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## About the Cover

Pictured on the cover is an overview of Albany Country Club from behind the 11th green. See flowers from other Minnesota golf courses on Page 10.









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**Monday, December 8, 2008**

## MGCSA Awards & Recognition Banquet

**Windsong Farm Golf Club**

*Host Superintendent: Scottie Hines, CGCS*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### *Do We Take Ourselves Too Seriously?*

*By Richard A. (Rick) Traver, CGCS*

The Chairman of my Green Committee walked into my office last week with an article from *Golf* magazine showing six gentlemen from a maintenance crew in England. They were on their hands and knees looking for "any renegade strains of *poa annua* that might cause a bloke to three-putt." As I began to fathom the insurmountable task of trying to pluck single strands of *poa* out of what looked to be a fairly large green, and then to multiply that by 18 greens, I started to wonder, do we take ourselves too seriously? Golf is just a game right? God bless those gentlemen for their dedication to the job, but if asked to do that I don't know if I would start laughing or crying. I have heard many stories like this over the years, and while it has long been known that for the most part superintendents are perfectionists, we do need to step back and wonder if that bloke is going to three-putt, does it really have anything to do with the *poa*?

\* \* \* \*

**Thank you to Jeff Johnson, his GM Jim Jennings, his members and the Minikahda Club staff** for allowing our association to hold our MGCSA Championship at their facility. It was a gorgeous day and the course matched the weather. I know some of the guys gave Jeff a nudge about the pin placements, but the green speed is what got me, that and my short game. Anyway thanks again, and hopefully we can visit your course again in the near future.

\* \* \* \*

**Thanks also to Brian Horgan, Eric Watkins and their staffs** for hosting Field Days at the U of M. That wasn't quite as nice a day, but it was well-attended despite the rain. If you didn't attend, picture this, Brian Horgan standing in the pouring rain – no umbrella, shorts and sandals surrounded by a bunch of us under umbrellas as he talks about one of the greens at the TROE Center. No wonder why he is so successful, nothing takes him off task. It was great to see all the work those guys are doing and the great results they are achieving.

\* \* \* \*

**I have had a few questions about the Mendota Heights Par 3** and whether or not we are going to manage that facility. At current the City of Mendota Heights or its city council is comfortable with their current management arrangement, so everything is on hold. Should that status change, we will let everyone know.

\* \* \* \*

Thanks for all the support and have a great month.

*Respectfully,  
Rick Traver*

# HOLE NOTES

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# Dean Wojtczak Wins MGCSA Championship at Minikahda

On behalf of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association we would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to The Minikahda Club for hosting our Championship on September 8. The support from the club and the prime condition of the course made for a spectacular day to celebrate golf.

**Dean Wojtczak, Whispering Pines Golf Club**, was able to handle the 11.5 green speed in route to a score of 80 to win the 2008 MGCSA Championship. Three time Champion Jeff Pint, New Prague Golf Club, finished second one shot behind. Mike Kelly, Bayer Environmental Science, finished third shooting an 82.

**Larry Gorman, Green Image**, won the First Flight with a net score of 69. Brian Horgan, University of Minnesota, finished with a net 70. Ben Just, Midland Hills Country Club, came in third with a net 72.

Home course Superintendent Jeff Johnson won the second flight shooting a net 75. Kyle Stern, Minnesota Valley Country Club, finished second with a net 77.

**This year's Senior Champion is Jim O'Neill, Cycle Works of Minnesota.** Jim shot a net 74. Jerry Webb, Riverwood National, came in second with a net 75.

Winning a scorecard playoff for the Callaway Flight was Brian Grill, Interlachen Country Club, edging out co-workers Brian Boll and Rick (Auto) Carr, all shooting a net 73.

Our 2008 Long Drive champion is Ryan Popp, John Deere Golf. Jim O'Neill, Cycle Works, sank the longest putt of the day on number 15. The four winners of the closest to the pin competition were Donnacha O'Connor, Alexandria Golf Club; Jeff Johnson, The Minikahda Club; Mike Redmond, MTI Distributing Co., and Larry Gorman, GreenImage LLC.

**Host Superintendent Jeff Johnson** and his staff had the course in mint condition and the greens rolling over 11 on the stimp meter. Catering Director Nicole Fitzgerald and her staff were very helpful in pre-tournament preparations. Host Golf Professional Doug Nelson and his staff helped in the scoring the event which had members anxiously waiting the results.

**Thanks to Tom Proshok, Brackett's Crossing**, for installing the one clap applause and the rest of the attendees for catching on so quickly. This allowed us to watch a little more of a disappointing football game.

