



CHARTER

Mid-Atlantic Newsletter



Published by:

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

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Number 6

Mid-Atlantic and Philadelphia's Annual Joint Meeting

Hosts: Woodholm Country Club
Jack Montecalvo, CGCS
Barry Furhman, Golf Professional
Mike Hoskams, General Manager
Ben Kutzt, Club President

Costs: Dinner \$15.00
**Carts \$12.00 (please note that there are only
25 carts)**
Caddies \$7.50 a bag

Woodholm Golf Course opened in 1927 as a 9 hole course. The second 9 holes was opened two years later. The greens consist of Cohansey C7 and Poa Annuua. The tees and fairways are mostly Rye with a dash of Zoysia, Poa and Bluegrass. In 1976 Zoysia was sprigged into all of the fairways by Jack Kidwell. We have been unable to see or find any significant amounts of new Zoysia since that time.

In the spring of 1979 the first hole was considerably

altered. A new tee was built with new fairway and greens traps. We anticipate doing more of this type of work to other holes on the course.

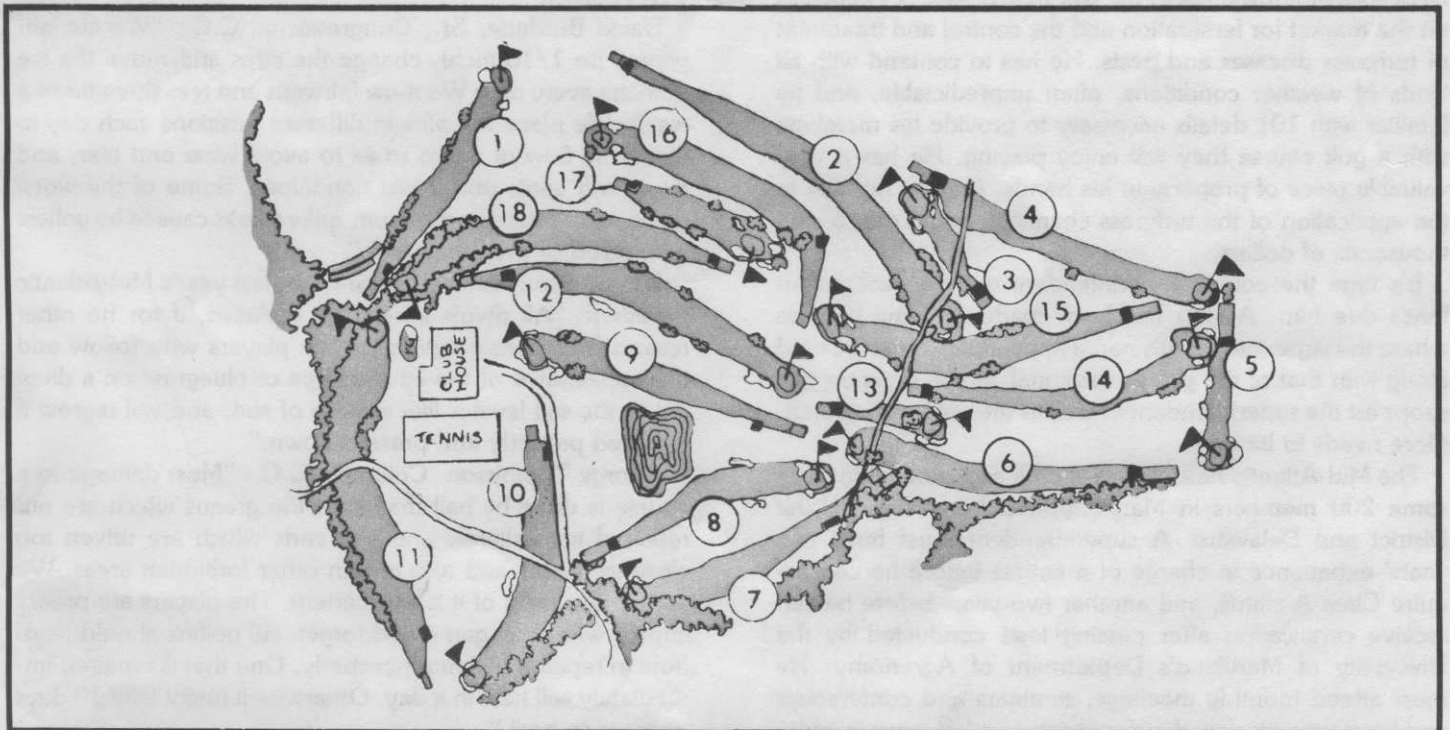
Jack Montecalvo was born in Philadelphia and raised in south Jersey. He and his wife Rose have 4 children: Linda, Jacqueline, Michele, and Adele (who Jack says could become another Nancy Lopez), along with two grand children: Geoffrey and Stephanie.

