



# en ticket to n Valley Golf and Country Club

*By Jeff Ische, Executive Director, Property and Sports Operations*

The course has had quite a bit of restoration work and improvements done in the last 15 years. The bunkers were completely rebuilt by Hartman Companies in 1997 and 1998. By using aerial photos taken in the 1930's, they were able to dig down, find the original sand buried when the bunkers were filled in during the 1950's and follow that sand layer right to the old bunker edge. Because of this almost archaeological process, they were able to rebuild the bunkers to their original Tillinghast design specifications.

Ten years later, in 2007 and 2008, Hartman Companies installed a completely new Toro irrigation system and also rebuilt all of the tee complexes, shortening the course for developing players and lengthening it for more accomplished players during the process.

The green complexes are what people remember after playing

a set of active railroad tracks and a road all running through the course. The course is pretty standard fare off the tee, the difficulty lies from 100 yards and in, putting a premium on your short game!

GVGCC. I know it is easier said than done, but the key is to position yourself in the fairway off the tee in order to give your team the best chance of hitting the small greens and staying out of the deep green side bunkers. Check out the back bunkers on 12 and 16 for examples of how punishing some of them can be! Nearly every green slopes back to front, some more severe than others, so it is always a good idea to stay a little short of the flag.

With six par fives, there are plenty of chances to make birdie or better, but beware of the five par

threes. They are no walk in the park! The toughest hole on the course is #7, a long par four with its green guarded by Bassett Creek. The easiest hole is #13, a 485 yard par five. Can you say eagle!

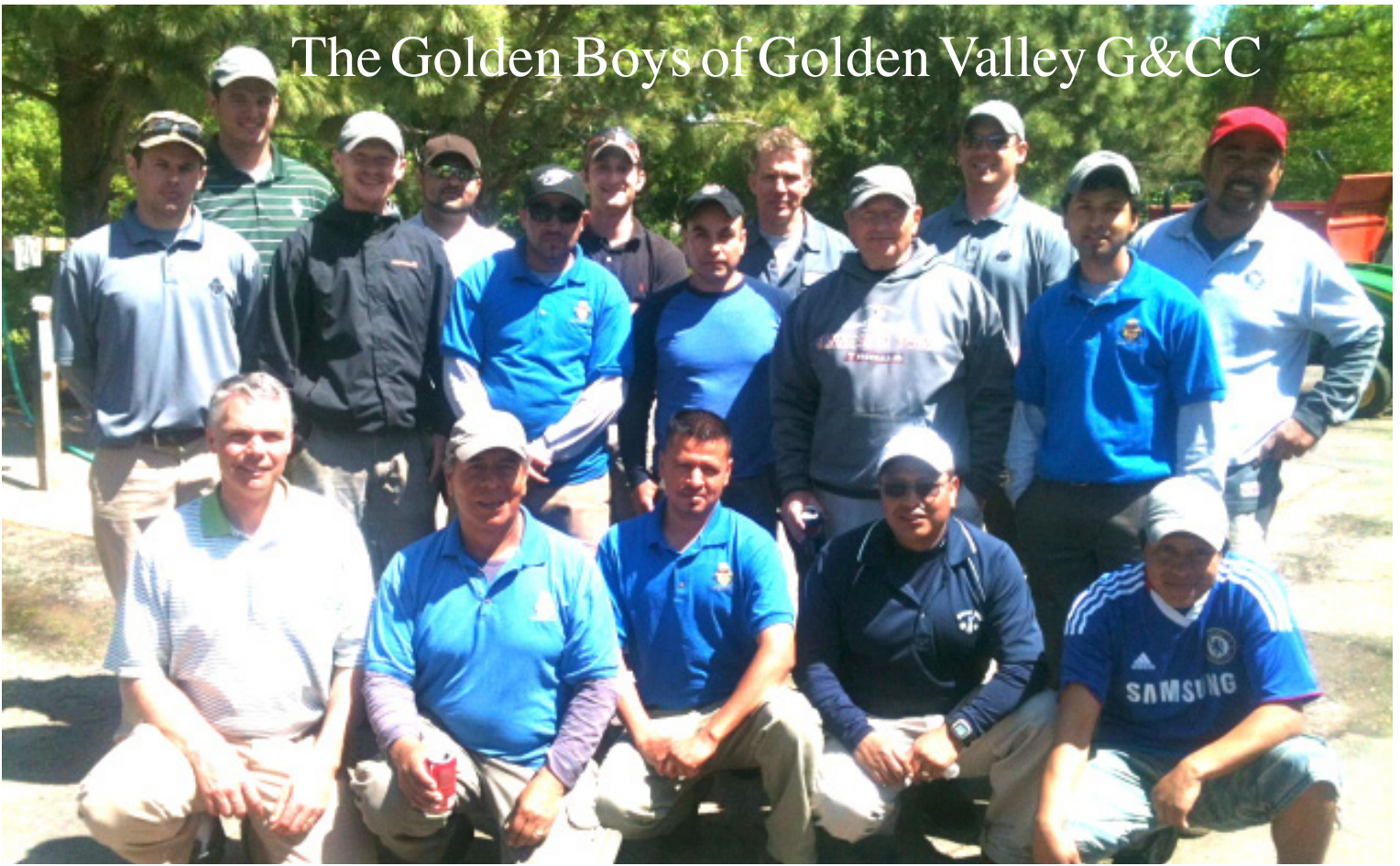
It has been quite some time since GVGCC has had an association golf event. I felt that we were long overdue, recognized that we owe this opportunity to the MGCSA and I am excited to be hosting a group of superintendents, assistants and our vendors.

