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# HOLE NOTES

Official Publication  
of the MGCSA

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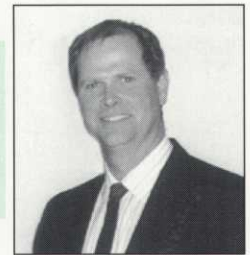
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## MGCSA Considers Fiscal Year Change to Match the Calendar



The new rosters have been sent out and you will notice a nice improvement with the three ring binders. The traditional spiral binder that the association has used for years does not allow for updates, changes and new members to be added after printing. The Board is intent on keeping our membership current in these changing times. A quarterly update will be sent out with changes to be added to the roster.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Treasurer and Bylaws Chairman, Mike Brual, has proposed a by-laws change** to adjust our fiscal year from June 1 - May 31 to a calendar fiscal year. The present form of accounting helped track our major source of income when our association operated and received income from the Annual Convention. At that time, tracking expenses and income with the convention in December, made the accounting process clearer in June. With the dues payable in mid-summer, after June 1, rosters at that time often did not reach members until nearly the end of the season. The rosters served little value other than to send greetings cards for the holidays.

\* \* \* \* \*

**At this time the association is working under a 7-month budget** that will take us to December 31 to facilitate this transition. In February, dues statement will be sent out with the deadline for return May 1. Rosters will then be printed and in your three ring binder by June 1.

\* \* \* \* \*

**A reminder for those of you who have not completed your Pesticide Recertification** for next year that the MTGF will be hosting a program on October 16 at the Golden Valley Country Club. There will be a flier going out to our members with further details. Renewal for 2005-06 licenses will be held again this year at the Green Expo. I have not had a confirmation on whether the Aquatics recertification will be held at the same time or if offered elsewhere.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Congratulations to our new MGCSA golf champion Brian Brown.** Brian, Superintendent at Ferndale Country Club in Rushford, shot a winning score of 74 on the par 73 Bobby's Legacy Course at Cragun's.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Thank you to Cragun's Superintendent Matt McKinnon** for hosting our 28th MGCSA Championship.

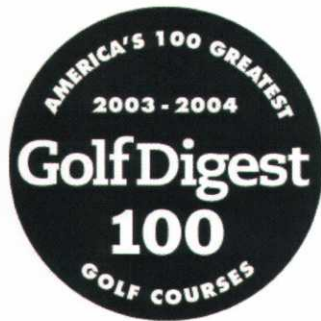
*Your President,*  
Rick Fredericksen, CGCS

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, 11900 Wayzata Blvd., Suite 130, Minnetonka, MN 55305. Scott Turtinen, publisher. Periodicals postage paid at Wayzata, MN. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to HOLE NOTES, P.O. BOX 617, WAYZATA, MN 55391.





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# Remembering Riviera

## Tournament Memories of a Local Superintendent

By MIKE KELLY

Superintendent Edina Country Club

With Minnesota golf being in the spotlight this past year it was a great opportunity for someone like me to take advantage of being close to what used to be only a small dream. Play golf on some of the worlds finest courses for a living, and be intimate with the most frustrating and rewarding game ever invented. As a realist, I felt the next best thing to playing in the events was to be participant on the maintenance team and become involved in a small part of the "Tournament" lifestyle. Granted, preparation for events of this caliber begin years prior so when I say that I was involved in a "small part" it is that, a "very small part".

I started my quest by working for Mr. Nichol at Hazeltine for the 2002 PGA, and then Mr. Rostal at Interlachen for the 2002 Solheim Cup. At both of these venues I was entrusted with the task of walk mowing greens. By being close to green complex's it allowed me the opportunity to observe, and take note of all the coordination and effort to make these events successful, not only by the superintendent but also by the players, caddies, media, and all individuals involved. More recently my assistants and I had the opportunity to work with another Turf Master at another of golf's classic events, The Nissan Open.

Edina Country Club retained Mr. Paul Latshaw several years ago as a consultant, and I have been able to pick his brain a bit and find out what makes him tick. It is very elementary, the man loves what he does, and his eagerness, excitement and respect for what we do for a living is amazing. He has always made it a point to express that tournament golf is why most of us are in this industry. This is our opportunity to shine, show-off our efforts to members, clients, or the ever critical tour player. This is also our time to let these individuals know that we too are professionals.