Jack had been a Golf Course Superintendent in New Jersey at Woodcrest C.C., Willingboro C.C., and Ocean Acres C.C.

Recently Jack has been chosen to represent GCSSA at the 3rd International Turf Symposium, to be held in Hainsport, England Oct. 1979.

Directions: Take exit 20 off of the Baltimore Beltway 695. Proceed west (away from Pikesville) 50 yards to Woodholme Ave. Take a left to reach the Clubhouse. Phone: 486-3700 or 486-8280

RETURN POSTCARDS ARE A MUST



Superintendents Deserve Some Recognition

By Joe Gambatese
Special to the Journal

The following is an excellent article which I'm sure all of you readers will appreciate. It is a reprint from The Montgomery Journal Wed, Aug. 1, 1979.

No one does so much for a golf course and gets so little recognition as the course superintendent and members of his hard-working crew.

A favorite topic of conversation among golfers is the condition of their course. They love it when it's in good shape and the grass lush, as it is at most courses this summer, and they complain to high heaven when it isn't.

When a golfer visits another course he is quick to comment about its condition, especially the greens, either favorably or unfavorably.

Most golfers know who the golf professional is at a course. They see his name in the sports pages and he is very visible, near the first tee, with his name on his golf shop, where most golfers do business with him. The golf pro is their friend and teacher. But the superintendent is for the most part invisible to the golfer, being hard at work either in his shed far from any tee or fairway or out on the course tackling a problem.

The superintendent has come a long way since the mid-1920's when I first met one. In those days he was called a greenskeeper, and he did little more than cut grass, rake sandtraps and maybe fertilize. In most cases he had little if any formal training or education.

Today, especially if he is young, he is likely to be a college graduate in agronomy and course management. He has to have special knowledge in the use of a variety of chemicals on the market for fertilization and the control and treatment of turfgrass diseases and pests. He has to contend with all kinds of weather conditions, often unpredictable, and be familiar with 101 details necessary to provide his members with a golf course they will enjoy playing. He has a very valuable piece of property in his hands. A slight mistake in the application of the turfgrass chemicals could cost a club thousands of dollars.

It's time the course superintendent got the recognition that's due him. A start has been made at some courses where the superintendent's name appears on the score card along with that of the golf professional. Some signs on golf shops list the superintendent as well as the professional staff. More needs to be done.

The Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Superintendents has some 200 members in Maryland, Northern Virginia, the District and Delaware. A superintendent must have two years' experience in charge of a course before he can acquire Class A status, and another two years before he can receive certification after passing tests conducted by the University of Maryland's Department of Agronomy. He must attend monthly meetings, seminars and conferences and keep up with new developments in other ways in order

to renew his certification every five years. Sam Kessel of C.C. of Fairfax is president of the association.

In support of turfgrass research, the superintendents have joined with the Maryland Turfgrass Council in cosponsoring a golf tournament at Indian Spring C.C. on Aug. 21 to raise funds for the H.B. Musser International Turfgrass Foundation. Foursomes will be made up of a superintendent, his club's professional and two club members, preferably officers.

We interviewed some superintendents at Montgomery County courses to elicit information about their works and problems which might be of interest to golfers. Some answers follow:

Bob Shields, Woodmont C.C., who was national president in 1965: "A superintendent's first responsibility is to maintain the golf course in the best condition possible within the budget allowed. First priority is given to the greens. Then the tees, fairways and bunkers in that order."

Herb Heinlein, Indian Spring C.C.: "The greatest improvements in the condition of golf courses have come through the advances being made continually in chemicals and turfgrasses. We have to be certified by the State of Maryland to use the chemicals and are required to have available for inspection a log showing the use we've made of the chemicals, the amounts applied and weather conditions that existed."

David Burdette, Sr., Congressional C.C.: "We cut our greens (to 1/16 inch), change the cups and move the tee markers every day. We mow fairways and tees three times a week. We place the pins in different positions each day to direct the flow of traffic so as to avoid wear and tear, and avoid soft spots under wet conditions. Some of the worst damage to greens comes from spike marks caused by golfers who scruff or drag their feet."

