



Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER

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NUMBER 2

1st Round Match Play Pairings Are Listed

The following pairings have been drawn for the first round of the annual Match Play Tournament on April 10 at Talbot Country Club (handicaps in parentheses):

12:30 p.m. — Virgil Robinson (12) vs. Nick Vance (12); Sam Kessel (16) vs. Walter Montross (16).

12:38 p.m. — Wayne Evans (20) vs. John Tutich (20); Frank Shirk (9) vs. Scott Wagner (9).

12:46 p.m. — Mike Larsen (25) vs. Dick Gieselman (25); Gerry Gerard (40) vs. Lee Dieter (40).

12:54 p.m. — Dave Fairbank (32) vs. Bill Neus (18); John Johns (10) vs. George Renault (18).

Last year's winner, Dave Kroll, who defeated Bob Orazi in the final, will not be defending his title.

Talbot C.C. Will Host April 10 Meet

It will be a scenic trip to Talbot Country Club in April for the monthly MAAGCS meeting on the 10th, crossing the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and heading down into Eastern Shore country for a short ways. Talbot Country Club is an old course near Easton, Maryland, its first nine holes having been laid out in 1910, and it lies on partly wooded, partly open land. Ralph O. McNeal is the golf course superintendent and our host for the April 10 meeting.

Talbot Country Club's course was revised and updated in 1962-63 by Eddie Ault, well-known Washington-area golf course architect, with another nine added. Its greens are Penncross Bent, and its fairways perennial rye. In season, Superintendent McNeal cuts his greens seven times a week to a height of 3/16", his fairways three times a week to 7/8", and his rough once a week to 2". He fertilizes greens every six months and fairways annually.



The 1984 Board of Directors were photographed at their February meeting at the MAPGA office in Columbia. They include, seated, from the left, Treasurer Lee Dieter, Secretary Wayne Evans, President Michael Larsen, Vice President Gerry Gerard, and past President Ken Braun; standing, from the left, are Golf Chairman George Renault, Education Chairman Ken Ingram, Editorial and Publicity Chairman Walter Montross, Social and Benevolence Chairman Bill Neus, Finance Chairman Nick Vance, and Membership Chairman Robert Lambert.

SUPERINTENDENT-PRO

Don't forget, our annual Superintendent-Professional Tournament will be played on the Valley Course at Indian Spring Country Club on May 8. The entry fee of \$90.00 per team will cover prizes, a souvenir, and buffet dinner with wine. A barbecue lunch will also be available, on a cash basis.

The program for April 10 starts off with golf at 12 noon, with the first round of the Match Play Tournament being scheduled, plus open play for all others (net and gross prizes.) Cocktails will be available from 5 to 6 p.m. (cash bar), and dinner will be served at 6, with the meeting following.

To get to Talbot, members from both the Baltimore and Washington areas should get on Route 50, cross the Bay Bridge to Easton, and then take the by-pass, Route 322. Go through the third red light and turn right on Route 333 to Country Club Drive.

Don't neglect to call our number at the MAPGA office (301-964-0070) to make your reservation for golf and/or dinner, since reservation cards are not being used this year. Those who play golf

are expected to stay for dinner unless excused by the president and the host. Coats and ties will be mandatory for the dinner and meeting, as in the past.

April 10 Program

Golf — 12 noon

Cocktails — 5 p.m.

Dinner — 6 p.m. (cost \$15.50)

Meeting — 7 p.m.

MAAGCS Golfers Win National Events

Playing in the GCSAA Championship at McCormick Ranch Golf Club and Phoenician Golf and Racquet Club, both in Scottsdale, Ariz., on January 26-27, Middle Atlantic golfers chalked up an impressive series of victories. In the pre-tournament best-ball, Dave Kroll and Ken Braun won low net, and Bob Orazi and his partner (not a MAAGCS entry) took low gross. Then, in the tournament, the Mid-Atlantic team of Steve Cohoon, Dick Gieselman, Harold Parr, and George Renault won first place in the net division.

In individual play, Steve Cohoon took low gross in the Red Flight, and Ken Braun was fourth. Low net champion in the Blue Flight was George Renault.

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Published by this Association to aid the advancement of the Golf Course Superintendent through education and merit.

