



MID-ATLANTIC

News Letter



Published by
Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents to aid in the Advancement of the
Golf Course Superintendent through Education and Merit

VOLUME XXIII

OCTOBER, 1972

No. 10

BE REALISTIC

Budget time is here and we all should be planning ahead to next year. We should submit realistic figures to our membership, don't just take this years expenses and add 10% to each category, sit down and analyze the situation.

There seems to be three trends of thought when budgeting, the most negative one being, they are not going to give me what I ask for so why bother. The other extreme is I need \$125,000 so I better ask for \$150,000 because they always cut my proposals at least 10%, and finally the straight line approach which is the most ethical by far. Every relationship should be based on honesty and the Superintendent Membership relationship is no exception. I firmly believe that the dollars spent on course maintenance are very well spent and the club member gets more than his money's worth in our department. I also believe that the Mid-Atlantic Superintendent are very much below what we should be in Salaries and Budgets. One example which may be of interest to you is the Metropolitan Golf Association, Course Maintenance Survey of 1971. Thirty nine member clubs in North Jersey, Long Island, Westchester County and Fairfield County, Connecticut came up with an average cost of course maintenance of \$110,466 the low was \$64,700 and the high was \$202,640. The average salary was \$14,894 the low was \$11,000 and the high was \$22,500. You may remember our last survey in which we had to figure in all our fringe benefits to come up with the same average. Something is wrong fellas. Certainly our season is longer and our conditions are more adverse; why shouldn't our budgets and salaries be greater. True, the conditions around New York are not ideal and the counties are wealthy. If any of you kept track of the last census, Montgomery County, Maryland was number 1 in the country in income and Fairfax County, Virginia was number 2, so don't say we don't have it.

Perhaps, we don't have the kind of course we can be proud of at the end of the year and we may be ashamed to ask for more money. What members fail to understand is we may have worked as hard to have a good course as a Supt. in another area did to have an excellent course. We may also have a negative attitude and we could be saying well the Poa goes out every Summer anyhow or the goose-grass gets in even if I use a pre-emergence, so what's the use?

If this is the kind of attitude you have, you may as well lay down and make room for the next guy because you sure won't be around long. There is no excuse for not having a better course each year. We can't expect miracles or complete transformations but we can make gradual and sometimes significant improvements each year. You must be a good salesman to accomplish this. Sell yourself and sell your programs and you may be surprised how much golfers are willing to invest.

George B. Thompson Pres.

CAVALIER COUNTRY CLUB

Our last month's meeting was a joint meeting with the Delaware, Philadelphia, and Mid-Atlantic associations. Art Menard was our host superintendent. (The Cavalier golf course was built by Russel Roberts in 1960.)

Art Menard's course was exceptionally well manicured. Early signs of fall, cool, humidity free weather, brought out a large field of 60 golfers. Everyone enjoyed the course and many prizes were awarded.

Low Net

- 1 - Tom Comalli
- 2 - Lou Rudinski
- 3 - Ron Hall
- 4 - Dave Holler
- 5 - Ron Nolb
- 6 - John Segui

Low Gross

- 1 - Dave Linde
- 2 - Harry Scott

Closest to Hole

Percy Vickers

Longest Drive

Don Pakkala

Our business portions of the meeting was very much different and interesting. Mayor Haskal of Wilmington, Delaware and Ed Rendall, assistant chief of homicide of Philadelphia spoke on the administration of criminal justice. They both painted a gloomy picture of the criminal injustice in today's court system. Rapid trial by jury, the American way of justice, can't keep up with our population explosion. Many problems and possible solutions were discussed which illustrated the keen interest the presentation stimulated concerning the present day judicial system.

OCTOBER MEETING - 2ND THURSDAY

The October meeting of the Mid-Atlantic will be held the second Thursday, October 12, 1972 at the Eagles Nest Golf Course. This is the day of our annual Mid-Atlantic golf tournament. Our host will be Bill Emerson. Golf can be played anytime after 11:00 a.m. The social hour will be at 6:30 and dinner will be at 7:00 p.m. Our speaker will be golf course architect Geoffrey Cornish. Every Mid-Atlantic member is qualified to participate in the golf tournament, so let's have a record attendance.

Directions to the club: From Baltimore Beltway 695 take exit # 27 North - Timonium, Md. Go approximately 6 miles to Delaney Valley Road. Eagles Nest Golf Course is on the left, across from the Baltimore City Gun Range.