

*Representatives of the MGCSA along with other Allied Golf Associations were very instrumental in preventing an increase in water permit fees, saving most clubs from a ten-fold increase in fees for the next two years. Currently, the Environmental Stewardship Committee is working hard to develop a science based and logical water management, conservation and crisis program for potential implementation at all golf destinations in the state.*

Another benefit of membership with the MGCSA is networking opportunities. Here are a few case studies I have been involved with in recent months:

*MGCSA Member emails and needs help with chain saws and operators after straight-line winds nail his course and take down or damage two-dozen massive oak trees. An APB was sent to area clubs for help, which arrived in short order.*

*MGCSA Member emails his request to split a truck load of bluegrass sod to reduce costs for everyone involved. An email list of clubs in close proximity was sent and the Member pursued support on his own.*

*MGCSA Member has a hydraulic blow out upon one of his greens. The operator “drained the tank” and sod is necessary asap. The unfortunate Superintendent was connected with another Superintendent at a club that maintained a giant green sod nursery, information learned at a recent MGCSA meeting.*

*Former MGCSA Member is looking for an Assistant. He re-joins the Association and places ad upon the website.*

Need one more reason to be comfortable investing \$10.84 each month into the MGCSA?

*You get me! While not the best thing since sliced bread and certainly not as inventive as Al Gore, the creator of the internet but I promise I will do my best to help you whenever and wherever possible. Having been in your shoes, I am intimately aware of your challenges and can and often do provide solutions to help you do your job better. If I don't have the direct answer I should be able to help direct you to the remedy, or somebody better suited to help.*

Something to ponder about associations: *In all societies, it is advisable to associate if possible with the highest; not that the highest are always the best, but because, if disgusted there, we can descend at any time; but if we begin with the lowest, to ascend is impossible.*

Charles Caleb Colton



# Perimeter Management

*by Chris Tritabaugh, Superintendent at Hazeltine National GC*

Playing surface perimeter management has become one of the biggest issues in the golf course management industry. The bottom line when it comes to perimeter management is the control and management of concentrated mechanical stress. This sort of stress comes in many forms, but there is no doubt the prolific use of rollers in the maintenance of putting surfaces, has played a major role in increased perimeter stress. There are many ways in which we deal with this stress. First of all, it is important to recognize the perimeter of putting surfaces as a separate turf system from that of the putting surface proper. Perimeters need their own management program, both culturally and nutritionally.



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These are the areas which make up the putting surface perimeters. This photo was taken about two weeks ago; the yellowish turf was a bit week coming out of winter. Cultural and nutritional practice since, have this turf looking much healthier.





In addition to stress from our maintenance equipment; golfers, caddies and push carts also add to the stress. Out of courtesy, golfers and caddies walk around the edge of the putting surface. In this photo you can see how all of the tracks from the push carts funnel down to a small area on the right side of the seventh green. In the coming weeks, we are going to introduce an initiative aimed at getting golfers, caddies and even push carts to walk right across the putting surface. Stay tuned for more...

***The Championship***  
**Prestwick Golf Club**  
**August 13th, 2013**





Culturally, the perimeters need more work. In this case, you see a small core having been pulled from the collars.

A-4 bentgrass does not perform well at collar heights, for this reason all of the collars have been replaced with Dominant Extreme bentgrass sod. In order to get the best performance from sod, it must be core aerated often during its first couple of years. If this is not done, the sod never establishes as part of the turf system and its quality will decline during stressful periods.

*The Editor of the Hole Notes would like to recognize Chris Tritibaugh for saharing this article with his peers. Rather than collect the \$50 stipend for himself, Chris has requested the mones be donated to the Research Fund.*

**Did you know that a person burns up to 2,000 calories walking an 18 hole round of golf?**





Nutrition is another key aspect of maintaining quality perimeters. Just like the human body, when turf is stressed and working hard, it needs more nutrition than normal. In the case of the perimeters; they are under extra stress, thus they need extra food. Here you can see the perimeters being sprayed with some extra soluble nutrition. Over the course of the golf season, I expect the perimeters will receive double the nutrition of the putting surfaces proper.