Bill Emerson, Chevy Chase Club, last year's Mid-Atlantic president: "All divots should be replaced, if for no other reason than consideration for the players who follow and the appearance of the course. Rye or bluegrass on a divot cut to the soil level is like a piece of sod, and will regrow if replaced properly and pressed down."

George Thompson, Columbia C.C.: "Most damage to a course is done by ball marks on the greens which are not repaired immediately and golf carts which are driven too close to greens and tees and in other forbidden areas. We realize that most of it is inadvertent. The players are preoccupied with their game and forget. All golfers should learn how to repair a ball mark properly. One that is repaired immediately will heal in a day. Otherwise it might take 10 days or more to heal."

So You Want To Build A New Green

BY Robert Shields, CGCS,
Woodmont C.C., Rockville, MD

All Superintendents, at some time, will be called on to build a new putting green in a new location. Below is a step by step procedure that we used at Woodmont C.C. to build a USGA green that might help you get the job done. This will not answer all your questions but it perhaps will give you more self confidence and help you get the project started.

The best time to start is August 1, with a target date for seeding of September 15, or sooner. To be designated a USGA green, it must conform to certain particle sizes for gravel, sand and soil mixes. Sand and gravel aggregates are available locally and a local top dressing supplier will provide the proper top dressing for the 12 inch surface layer.

New Green Building Procedure

Clear trees and brush from the green site.
Paraquat to kill vegetation.
Spread lime and fertilizer.
Strip top soil and store.
Cut sub-soil and shape.
Bring in fill-soil to finish sub-grade.
Drag and shape sub-grade to desired shape of finished green.
Dig drain lines for green drains.

Place pea gravel in drain line trenches to a 2 inch depth.
Install drain pipe.
Dig trenches and install irrigation system.
Cover drain pipe to sub-grade level with pea gravel.
Drive 24 inch stakes at 10 feet square intervals over the surface.
Make mark on stakes at 4 inches above ground.
Spread pea gravel over entire surface to the 4 inch mark on the stakes.
Level with rakes to the 4 inch marks.
Lay 2" x 4"s to new area and repeat the above until the green is covered.
Make a mark on stakes at 12 inches above the leveled sand.
Cover the sand and gravel blankets with a prepared mix to the 12 inch mark.
Install vertical strips of rigid plastic between green and collar.
Fill green side of above strip with the prepared mix.
Fill collar side of the strip with the best soil available.
Rake green with a power rake and add mix where needed.
Remove stakes and continue shaping.
Bring surface to final grade, (matching the sub-grade).
Add fertilizer and mix it with a power rake.
Drag to the final grade again.
Roll with a light weight lawn roller.
Spray with a non-ionic wetting agent.

(continued on page 4)

MARYLAND TURFGRASS COUNCIL INC. PRESENTS:

MARYLAND TURFGRASS '80

Date: Jan. 7, 8, 9, 1980

**Location: The NEW Baltimore Convention Center
1 W. Pratt St. at Charles**

**Headquarters: The Baltimore Hilton
101 W. Fayette St.**

**JAN. 7, 8, 9: EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE &
TRADE SHOW**

- Sponsored By:**
- Mid-Atlantic Assoc. of Golf Superintendents 51st Annual Conference
 - Greater Washington Golf Course Superintendents Assoc.
 - Maryland Turfgrass Assoc. 15th Annual Maryland Sod Conference
 - Professional Grounds Management Society (Free State/ D.C. Branches) 3rd Annual Winter Conference
 - Maryland Cooperative Extension Service

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dr. David J. Wehner
Dept. of Agronomy
University of Maryland
College Park, Md. 20742
(301) 454-3715



Editorial

July's issue of your newsletter contained a short article on "Fast Greens." In the article the implication is made that if the greens are to be maintained fast, they will wind up being brown. We at the USGA Green Section do not believe this has to be the case. I have observed a number of excellent quality putting surfaces that are "fast," and the superintendent has achieved a good turf cover on the greens and a good, secure job.

The USGA Green Section is available to assist golf course superintendents and their clubs to achieve the best possible playing conditions their budgets and facilities will permit.