Claud Corrigan, *Editor*
Joe Gambatese, *Photographer*

1984 Officers and Directors

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Vice President Gerald Gerard
Secretary Wayne Evans
Treasurer Lee Dieter
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Educational Chairman Ken Ingram
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Meeting Schedule, 1984

April 10 – Talbot C.C.
May 8 – Indian Spring C.C.
June 12 – Green Spring Valley Hunt Club
July 10 – Piney Branch Golf Club
August 14 – Annual Picnic at Bretton Woods
September 11 – Chevy Chase Club
October 9 – Maryland Golf & C.C.
November 13 – Hobbits Glen
December 11 – Lakewood C.C.

Ray Shields Memorial Tourney is May 11

The Ray Shields Memorial Golf Tournament, an annual event since 1980, will be held at Glenn Dale Golf Club in Glenn Dale, Md., on Friday, May 11, with a 9:45 a.m. shotgun start. It will be followed by a putting contest and bull roast, and competition will be in two divisions, A for 4-man teams (two best balls) and B, individual, using the Callaway handicap system. Entry fee is \$40 per person or \$160 per team, and checks should be made out to Ray Shields Memorial Fund, Attn: John Shields, Glenn Dale Club, P.O. Box 435, Glenn Dale, Md. 20769. The tax-deductible contributions support the turfgrass management program of the Institute of Applied Agriculture at the University of Maryland. In addition to superintendents and assistants, the tournament is open to professional turfgrass managers and related businessmen.

The President's Message

Dear Fellow Members:

One of my goals as President is to provide the membership with the opportunity to attend one-day seminars covering a wide range of topics of interest to our profession. The first was a High Performance Management Seminar held on February 28 in Arlington, Va. For those who didn't attend, it was your loss. On April 9, Dr. Peter Dernoeden will preside over a one-day seminar on the microscopic identification of turfgrass diseases. This will be a hands-on lab, so class size is limited to the first 25 persons who enroll.

If seminars like these are to be successful, we must have your support and participation. In our profession, education is the key. If we as golf course superintendents fail to remain current, we cheat ourselves and, more important, our employers. An added benefit to the management seminar was the awarding of one CEU to those seeking recertification. I'll be checking with GCSAA to see if the same will hold true for the upcoming turf disease seminar.

The April 10 meeting will be at Talbot Country Club and our host will be Ralph McNeal. Ralph always extends to the Mid-Atlantic a great day and plenty of Eastern Shore hospitality. That day also marks the beginning of our annual Match Play Tournament; if you have any questions about it, call Golf Chairman George Renault. Remember, if you plan to attend the April meeting, please register by calling our office at (301) 964-0070.



Michael Larsen, *President*

RESERVE EARLY!

If you haven't done so, get your reservation in as soon as possible for the annual Ladies Night Program, a visit to the Burn Brae Dinner Theatre presentation of the play, "Camelot." The cost of \$40 per couple includes dinner, show, parking, tip, and tax, and dinner is served between 6:15 and 7:30 p.m. with showtime at 8. Fliers were sent out to all MAAGCS members, but if you need more information, call Bill Neus at 730-5962 (O) or 644-4938.

Is Turnover Your Problem This Year?

People change jobs for any number of reasons. Often it's for a better opportunity or a fatter paycheck. But even with the lure of more money, people who are reasonably content with their work and their bosses seldom seek other jobs.

Some bosses have higher turnover among their workers than others, sometimes embarrassingly so. And often it's the better people who leave, which can be a costly and frustrating problem.

Sometimes, of course, people are offered opportunities or salaries that are so extraordinary you can't possibly

match them. All you can do in such cases is let them go and wish them good luck. However, before you absolve yourself of all your blame when employees leave, answer these questions as honestly as you can:

1. Did I let these people know how important they were to me and to the club? Or did I more or less take them for granted?
2. Did I give them a chance to be proud of themselves? Did I pass along all the authority I possibly could – or keep them tied to my apron strings?
3. Did I give them credit and recognition they deserved from me and others on the staff? Or did I tend to leave them in the shadows?
4. Was the job a real challenge? Did I do my best to make it so?
5. Did I make their work as varied and interesting as possible? Did I show them the possibilities of a promising future? Or did I simply leave them in a rut and exploit their abilities to my own advantage? Don't be too quick to let yourself off the hook. If you were responsible, to any degree, it's smarter to realize it than to hide your head in the sand. Unless you change your attitude or actions, you may lose more than just good people. You may be on the verge of damaging your own career as well.

