

Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER

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

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Joe Gambatese, *Photographer*

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From The Golf World

They played the first tournament ever scheduled at the new TPC at Avenel in mid-June; that's the PGA Tour course in Potomac, Md., where the Kemper Open will be played, starting in 1987. It was held for a select group of invitees from the 40 corporations that have purchased memberships in the club, plus some press people and other guests. The fairways are still rough-graded dirt at present, and the cups were 1-foot-wide plastic buckets; players were limited to five clubs, and the format was a scramble. It won't be long before they start sprigging the zoysia in the fairways, and the results of that effort will be of great interest to many clubs and their superintendents in the Mid-Atlantic area. Zoysia is a popular grass for fairways in the mid-West now, but other than some stripping and plugging in landing zones, it hasn't been tried locally before.

Something else being tried locally is American Golf, the new, non-traditional game. Two public courses, Goose Creek and Prince William have made it available on an optional basis. Each green has both a 6" cup and a regulation cup, and you can putt to either one. American Golf, which franchises its rules to courses willing to pay, allows 18 clubs instead of 14, sanctions mulligans, goes easy on the penalties, and pretty thoroughly perverts the game. Most true golfers either oppose such ventures violently or else just wish they could call it anything but "golf," which it isn't.

NEW ZEALAND (Continued from page 1)

the greens. The pH is low (3.5), there is less microbial activity in the soil, less *poa annua*, lots of thatch, no insects, and little use of chemicals.

Two courses on the North Island are fully irrigated; 25 more have water available for greens and tees; the rest rely on nature, which because of the geography, can usually do the job.

Paul believes that the courses he saw could not afford mechanization at anything like U.S. levels. The Wellington Golf Club, regarded as the finest, collects fees from its members at the rate of \$600 per year. His advice to the New Zealanders was not to push for the adoption of expensive U.S. methods. He spoke very highly of the golf course maintenance people he met, naming Ray Wendt as one who had devised very effective electric drive equipment because of his lack of trust for hydraulic drives. Finally, he noted, although chemicals are not widely used, there are no regulations on chemicals and their use, and almost any compound can be openly bought and used.

The Middle Atlantic PGA is collecting (and cutting down to size) used golf clubs to be given to youngsters who want to learn the game, as part of the National PGA's "Clubs for Kids" program. Clinics by PGA members will be held at nine sites on July 1 from noon to 4 p.m., and the clubs will be distributed to juniors who show up for the free lessons, plus refreshments from United Van Lines, which is sponsoring the local program. The nine sites for clinics (and club collection) are Hog Neck Golf Course in Easton, Hogan's Range in Upper Marlboro, Druid Hill Park in Baltimore, Shannon Green in Fredericksburg, Woody's Range in Herndon, Langston in D.C., Lehr's Range in Richmond, Peninsula Range in Tidewater, and Drive-a-Way Range in Roanoke.

Something that could have been better publicized was Lesco's series of educational seminars given this spring. One was held at College Park, where Maryland's Dr. Mark Welterlen discussed tall fescue. Lesco reports that over 3,500 turf professionals attended seminars held in 13 states in conjunction with Stauffer Chemical, Monsanto, and 3M.

LETTERS . . .

May 8, 1985

Dear MAAGCS Members:

It is with gratitude that I write to thank you for the honor you bestowed upon me several weeks ago. Making me a Life Member of your organization was indeed a surprise and an honor for which I am very grateful. While living in the D.C. area, being a member of the Mid-Atlantic was one of my greatest pleasures. You are a great bunch of fellows, and I enjoyed my years of association with you. The friendship and closeness I had with some of you then is still there today. True friendship is indeed a treasure, and again I thank you.

At the present, I'm not feeling too good, but I'm doing my best to lick the big "C". There's always hope. God bless you all.

Sincerely,
Wayne B. Jerome

(Ed. Note: Wayne Jerome succumbed to his cancer at his home in Naples, Florida, in June.)

NEW MEMBERS

Jack Montecalvo, Class F, Sales Representative, Harford Industrial Minerals, Joppa, Md.

Kevin Driscoll, Class F, Loft's, Inc., Beltsville, Md.

Errico G. Pacilio, Class F, General Manager, Loft's, Inc., Beltsville, Md.

Lewis A. Lamp, Jr., Class F (Non-Resident), Consultant, Winchester, Va.

Golf in the Later Years

My muscles are flabby;
I can't hit a drive.
My mind often doubts if
I'm really alive.
My chipping is lousy,
I never could putt.
I guess I'll just stay home and
just sit on my butt.
My iron play's awful,
my woods are as bad.
I'm describing my game as a
shade sort of sad.
So the outlook for today is for
grief and for sorrow.
Say! who can we get for a
fourth tomorrow?

Reprinted from "The Greenside," GCSA of New Jersey, Sept. '84.