When Mr. Latshaw asked if I would be interested in working at Riviera for the Nissan Open, I immediately accepted. Not going to Atlanta this year I felt that as a manager, it was my responsibility to have my assistants accompany me so we all could gain the experience. On February 14th, Brandon, Brian, and I where off to Riviera for the Nissan Open.

Formally known as the Los Angeles Athletic Golf Course, Riviera Golf and Tennis Club is located in Pacific Palisades California. Riviera was the creation of Frank Garbult, designed by George C. Thomas Jr., and constructed by William "Billy" Bell. . Located just one mile from the Pacific Ocean and consisting mainly of eucalyptus and sycamore trees Riviera is nestled at the base of a large



The eighteenth hole at Riviera at tournament time.

canyon. Completed in 1926 Riviera was rated as the third best course in the country, following Pine Valley, and Pinehurst #2, but not without cost.

The project was at an expense three times what a "typical" construction project would be, \$ 250,000. Some say it could have been the \$58,000 irrigation system or the hauling in of the local beach sand for bunkers, and changes in elevation. The routing of the golf course is perfect and the slight undulations in greens and fairways make the golf course a great challenge for any caliber golfer. Riviera has hosted the 1948 US Open, 1983 and 1995 PGA Championships and the 1998 US Senior Open. All of these and a regular tour stop for the Nissan Open.

We arrived safely in Los Angeles and after getting settled at our hotel, which Riviera took care of, my staff members and I eagerly headed to the golf course to become acclimated with our surroundings. Driving in the warm California sun throughout the million dollar homes makes one understand why the Clampets loaded up the truck and moved to Beverly Hills!

After getting to the course we were introduced to Matt Morton, the young superintendent, who served under Paul Ramina and Mr. Latshaw while at Riviera. This was Matt's first Nissan Open as the superintendent, but it did not show. He handled himself like a professional in every way manageable. Matt attended school in Maryland and also had aspirations of playing golf but settled for schools golf


*(Continued on Page 7)*





## Inside This Issue of Hole Notes

- 1** Brian Brown Captures MGCSA Championship
- 3** President's Column - Rick Fredericksen, CGCS
- 5** Remembering Riviera - Mike Kelly
- 7** USGA TERO
- 9** Toro Co. Presents Trans-Miss Scholarship Check In  
Minikahda's Name In Appreciation of Partnership
- 11** The Product Pipeline
- 12** It's In the Hole
- 16** Upcoming MGCSA Events
- 18** Winter Injury of Putting Greens 2003 - Dave Minner
- 22** Tartan Park is a Wildlife Haven
- 25** MGCSA Membership Report
- 29** MGCSA Championship Results
- 30** GCSAA Board Meeting Outcomes: Summer 2003
- 31** On Board - Rick Traver, CGCS
- 36** Black Bear Opens in Cloquet - Warren Strandell
- 38** In Bounds - Jack MacKenzie, Jr., CGCS




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# Remembering Riviera-

(Continued from Page 5)

team. After becoming comfortable with the shop area we ventured onto the course to familiarize ourselves with the routing.

The property sits on 120 acres and every square foot is used for the tournament. The trucks and trailers were on site and preparing for the upcoming week. Kudos to the superintendents who can prepare their golf course for a nationally televised event and then, a week before you are supposed to go on television, the turf and outer areas are demolished by tractor-trailer trucks driven by guys with sudo names like "rubber duck", and "pig pen". Truly amazing!

Monday morning 3:00 am arrived and there we were in the dark doing introductions with forty-four other volunteers who had traveled from as far as New York to be apart of the Nissan Open. This was our starting time for the next seven and days and the handing out of the job assignments. The excitement was growing. What will my job be?

I think in an event such as this mowing green's is the cats meow. Something about cutting those laser straight lines just gets me fired up. To some disappointment I was not one of the greens mowers but my assistants were. For Brian

and Brandon this was great I was happy to see that Minnesota was well represented on the greens crew. As a matter of fact they were the only two volunteers who were chosen to mow greens, and yes their lines were Augusta straight.