Again, we'd like to acknowledge the generosity of our Affiliate Sponsors: Agrotain International, BASF Corporation, BioVerse, Inc., Dow AgroSciences, Duinick Bros, Inc., Excel Turf & Ornamental, GreenImage, Hartman Companies, Hydrologic, MTI Distributing Co., Par Aide Products Co., Plaisted Companies, Principal Financial, ProSource One, Syngenta Professional Products, The Tessman Company, Tiziani Golf Car, Turfwerks, LLC, Versatile Vehicles, Yamaha Golf & Utility. These companies have sponsored our 2008 summer events along with our October meeting.

**The Fall Mixer will take place October 7 at Pheasant Acres Golf Club** in Corcoran. This will be a Greens Management Academy put on by TurfNet University.

*(See scoring results on Pages 6-7.)*



Dean Wojtczak shot an 80 at The Minikahda Club to capture the MGCSA Championship. (See complete results on Pages 5-6.)

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# MGCSA CHAMPIONSHIP

*The Minikahda Club  
September 8, 2008*

## CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

80	Dean Wojtczak, Whipering Pines GC
81	Jeff Pint, New Prague GC
82	Mike Kelly, Bayer Environmental
83	Tom Notch, Bent Creek GC
84	Dave Newinski, Herfort Norby Golf Architects
84	Arik Hemquist, Brackett's Crossing CC
84	Jamie Olsen, GreenImage LLC
85	Dan Hinton, Jackson GC
85	Denny Perreault, Pheasant Acres GC
85	Mike Brower, Minnesota Valley CC
86	Jeff Backstrom, Cannon GC
86	Wayde West, Hoyt Lakes GC
87	David Johnson, Rich Spring GC
88	Donnacha O'Connor, Alexandria GC
89	Bruce Leland, Bridge Solutions
89	Troy Lang, Minnesota Valley CC
89	Bill Brooks, Rose Lake GC
90	Jacob Kocak, Prestwick GC
90	Jeremy Walker, Castlewood GC
90	Scottie Hines, CGCS, Windsong Farm GC
91	Dan Brown, Par Aide Products Co.
92	Tom Meier, LeSueur CC
93	Andrew Carlson, TPC Twin Cities GC
94	Tom Proshek, Brackett's Crossing CC
94	Barry Provo, Deer Run GC
99	Steve Makowske, Interlachen CC
99	Kris Johannsen, The Wilds GC
100	Scott Paquette, Heritage Links GC
103	Jared Keller, Minneapolis GC



*Jeff Johnson, Host Superintendent for the MGCSA Championship at The Minikahda Club, along with his staff, presented the course in beautiful shape with lightning-fast greens. Jeff won the 2nd Flight with a net 75.*

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# 2008 MGCSA CHAMPIONSHIP

The Minikahda Club  
September 8, 2008



Pictured from the left are Ben Just, Larry Gorman and Brian Horgan. They were the top 3 finishers in the First Flight. Gorman won the flight.



Interlachen Superintendent Matt Rostal on the third tee at The Minikahda Club during the MGCSA Championship.

## FIRST FLIGHT

Net	Hdcp	
69	13	Larry Gorman, GreenImage LLC
70	14	Brian Horgan, University of Minnesota
72	16	Ben Just, Midland Hills CC
76	11	Dave Kazmierczak, CGCS, Prestwick GC
77	15	Scott Melling, Par Aide Products Co.
78	10	Rob Tripp, Northland CC
79	14	Doug Mahal, CGCS, The Jewel
79	16	Wes Stoneback, The Wilds GC
80	15	Eric Ritter, Spooner GC
81	13	Rob Adams, The Ponds at Battle Creek
81	13	Ryan Popp, John Deere Golf
81	14	Kurt Knox, Island View CC
82	15	Walt Braunig, Thompson Oaks GC
83	12	Jamie Bezanson, Prestwick GC
84	15	Matt Rostal, Interlachen CC
84	13	Nick Folk, The Minikahda Club
84	13	Rick Traver, CGCS, Monticello CC
85	13	Charlie Miller, Goodrich GC
86	12	Dennis Salwei, Reinders, Inc.
87	20	Scott Austin, CGCS, Meadowbrook GC
87	21	Brandon Schindele, Edina CC
88	17	Jeff Vinkemeier, Glencoe CC
88	16	Chad Snuggerud, River Oaks GC
88	20	Jon Almquist, MTI Distributing Co.
88	10	Jason Swanson, Hidden Green GC
90	15	Leroy Wurm, Albion Ridges GC
91	11	Charles Fischer, Olympic Hills CC
91	12	Mike Knodel, Oakdale GC
92	19	Erik Pille, TPC Twin Cities
94	9	Kevin Norby, Herfort Norby Golf Architects
94	18	Brian Ziegler, The Wilds GC
96	12	Chris Tritabaugh, Northland CC