Obviously, the best time to think of these things is before you lose good people rather than after.

Workshop on Turf Disease Scheduled

On April 9, a workshop on turf disease will be held at the University of Maryland in College Park with Dr. Peter H. Dernoeden of the Department of Agronomy and Ethel Dutky of the Department of Botany as instructors. The course will cover diagnosing diseases of golf course turf as well as cultural and chemical approaches to the control of disease. In the afternoon, using microscopes, participants will be taught how to identify fungi that cause dollar spot, brown patch, Pythium blight, anthracnose, and others.

Enrollment is through Ken Ingram at Columbia Country Club (phone 301-951-5060), and the registration fee, which includes course materials, refreshments, and a book ("A Turf Manager's Guide to Identification of Turf Pathogens," by Pat Sanders of Penn State), is \$20. Those desiring to retain a set of microscope slides of 10 fungal diseases should add \$15. Checks should be made payable to the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents. The workshop will be held in room 2230, H.J. Patterson Hall (across from the Student Union Building), and parking is available in Lot 1 about Cole Field house or in the Adult Education Center parking lot.

News from the Golf World

Local clubs who belong to the Washington Metropolitan Golf Association have had their courses re-rated under the new USGA rating system; they have also been assigned "Slopes" which dictate the number of strokes to be received at that course for all handicaps. The result is that a golfer will get more handicap strokes on a tough course, fewer on a very easy one. The new system is effective April 1 for the 43 member clubs, and the WMGA is one of eight regional or state associations authorized to implement the rating and Slope system for 1984.

New president of the USGA is James R. Hand of Ossining, N.Y., who succeeds Bill Campbell of Huntington, W. Va.; he has served as chairman of the Championship Committee for the past six years.

Twenty-two-year-old Cindy Davis of Bowie, Md., has been named second alternate on the 1984 Curtis Cup team that will meet a team of British and Irish women golfers at Muirfield in June.

Whatever claims other golf ball



Jim Pfafflin of the Performance Institute of Washington, D.C. emphasizes his point to the 23 superintendents who took part in his "High Performance Manager Workshop" held in Arlington, Va., on February 28 and arranged through the MAAGCS. Among other items, Jim explained how condition affects work habits and described the pyramid of personalities, in particular the achievers. He covered problem solving, goal setting, establishing effective people habits, and motivating people, all part of the business of being an effective manager and leader.

manufacturers may make in their ads, Achushnet's Titleist ball was the choice of the top professionals in 1983; almost three times as many PGA pros teed up with Titleist than with all other golf balls combined, and those who played it won \$7 million more than did those who used the second place ball (which presumably is the ProStaff). The 384 Tour ball was banned for a brief time last year when the USGA found that its dimples were asymmetrical, giving it a tendency to "sail" when placed on the tee in a certain position (could be that some of those big money winners knew that position, eh?). When the dimple pattern was redone, the 384 was allowed back in competition.

Striking the first balls in the 1984 Masters Tournament in Augusta on April 12 will be Gene Sarazen and Sam Snead, who will serve as Honorary Starters, a role filled by Gene and Byron Nelson in recent years and before that by Freddie McLeod and Jock Hutchison.

The PGA of America has taken over the World Golf Hall of Fame in Pinehurst and has closed the building for renovation until later this Spring. Golf collectors who own items of historical interest or antique quality have been invited to display their collections for a 1-year period, and those whose items are selected will not only be pictured with their collection but will receive a free visit to Pinehurst sometime during the year.

According to the National Golf Foundation, 17.8 million golfers played an estimated 434 million rounds of golf in 1983, a 2.2% increase over the 425 million rounds estimated to have been

played in 1982. The growth of golf has thus slowed slightly, since the increase over 1982 was 7.6% and 1982 was 10% ahead of 1981.

The annual Southeastern Turfgrass Conference will be held in Tifton, Georgia, on April 16-17; contact Dr. Glenn Burton, U. of Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station, Tifton, Ga., 31793 for details.

NEW MEMBERS

Edward (Buddy) Williams, Class D
Assistant Superintendent, International
Town and Country Club, Fairfax, Va.

Donald P. Turner, Class F
Commercial Sales Representative
Turf Equipment and Supply Co.
Elkridge, Maryland

Positions Open

Golf Course Superintendent
City of Casper Municipal Golf Course
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