

The Golfing Superintendent

by RONALD E. HALL, CGCS

In these modern times, a golf course superintendent has to take every opportunity to stay on top of his profession, use all the resources available to him to satisfy the golfers' demands.

Our local and national associations have done an outstanding job of keeping us informed on just about every aspect of our profession. However, there is one very important tool that our association and educators need to put more emphasis on; the importance of a golf course superintendent playing golf and taking the game seriously, so he understands his profession and responsibility completely. I emphasize, take the game seriously, because the only way a superintendent can understand a golfer's feelings and demands is to be one. "If you can't beat them, join them."

My definition of a serious golfer is, whether a 0 or 40 handicapper, he is constantly trying to improve his or her game, plays every opportunity he has and participates in tournaments for the competition or enjoyment.

Some superintendents claim they are avid or serious golfers, but they don't play more than a few times a year. To get the true picture, he should be playing his course at least once a week.

A superintendent playing his own course is like your chef sampling his most popular dish before serving it; or

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May Meeting

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DIRECTIONS TO THE CLUB: Take Rt. 50 East across the Bay Bridge. Continue to Easton, Maryland. Turn left on Hog Neck Golf Course Road and follow the signs.

Golf Superintendent

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your own mechanic trying out a piece of equipment to see if it is functioning properly. A superintendent should do the same thing, maybe not as often as the chef or mechanic samples their product, but more than most of us do.

There are quite a few superintendents, young and old, who don't play golf and have been very successful in keeping an excellent golf course, and his membership satisfied with his management practices. I have all the respect in the world for these individuals and would like to congratulate them for their success. I feel these individuals were born gifted to be a good golf course superintendent, or as the old saying goes, "Every blind squirrel finds an acorn once in a while."

By playing golf, I feel it makes my job easier. I understand the golfers' demands and feelings much better, and it makes me more conscious of my management practices and decision-making.

Your golfing membership will have more confidence and respect of your decisions knowing you are an avid golfer.

MEMBERSHIP

Applications and Changes

JACK MONTECALUO - Applying for Class A Superintendent
Woodholme Country Club
300 Woodholme Drive
Pikesville, Maryland

Changes

EARL MASON Gibson Island Golf Course D to B
JOHN DEW Winter's Run Golf Course B to A

These changes are being published here in accordance with our by-laws. Unless written application is received within 30 days after publication, these men will become active members with their requested classifications.

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