A number of items determine how good the playing conditions can be, and the most important is the willingness of the superintendent to consider new and/or different ideas and to change from practices that have been developed by himself, if they are not conducive to the best possible playing conditions. The USGA Green Section has the capability to assist in establishing the practices that are best for the game of golf. Pat O'Brien and myself are available to offer assistance whenever it is desired. We may be reached at 804-272-5553 or 7124 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23225.

Sincerely,
William G. Buchanan
Mid-Atlantic Director

Once again the Annual Picnic was very successful. I'd like to take this opportunity to express my personal thanks to all of those who participated. A very special note of thanks to Paul and Jimmie Barefoot, Ben and Hilda Stagg, Dick and Marilyn Doyle, Ken Braun, Bill and Pat Emerson, Ron and Carol Hall, my wife Peggy, and our gracious host Bob Milligan, for their time and effort in making our picnic a success.

M. Larsen

New Green (from page 3)

Run irrigation system until the water penetrates to 6-8 inches.

Allow time for surface to become almost dry.

Hand rake the entire green surface with wood rakes.

Broadcast Penncross Bent Grass seed at 1 pound per M. square feet.

Roll with a light hand roller.

Sod collar with the best blue grass sod available, or seed.

Keep the surface damp for the next 3 weeks.

Scratch the bare areas with a hand rake and reseed.

Mow any time grass is long enough to cut, using a sharp walking mower.

Follow good greens maintenance procedures.

Continue to mow as long as there is growth.

Open for play the following spring.



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Turfbits

G. Bayor

Maryland Turfgrass 80

It's never too early to start thinking of this outstanding event. This year the site will be the new Baltimore Convention Center with the Baltimore Hilton, serving as the headquarters hotel. The opportunity to use the new Convention Center, allows the expanded display space to show "large-size" grounds management equipment. For those wishing to utilize the exhibitor areas, the contact person is Emory Patton at: The Turf Center, 1409 Spencerville Rd., Spencerville, MD 20868, (301) 384-6300 or 421-9400.

Education Opportunities

Howard Community College will offer an evening course on landscape and grounds management in the fall. Designed for individuals interested in learning how to develop a complete grounds management program, the course will focus on equipment, supplies, manpower, scheduling and costs. Professional maintenance, improvements of both public and private property, and proper care of turf, trees, shrubs and other plant materials will be stressed.

Instructor, Bob Larsen, a graduate of the Institute of Applied Agriculture at the University of Maryland, has 15 years of experience in the ground maintenance field and is currently operations manager for Loudon Park and Druid Ridge Cemeteries. He is also a member of the Professional Grounds Maintenance Society.

The "Landscape and Grounds Management" class, which

will meet on Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30-9:15 p.m., can be applied towards the Plant Science certificate program at the college. Other courses being offered this fall that are also applicable to the program include Pest and Plant Diseases, Woody Plants and Applied Botany. General registration will be held on August 28 and 29. For further information, call 992-4828 or 992-4800.

Golf News

September marks our annual joint meeting with the Philadelphia Association. There's no need to go into the details of why you should attend: this event has an excellent history that speaks for itself, so I'm sure the turnout will be tremendous. The golf play will be a pairing with the Philly group on a "play-as-you-show" situation, with no regard to special classes or handicaps. This year there will be no tee off times. In order to conserve costs, there will be no individual trophies, but the honor of each association is still at stake as each vies for the magnificent trophy (?). The regular \$3 entry fee of the "net & gross" prizes will take place.

For those fortunate enough to still be involved in the match play: this will continue during the joint meeting; championship flight as follows:

Lawson vs Robinson teetime 12:30

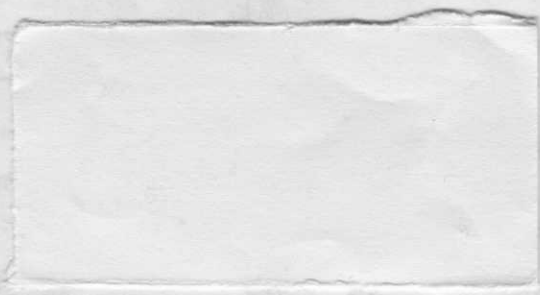
Allen vs Kroll teetime 12:40

Since Jack Montecalvo is our gracious host and is still in the match play, he and his opponent, Mr. Earl Mason will play their match during the October meeting.

Mid-Atlantic Newsletter

FIRST CLASS MAIL

GREG BAYOR, *Editor*
2090 Woodbourne Ave.
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