My job actually did not start until the afternoon, tee mowing crew, no problem, I will just have to cut lasers at a higher cut. It wasn't until Thursday that I was like a kid in a candy store, as I was reassigned to the set-up crew. That had to be my highlight for the tournament.

By Thursday, "Hogan's Alley", named after the famous Ben Hogan because of his wins during the 1947 and '48 L.A. Open and the 1948 U.S. Open, was starting to take shape. Watching the Pro's struggle with the fast greens and tough pin placements was becoming a ritual after our morning duties. Returning in the evening and accomplishing tournament practices was becoming second nature. Whether it be the greens crew double mowing at .109, or the rolling crew pushing and pulling the handmade rollers, the bunker crews lightly watering the bunkers then raking or the clean-up and divot crews doing what was needed we became a large team.

Surprise and sadness befell my "team" the Friday morning of the tournament. The previous night, four young men, good friends and fellow volunteers, went out for dinner but

(Continued on Page 17)

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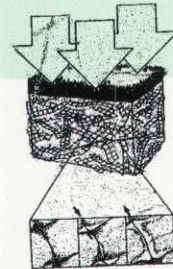
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## The Toro Company Presents a Trans-Mississippi Turf Scholarship Check In Minikahda's Name In Appreciation of 83-Year Partnership

The warm relationship between The Minikahda Club of Minneapolis and the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association has endured for the past century. Likewise, the Toro Company of Bloomington, Minn. has worked with Minikahda in many capacities since the early 1900s.

Representatives of these three groups gathered for a special luncheon at Minikahda on June 11 when Toro CEO Ken Melrose presented a \$1,500 check to the Trans-Mississippi Turf Scholarship Fund. The company was nearing the end of a major restoration project.

Accepting the gift were Trans director Kip Colwell, chairman of the project for Minikahda where he is scheduled to be that club's next president in November, and Ralph Turtinen, executive secretary of the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association.

"Although much has changed over the course of our 83-year partnership with Minikahda," said Melrose, "the value we place on long-term relationships has not. We look forward to partnering with Minikahda for the next 83 years, and that's why we're pleased to present a Trans-Mississippi Turf Scholarship in their name to honor our rich and promising future."

The restoration project returned Minikahda's course to the original Donald Ross design created in 1916. It included the installation of a state-of-the-art Toro irrigation system.

Said Colwell, restoration chair and current vice-presi-



A \$1,500 CHECK WAS CONTRIBUTED BY THE TORO COMPANY to the Trans-Mississippi Turf Scholarship Fund on June 11th. Presenting the check on behalf of Toro was CEO Ken Melrose who is pictured on the right. Accepting the check for the Trans are Kip Colwell, center, a Trans director from The Minikahda Club, and TMGA Executive Secretary Ralph Turtinen.

dent: "The restoration project was taken on to restore the integrity and challenge of the original Donald Ross design." Designer of the restoration master plan was Ron Pritchard.

"We are pleased to accept Toro's check," said Turtinen. "Toro and Minikahda have been involved with our association since the early 1900s and have continually showed their commitment to the golf industry."



### Plan to Attend the MGCSA Fall Mixer October 13

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# Snow Molds and Winter Stress of Turf

While it may still be summer, preparations for nowmold programs are just around the corner. The two significant winter diseases of turf are pink (*Microdochium*) and gray (*Typhula*) snow mold. Gray snow mold is found where there is snow cover for extended periods of time. It produces circular areas of infected turf that may appear gray in color. Pink snow mold can thrive with or without snow cover and produces pink to reddish brown infection spots in the turf. Both diseases can appear together in the same area of turf.

The Chipco fungicide product line of 26GT, Bayleton, Compass and Prostar offers outstanding flexibility to create the snow mold control program that fits your needs. These products are labeled for pink and gray snow mold; years of research have demonstrated their ability to provide effective, long lasting control (see charts 1-4).

