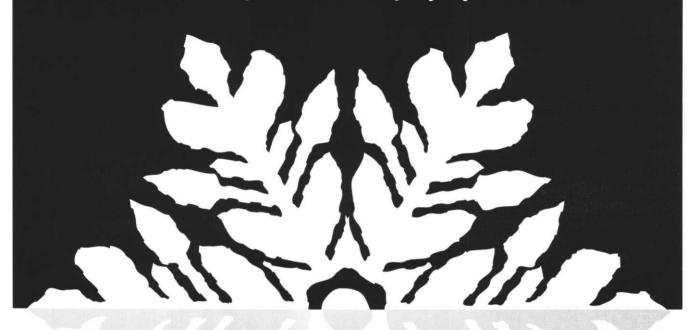
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NOVEMBER 2001 HOLE NOTES 23

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ON THE ROAD WITH THE USGA

By R.A. (Bob) BRAME
USGA Director

A great deal has happened over the last several weeks both with golf turf management and, more importantly, world events. While fall is a very important time of the year for golf turf conditioning, the events of September 11, 2001 have underlined what we all know and that is, grass is a renewable resource. Although grass is very important to our jobs and the play of the game we love, people and relationships are by far a higher priority. The Bible mentions grass some fiftythree times and a key message offered is the fleeting nature of grass in comparison to people and relationships. The world as knew it changed September 11th and what is most important has been clearly underscored. As such, guard your time prioritization as the fall season progresses and maintenance demands continue to cry for attention.

Hopefully the greens at your course have been aerified with tees and fairways either on deck or also completed. Improving root zone porosity in concert with more aggressive fall feeding will begin establishing the foundation needed to handle next season's stresses. Now is also the time to identify drainage and tree management work to be implemented in late fall and early winter.

Mole activity throughout the region continues to be an issue as we move into the fall. Many courses are battling these pests with an intensity that has not been seen in the past. Traps continue to be the most predictable way of addressing the problem.

Gray leaf spot disease has been identified at a few courses in the region and those with perennial ryegrass turf should be on guard. Depending upon weather conditions over the next several weeks, we could still experience turf damage. There have been a few occurrences of dollar spot disease flaring up, but the intensity has dropped significantly from that seen earlier this season and last year.

Bunker renovation has been people and relationships are by far a a frequent topic on recent vishigher priority. The Bible mentions its, with the desire being unigrass some 53 times and a key form playability. It continues to amaze me that so many have message offered is the fleeting nature come to feel that hazards should of grass in comparison to people play consistently. Yet, consistency is the focus at most courses. Design and relationships. that eliminates erosion, good internal drainage, and clean sand of uniform depth are the basic components needed to offer reasonably economical maintenance and consistent playability. If your course is considering bunker renovation be sure to contract out the work so that the staff can remain focused on routine maintenance. Combining maintenance and renovation typically results in both being compromised. Remember, it's ongoing maintenance that protects the course conditioning/value.

As the fall season progresses, keep the focus - people and relationships first. As always, don't hesitate to contact our office (859/356-3272) should concerns arise that we can assist with. We're here for you.

(Editor's Note: Source: Bob Brame, bobbrame@usga.org or 859-356-3272)

MGCSA MEMBERS PLANNING TO PLAY GOLF

AT GCSAA'S GOLF TOURNAMENT PRIOR TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW SHOULD CONTACT THE MGCSA.

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CALL 952-473-0557, FAX 952-473-0576 OR E-MAIL scott@mgcsa.org

NOVEMBER 2001 HOLE NOTES 25

Orlando to Host 2002 Show-

(Continued from Page 12)

keynote address by Jimmy Johnson, former coach of the Dallas Cowboys. Johnson branded the Cowboys with the stamp of a champion and success has been his trademark in every endeavor.

An additional highlight, the Golf General Session, 9 a.m., Feb. 7, will feature a talk by Mike Singletary. A football hero as a middle linebacker for the Chicago Bears, a dazzling media personality, an entrepreneur and an active community and family member, Singletary will share the importance of character, leadership and his formula for success. The association will also present the President's Award for Environmental Stewardship. GCSAA/Golf Digest's 2001 Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards, presented in partnership with Syngenta Professional Products, Rain Bird Sales, Inc. - Golf Division; Textron Golf, Turf & Specialty Products; and Pursell Technologies Inc., also will be announced at this event. Preceding the Golf General Session is the Career Development General Session: Thriving in Today's Employment Environment, at 2 p.m., moderated by Peter Kessler, talk show host and golf historian.

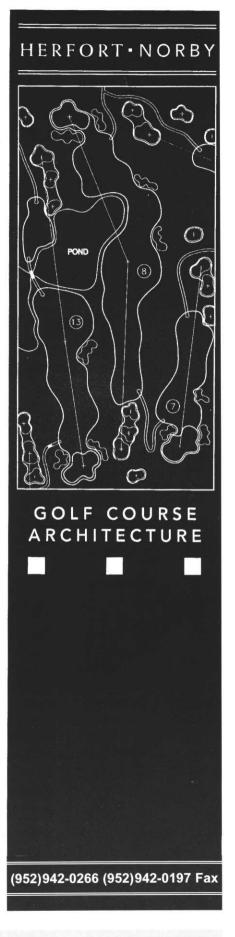
The President's Reception and Dinner Show, 6 p.m. Feb. 8, will mark the passing of the gavel by GCSAA President Tommy D. Witt, CGCS. In addition, the presentation of GCSAA's highest honor, the Old Tom Morris Award will be given to former St. Andrews Links superintendent Walter Woods, Esq. The event is presented in partnership with Bayer Corp.