It is hard to believe that I am half way into my ninth year here



Hole 16 at Golden Valley Golf and Country Club by P. Wong.

## The Golden Boys of Golden Valley G&CC



already. Time does fly by! I have a great full-time, year round staff. Matt Olsonoski, my assistant, was the first intern I hired at GVGCC. He is an avid golfer and youth hockey referee during the winter months. David Phillips, my second assistant, is a native of New Zealand. During his spare time, he enjoys training for and participating in triathlons. Alex Dowdle, my golf course technician, just started here this spring and is busy planning his July wedding. Brian Buerman, my equipment technician, rides his bike to work for exercise and does a lot of

kayaking in his spare time.

I want to thank Henry Orme, our head golf professional, for running the golf event, to Francisco Gonzalez and his staff for the fine food we are sure to enjoy and to Tom Rubenstein and his staff, for planning and organizing the entire day with Jack MacKenzie. But most importantly, I need to thank our club president, Tom Shannon, and the entire Board of Directors for supporting my efforts in getting the MGCSA back out to GVGCC. See you in June!



# What's Creeping You Out No

## Ideas In Pest Management

### Tips for Use of Tenacity™ Herbicide

By Dr. David Gardener, Associate Professor, Turfgrass Science OSU

Tenacity™ is a new herbicide from Syngenta. The active ingredient is mesotrione, which has perhaps the widest weed spectrum of any herbicide used in turfgrass. It has been available for use on golf courses for a couple of years. It has a very distinctive mode of action. It inhibits carotenoid pigment synthesis and results in a bleaching of the affected tissue which causes the target weed to turn white. Tenacity™ has many potential uses on the golf course. However, the label limits application to 16 ounces per acre per year (so two 8 oz applications or three 5 oz applications). Therefore, some thought should be given to how and when to use Tenacity™ in order to maximize its effectiveness.

#### **Seedling Establishment or Overseeding**

One of the difficulties that turf managers face when establishing turf from seed

is competition from weeds. Prior to the introduction of Tenacity™, there were two products labeled for control of weeds in newly seeded cool season turf: siduron and bromoxynil. Neither of these products are as effective as other herbicides used in cool season turf but their safety to turfgrass seedlings makes them a good option. Tenacity™ has excellent safety on Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, and tall fescue. In fact, research conducted at Ohio State shows that Tenacity™ can be applied at seeding and results in no visible injury beyond 7 days after emergence nor any reduction in establishment rate. In the untreated controls there was as much as 70% crabgrass, purslane, and yellow nutsedge. The plots where 8 oz of Tenacity™ was applied, however, were 95-99% perennial ryegrass and weed free (Figure 1). This was the case whether applied as a liquid

w?



*Untreated plot*



*Plot treated with Tenacity herbicide*

or as a granular. In another trial where we did get some weed pressure, a second application of Tenacity was made 28 days after seeding and this basically eliminated the weed competition.

### **Selective Creeping Bentgrass Control**

Tenacity™ is the first turfgrass herbicide that results in rapid, easy to visualize reductions in weedy perennial grasses (Figure 2). Tenacity™ has activity against a variety of perennial grassy weeds, including creeping bentgrass. Best control, according to

most research, of creeping bentgrass is achieved if three applications are made on 14-21 day intervals. Tenacity™ has excellent safety on Kentucky bluegrass and good safety on ryegrass and tall fescue. Some phytotoxicity has been reported when repeated applications are made to perennial ryegrass. However, this problem can be minimized by applying in cooler weather and also by avoiding making sequential applications too close together (make applications 21 days apart on ryegrass and 14 days apart on bluegrass). At OSU, we were





able to achieve 98% control of creeping bentgrass. Fall is the best time to begin a bentgrass removal program. Since Tenacity™ is safe to turfgrass seedlings, you should time the three applications so that you can over seed your desired turfgrass when the third application is made.

Some other perennial grasses are affected by Tenacity, such as nimblewill, orchardgrass, and bermudagrass. However, research is continuing on these grasses and no formal management recommendations are yet available.