***It was a sunny Sunday morning, and Murray was beginning his preshot routine, visualizing his upcoming shot, when a voice came over the clubhouse loudspeaker. “Would the gentleman on the ladies’ tee please back up to the men’s tee.”***

***Murray remained in his routine, seemingly unfazed by the interruption.***

***A little louder: “Would the man on the women’s tee kindly back up to the men’s tee!”***

***Murray raised up out of his stance, lowered his driver, and shouted, “Would the announcer in the clubhouse kindly shut up and let me play my second shot?”***

## Benefits of Membership in the MGCSA

**MGCSA.org:** The MGCSA provides its membership an electronic destination. The site offers a broad range of services including latest news, meeting information, important links, local association contacts and meeting schedules, as well as a market place for used equipment or student internships. Links are provided to the Affiliate Members who advertise on the web site.

**Education:** The MGCSA provides a range of high quality discounted professional education with more than 100 hours of relevant classes at the Northern Green Expo in January each year, supplemented by an extensive program at the Mega Seminar, as well as the annual MGA Spring Turf Forum.

**Research:** The MGCSA coordinates with researchers at the University of Minnesota's TROE Center to make sure you get the information you need. The association also directs Turfgrass Research Benefit Week, the annual sale of donated tee-times, to raise money for golf turfgrass research. And the association also contributes to The Turf Endowment fund to ensure a continuing program at the University of Minnesota.

**Government Relations:** The MGCSA provides access to the State Capitol through a continued relationship with the Minnesota Golf Association and other Green Industry Allies. This service keeps your association aware of issues likely to affect golf as they emerge rather than after the fact. This proactive presence also helps us educate legislators and regulators by providing solid information and research findings as they strive to make sound decisions for the good of the whole community. The MGCSA has representation at the Minnesota Nursery and Landscape's 'Day on the Hill' event.

**Hole Notes Magazine:** The MGCSA provides an award winning professional golf course superintendent association journal. Published ten times each year in a digital format, Hole Notes strives to provide relevant, interesting information that reflects the personality and professionalism of the membership. Links are provided to the Affiliate members who advertise in the magazine.

**Membership Directory:** At the Member's Only section the MGCSA provides an annually updated listing of names and contact details for every member of the association. This electronic directory puts each within fingertip reach of around 700 allied professionals across the region.

**Employment Referral Service:** The MGCSA provides a link between the people with jobs and those who want them. The employment referral service is available on-line at MGCSA.org as well as electronically delivered weekly through 'e-updates'.

**Email Alerts:** The MGCSA uses the internet to provide updates and alerts on urgent matters as they arise so we remain current with issues that may effect you, the industry and the Association.

**Scholarships:** The MGCSA extends its support to the next generation through an annual scholarship program to assist children and grandchildren of superintendents who have achieved academic excellence.

**Wee One Support:** The MGCSA annually hosts a Wee One fund raising golf outing with the proceeds going to support this outstanding program that serves those in the golf course turf management industry.





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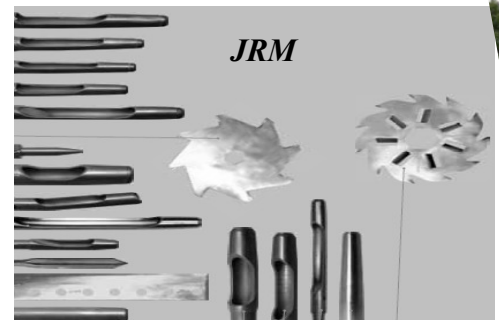


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**Thanks to Erin McManus, his Assistants and the crew at Medina Golf and Country Club for an Exceptional Scramble Event,**





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