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## TURF NEWS LETTER

Official Organ of Mid-Atlantic Association of  
Golf Course Superintendents  
Prepared in Cooperation with the USGA Green Section

August 5, 1952

### The Prince Georges Meeting

On August 5, 1952, the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents met at the Prince Georges Country Club. The 53 members and guests in attendance were greeted by the hosts for the occasion, Messrs. M. H. deBruin, Cliff Eisley, Al Houghton, Bill Compton, and A. S. Sweeney. Among the guests present were Adm. Jack Phillips, Chairman of Army-Navy C.C. (looking chipper after his recent illness), Col. S. W. McIlwain, Col. M. W. Leavitt, Monroe Banford, and W. E. Ambrose of the Aberdeen Proving Grounds Golf Course.

### E D U C A T I O N A L F E A T U R E S

#### Fall Renovation

The panel discussion of the Fall Renovation problem was superb. Members of this panel were Bob Scott, Jr., Bill Schreiber, Ike Rabbitt and Bill Glover.

Bob Scott, Jr. touched upon the very important steps in the renovation of poor turf. Bob listed tee and fairway renovation as follows - control weeds through chemical or mechanical means, with emphasis on the attempt to kill as much crabgrass seed as possible, so as to keep future reinfestation at a minimum. Sodium arsenite was cited as a good economical herbicide for this purpose. Weed control should then be followed by thorough aeration and spike discing, dragging, seeding and fertilizing, then rolling where possible. The selection of adapted grasses was emphasized as an important part of renovation; if you do not choose the proper grasses to work with, your efforts will be in vain. He also emphasized the fact that renovation is not just a spring and fall operation, since you can carry on throughout the summer months by introducing your improved strains of warm season grasses.

Bill Schreiber showed an interesting film of renovation and reconstruction work at his Patuxten River Golf Course. Bill's been doing a major remodeling job and his film showed the major steps of turf renovation.

Bill Glover approached the problem from the standpoint of the cause of our renovation troubles. What has happened along the Eastern Seaboard this year? What is wrong with the greens on which we've had trouble? Pocket areas, low spots, poor drainage both below and on the surface, too much water, too much or too little fertilizer, diseases have all contributed to the troubles ... how shall we renovate now to prevent a re-occurrence of this kind - or how shall we act to prevent the continued re-occurrence of "Built-in headaches", which result from the course being built with emphasis on beauty rather than ease of

maintenance and management.

Ike Rabbitt's talk brought out the four main factors of greatest importance in construction and maintenance of a green, namely, sub surface drainage, soil texture, and strains of grasses. He then pointed out a few of the troubles encountered at Prince Georges. The main problem is in the greens having low pocket areas where disease and scalding, develop from over watering due to flash storms and high temperatures. This again brought out the importance of incorporating the principles of maintenance in construction. In conclusion Ike suggested that in renovation, go all the way, using the best methods and materials, because it pays off in the future.

In the discussion which followed, it was pointed out that most of our problems today are the result of basic malpractices in design and construction of greens. Therefore, pressure should be brought to bear on the architect who is in a position to be of great assistance in this matter. It was suggested that a committee be formed to bring to light the fact that there is room for improvement in design and construction of greens from the standpoint of maintenance.

#### Constructive Suggestion Report

##### Greens

A possible solution for improvement of the greens would be the seeding of polycross bent or by sprigging or plugging C-1 and C-19 bentgrass into the troubled areas.

##### Aprons

Since most of the aprons have gone out, it was suggested that they be reseeded with Merion or sprigged with C-115 bent.

##### Tees

Tees 1, 4, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, and 18 were very good -- these were the U-3 Bermuda tees. It was recommended that less water, more fertilization, and closer cutting be employed on these tees.

##### New Members

Mr. Sam C. Sallazzo, of the Ingleside C. C., Staunton, Va. was reinstated as an active member, while Clarence J. Sequist, Opequen Golf and C. C., Martinsburg, West Va., Roy A. Jeffries, foreman of Washington C. C., and Jan Gordon of the Baltimore County Board of Education were voted in as associate members.