### **Tenacity™ is a Very Broad Spectrum Herbicide**

As a broadleaf herbicide, Tenacity™ has activity, both pre-and post-emergence, against a broad spectrum of broadleaf weeds. In many cases, a second application may be needed in order to achieve complete control of broadleaf weeds. Otherwise, one application will generally result in suppression of the weed, followed by re-growth in about 42-56 days. Dandelion is, however, an exception. Research at Ohio State suggests that you can expect about 70-85% control with either one or two applications. Our research also indicates that Tenacity™ has better activity on broadleaf weeds when combined with either dicamba or the pyridionxy herbicides fluroxypyr

or triclopyr. One important note is that our research also suggests that mesotrione does not combine well with either Quicksilver® or Dismiss® for broadleaf weed control. Tenacity™ has activity on clover. However, this is more suppression than control, particularly if only one application is made. When combined with pyridinoxy herbicides or dicamba, control of clover is improved.

Research conducted at Ohio State also suggests that you may achieve 100% control of crabgrass for 160 days when this product is used as a preemergence herbicide in combination with a product such as prodiamine. However, some other researchers have found it a bit less effective than this and you will want to check the label for specifics. It is also important to note this longevity of control if any overseeding projects are planned. In addition, our research suggests that mesotrione's activity on crabgrass when applied postemergence is at least as good as, and occasionally better than, that of quinclorac.

### **Putting it All Together**

As previously stated, the label says you can apply 16 ounces per acre per year. If you have a weedy creeping bentgrass problem, then three 5 oz applications in the fall are appropriate. When you make the last application, you can overseed. If perennial broadleaf

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weeds are your only concern, there are many combination herbicides that perform better than Tenacity. However, if you are controlling bentgrass in late summer/early fall, you may get the additional benefit of some pretty good control of any broadleaf weeds that are in the treated area, which may mean you can skip your late fall postemergence broadleaf weed control treatment.

Tenacity is also a great product when establishing seedling turf in the springtime. Apply 8 ounces per acre at seeding. If competition from germinating weeds becomes a problem, a second

8 oz application can be made to the seeded area 21-42 days after the initial application, depending on the amount of weed pressure present.

Finally, if you are having problems with crabgrass control, Tenacity™ may help. Tenacity™ has been shown to improve and prolong the control of preemergence herbicides. It can also be used postemergence. Crabgrass control with any product can be quite variable. But, in trials at Ohio State University, we have seen Tenacity™ perform similar to, or better than, other postemergence crabgrass herbicides.



# *Mr. Hines Goes To Washington!!!*

*Scottie Hines CGCS, travels to nation's Capitol, meets with members of Congress, advocates for golf industry*

Scottie Hines, CGCS, Superintendent, Windsong Farm Golf Club traveled to Washington, D.C., April 16-18 with nine peer members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Government Relations Committee to meet with members of Congress as part of National Golf Day.

The goal of the visits with federal lawmakers was to promote the true face of golf, one that better reflects the economic, human and environmental benefits of the industry across the nation.

The committee discussed a variety of issues with members of Congress and their staff affecting the golf industry including Clean Water Act (CWA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) pesticide general permits, the H-2B visa program, as well as golf's exclusion in recent years from federal relief and stimulus measures being considered by



Congress.

“Scottie’s participation in National Golf Day was integral to sharing the positive message about golf on a widespread basis,” GCSAA Board of Director and Government Relations Committee Chairman John J. O’Keefe, CGCS, said. “This important event allows our federally elected officials the opportunity to understand the golf industry’s concerns. It was truly an honor to work with Scottie, GCSAA’s Government



Relations Committee and the leaders of golf's allied organizations to speak up as a unified voice to ensure lawmakers have an accurate perception of the golf industry."

The Capitol Hill visits coincided with those of WE ARE GOLF, a coalition led by five of the golf industry's leading associations and supported by other small businesses. Founded by GCSAA, the National Golf Course Owners Association, the World Golf Foundation, The PGA of America, and the Club Managers Association of America, WE ARE GOLF is a broad-based coalition that seeks to maximize the industry's synergy and reduce redundancy. Its growing membership includes participation from association members, multi-course owners, manufacturers and golf facilities.

Beyond better demonstrating golf's profound economic clout, WE ARE GOLF illustrates the industry's environmental sustainability initiatives, its health and wellness benefits and its unparalleled charitable giving. First and foremost, the goal of WE ARE GOLF is to get members of Congress to understand golf's contributions to communities across the country when they're developing and advancing important legislation – just as all small businesses want. WE ARE GOLF will work to share information, case studies and articles with media, elected officials, regulators and other key constituents so they are better informed on issues of concern.

"I was pleased by the quality of



conversations we had," said GCSAA CEO Rhett Evans. "We did not come with a hand out for special favors. We came united as one, asking only for a level playing field with other industries and small businesses. That message resonated with the congressmen and women. Those who were already supporters of golf were surprised by the diversity and size of the industry. They vowed to help us in our efforts and share the information. But even more impressive was the reaction by those who were not golfers. They thanked us for coming to tell our story and offered feedback on how we could be successful in accomplishing our goals."

Jeff Bollig, GCSAA Sr. Director of Communications

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