Winter stress of turf, like summer stress, is due to an interaction of diseases and environmental stresses that result in weakened root systems; the general loss of plant vigor due to the weakened turf roots predisposes the turf to even greater susceptibility to further disease and stress damage.

In the winter, stresses to turf can include below normal or freezing temperatures, snow cover, ice formation, drying winds etc. Combine these with pink snow mold, gray snow mold and *Pythium* and it's no wonder turf can suffer from decreased vigor.

Chipco Signature™ fungicide, added to your standard fungicide program for snow mold control, has been demonstrated to provide significant management of winter stress of turf resulting in dramatic springtime turf quality. Signature's preventive performance has been related to its ability to modify the turf plant's physiology; this enables the plant to better withstand future stresses and results in increased turf vigor (see charts 1 and 2).

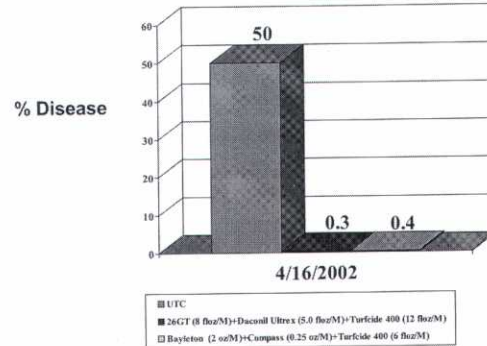
Not only did the improved turf vigor help the turf thru

the winter period but also it benefited the turf in preparing for the stresses of the upcoming spring and summer.

Remember turf disease control and winter and summer stress management is a year round integrated program.

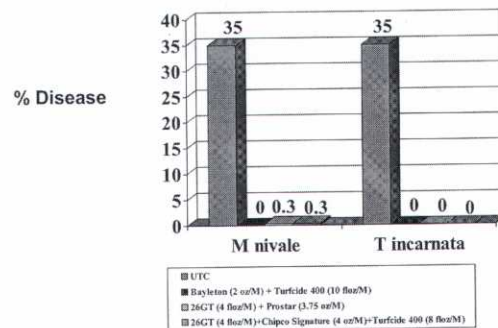
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**Chart 3: Snow Mold Management**



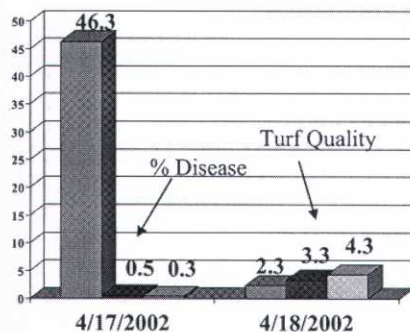
Trial: DRS01F22  
Mainly Gray (*Typhula ishikariensis*) Snow Mold with some Pink (*Microdochium*)  
Creeping bentgrass and *Poa annua*  
Michigan State University  
Application: 10/29/01

**Chart 4: Snow Mold Management**



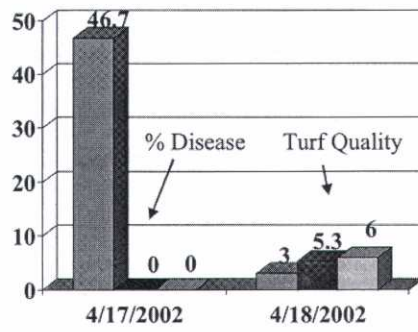
Trial: DRS00F11  
Gray (*Typhula incarnata*) & Pink (*M nivale*) Snow Mold  
Creeping bentgrass  
University of Massachusetts  
Application: 11/12/00  
Evaluation: 04/04/01

**Chart 1: Snow Mold Management**



Trial: EAV01F38  
Mainly Gray (*Typhula*) Snow Mold; some pink snow mold  
Creeping bentgrass  
University of Minnesota  
Application: 10/22/01 + 11/12/01  
Turf Quality: 0-9; 9=best

**Chart 2: Snow Mold Management**



Trial: EAV01F39  
Gray (*Typhula*) Snow Mold  
Creeping bentgrass  
University of Minnesota  
Application: 10/22/01 + 11/12/01  
Turf Quality: 0-9; 9=best