At conference and show, more than 120 conference seminars (to earn continuing education unit credits) will be conducted and more than 70 hours of workshop sessions/forums (no CEU credits) will take place. The seminar program is sponsored by Textron Golf, Turf & Specialty Products. The trade show, featuring more than 750 exhibits, will run Feb. 7-9, with the Distributor Preview from 8-11 a.m., Feb. 7. Prospective conference and show attendees (including media and distributors) may contact GCSAA at (800) 472-7878 to request a registration brochure or may secure information through the GCSAA Web site at www.gcsaa.org. Advance registration is open until Jan. 18. Registration is complimentary for the media.

Since 1926, GCSAA has been the leading professional association for the men and women who manage and maintain golf facilities in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to more than 21,000 individual members in more than 65 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. Visit GCSAA online at www.GCSAA.org or www.GolfSuper.com.

For a complete schedule of conference and show activities, go to www.golf-courseshow.com





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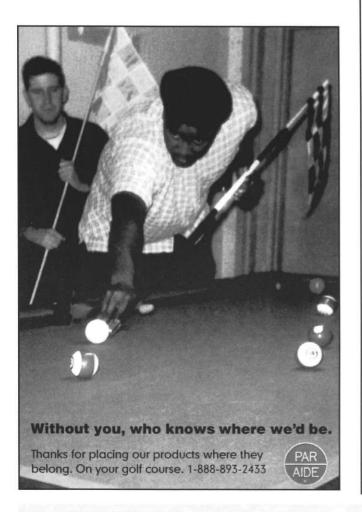
NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL UPDATE

Too Little, Too Late

By BOB VAVREK USGA Agronomist

Every year a number of construction projects are started much too late into fall to have any real chance of providing golfers a playable surface the following spring. Playing surfaces that are seeded after late September in the north central tier of states will be lucky to receive a mowing operation or two before the first snow. Yet, golfers who see complete turf cover from a distance usually expect a playable surface by Memorial Day. All too often the seeded green or tee is played before enough turf density develops to accommodate the wear and tear of day-to-day play. The end result is a poor quality product that disappoints everyone involved in the project - superintendent, golfers, architect, and builder.

It's amazing how optimistic some people can be regarding a reasonable cut-off date for establishing turf from seed. Every once in very long while, a project is



initiated well into fall and good growing weather persists into November. Spring arrives early, timely rainfall occurs, and the new green or fairway is good to go the following spring. However, for every success story there are numerous outright failures and many more examples of weak, thin surfaces that fail to provide consistent playing conditions. Too bad that the occasional success is remembered and the failures are forgotten or blamed on poor management

Take the conservative approach when planning late season construction. For example, a bentgrass green or fairway needs to be seeded no later than mid-to-late August if an early June opening date is anticipated. The same goes for Kentucky bluegrass surfaces. In fact, bluegrass takes a week or two longer to germinate than bentgrass, and the slow rate of establishment needs to be taken into consideration. Furthermore, take into consideration that supplemental irrigation will not be available once the system is blown out. Severe moisture stress can occur on immature, shallow-rooted turf if droughty conditions occur during November and March - times when supplemental irrigation is typically unavailable.

Don't always rely on sod to bail out a construction project that is compromised by bad weather or other delays. Kentucky bluegrass sod tolerates a late installation date relatively well, but keeping the sod watered can be a challenge without a steady supply of automatic irrigation during early spring. In addition, the concerns regarding the management of sodded greens vs. seeded greens can be a topic of another entire update.

True, weather generally dictates the pace of any golf course construction project. Consequently, hope for the best, but expect and plan for some weather delays. A little more down time in fall outweighs a lot of down time the following spring. Plan to have the project seeded by the appropriate date and you won't be making promises to the golfers you have little chance of keeping.

As a difficult season comes to a close, it's time to begin planning to attend the always popular and educational Wisconsin Symposium. This year's Symposium will take place on November 13th and 14th at a new and exciting venue - the American Club in Kohler, Wisconsin. Feel free to contact the Wisconsin office at 262-797-8743 for registration information.

(Editor's Note: Bob Vavrek can be reached at 262-797-8743 or rvavrek@usga.org)

28 HOLE NOTES NOVEMBER 2001



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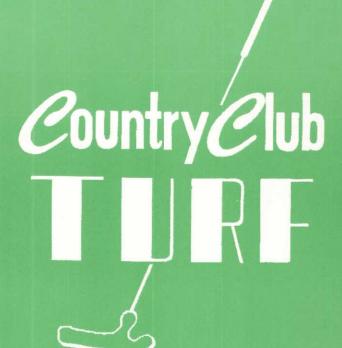


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