##### Golf

Twenty-two members ventured out onto the course and the result was a four-way tie between Bill Peterson, Joe Harbin, John Milan and Bill Glover all having a score of 76. 2 Blind bogey scores were 74 and 76. John Connolly took top honors for the low gross of the day with a nice 78.

*August -  
1952*

Coming Events

Sept. 3 - 4 Penn State Turf Days, State College, Penna.

Sept. 22 - 23 Annual GCSA Golf Tournament, Columbus C.C., Columbus, Ohio

Good Reading and Reference

Misc. Publication No. 31 revised April 1952.  
Rhode Island Agri. Experiment Station  
University of Rhode Island  
Kingston, Rhode Island

Business Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Shields and the minutes were read from the previous meeting, and approved as read. Treasurer's report was then given by Charlie Schalestock, who also read notes of appreciation from Jimmy Thomas' Mother and Admiral Phillips, glad to hear that they are both O.K. A letter was then read from Charlie Wilson saying that he had hung out his shingle and that he appreciated all that the Association had done for him.

Bob Scott, Jr. gave the Educational Committee report -- their recommendations for the improvement of the Aberdeen course will appear in the next issue of this newsletter.

The Education and Policy Committee made a recommendation that the Association refuse to accept any more free dinners from Clubs visited. It was their feeling that our membership was getting so large that some Clubs might not invite us to visit them if they thought an invitation meant a great expense to the house.

The members present defeated this proposal and the idea was dropped without being brought to a vote. Mr. McRae explained it was only natural that some Clubs would want to pick up the check while others would not and we should graciously accept those that are offered. To do otherwise would be foolish and ungrateful he said. It was brought out that this Association should make it understood to the Club through the Superintendent that we are ready and willing to pay for all services at all times and that an invitation does not mean a free dinner.

The soil profiles for use at the turf conference at Baltimore and Atlantic City should be turned in to "Brownie" Brown, Ennis Kidwell, Jack Witcher or the Holmeads.

Francis Coupe' of Washington Golf and Country Club was appointed to fill the vacancy in the Education and Policy Committee left by the resignation of Perc LeDuc. This committee meets each month on Tuesday following regular membership meetings.

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Next Meeting

Sept. 16th Rolling Road Golf Club - Annual Golf Tournament  
(Please note this change in dates from the original shchedule)

Tournament Starts - 12 noon      Dinner - 6:00 P.M.

Know Your Fellow Superintendent

Dick Scott, Superintendent of Rolling Road is a charter member and one of the real leaders of our Association. Born in Ayrshire, Scotland, Dick received his training in Horticulture in Scotland and in England. After 3 years as a prisoner of War in Germany during World War I Dick came to this country to follow his famous Brothers, Bill and Bob in caring for Golf Courses. He began as Superintendent at Rolling Road in 1922, and will be our host there at this meeting. If you don't know him then introduce yourself.

How to get to Rolling Road Golf Club

From Baltimore - follow Frederick Rd through Catonsville then turn left on Rolling Road to the golf course.

From Washington by way of Route 1 - turn left on Caton Ave. at the Howard Johnston store just before entering the city limits of Baltimore. Follow Caton Ave. to Frederick Road then turn left and follow Baltimore instructions above. Caution - Caton Ave., Frederick Rd., and Old Frederick Rd. junction - be sure to take Frederick Rd. to get to Catonsville.

From N. W. Washington by way of Route 29 - Follow route 29 and turn right to Ellicott City soon after passing All View Golf Course. Go through Ellicott City and turn right on Rolling Road soon after entering Catonsville. This is the best and easiest way from Washington and Virginia - unless of course you have a better way.

Now is the Time

Now is the time to recover your Summer Losses.  
to begin your Fall Renovation Program  
START EARLY THIS YEAR.