## SECOND FLIGHT

75	23	Jeff Johnson, The Minkahda Club
77	22	Kyle Stern, Minnesota Valley CC
84	20	John Meyer, Agrotain International
84	30	Jeremy Stafne, MTI Distributing Co.
90	20	Bill Gullicks, Bellwood Oaks GC

## SENIORS

74	18	Jim O'Neill, Cycle Works of Minnesota
75	8	Jerry Webb, Riverwood National
76	15	Rick Grannes, Superior Tech Products
78	15	Mike Redmond, MTI Distributing Co.
79	13	Leif Erickson, Rochester Parks
80	9	Cary Femrite, MTI Distributing Co.
82	10	Gregg Paulus, The Ponds at Battle Creek
82	14	John Monson, Long Prairie CC
82	9	Ron Manske, Versatile Vehicles, Inc.
98	16	Wally Frier, The Finley Group

## CALLAWAY FLIGHT

73		Brian Grill, Interlachen CC
73		Rick Carr, Interlachen CC
73		Brian Boll, Interlachen CC
75		Tom Herzog, Minneapolis GC
76		Johnny Jarosz, The Minikahda Club
76		Larry Thornton, Superior Turf Services
76		Matt Schmid, Superior Turf Services



*MGCSA members relaxed and enjoyed dinner at The Minikahda Club in Minneapolis after a great day of golf.*



*The Minikahda Club's host Superintendent Jeff Johnson, left, won 2nd Flight honors. He is pictured with 2nd Flight runner-up Kyle Stern of Minnesota Valley Country Club.*



*David Oberle, Excel Turf & Ornamental, gave away dozens of golf balls to MGCSA Championship participants on the 11th tee box.*



**Senior Flight Winners:** Jim O'Neill, CycleWorks of Minnesota, left, won the Senior Flight with a net 74 at the MGCSA Championship. Runner-up Jerry Webb, Riverwood National, is pictured at right.



**Callaway Flight Winners:** Brian Grill, left, and Brian Boll. Both Brians are from Interlachen and both tied with Net 73s which tied them with Rick Carr, not pictured, also from Interlachen. Brian Grill won the scorecard playoff.

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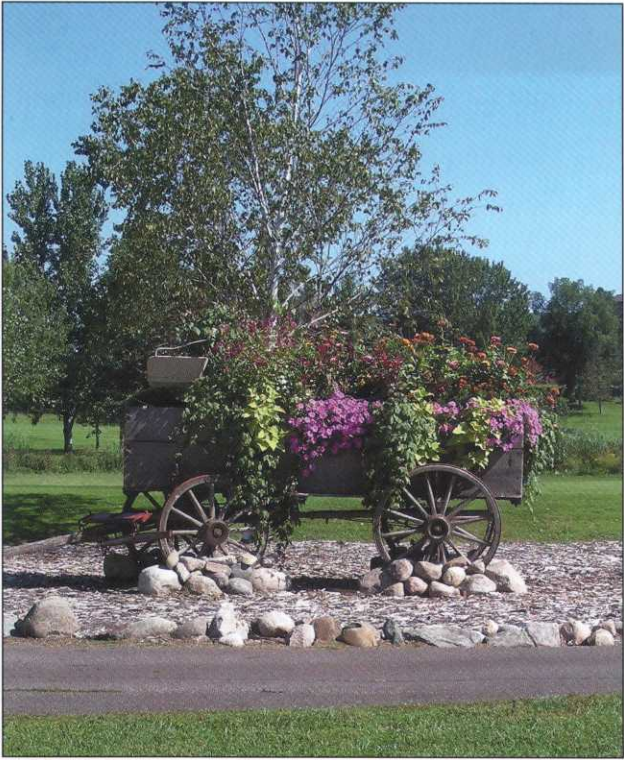
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*Connie Hoffman takes care of the flowers at Albany Golf Course. The wagon is next to the 3rd and 8th tees .*



*Above is a flower arrangement at The Legends. The photo below was taken at Somerset Country Club.*



*Wishful thinking. Logo bed and Green Staff member Tyler MacKenzie at North Oaks Golf Club.*



*The flowers above are near the TPC Twin Cities golf shop entrance,. The flowers below are at Dakota Ridge.*

