

Proposed By-Laws Changes

The Board of Directors has proposed the following changes to the M.A.A.G.C.S. By-Laws. In accordance with Article XII, By-Law Amendments, the following changes are hereby posted. Review them carefully as membership will vote on these recommended changes at our December 8th meeting at Army Navy Country Club.

Article I, Section B

Current language: "The office and mailing address of the Association shall be located at the home of the duly elected secretary."

Proposed language: "The office and mailing address of the Association shall be located at the Mid-Atlantic PGA Office."

Article V, Section C

Current language: "A member who becomes eligible for another classification by change of position or meeting the requirements of another classification, may apply for reclassification to the board of directors."

Proposed addendum to current language: "The Board of Directors may automatically upgrade the classification of

any member who meets the higher requirements."

Article V, Section H *(A)

Current language: "Class D - Asst. Golf Course Superintendent. To qualify for a Class D membership an applicant must be actively employed as an assistant golf course superintendent. Class D members shall have all the privileges of the Association except that such member may not vote or hold office."

Proposed language: "Class D - Asst. Golf Course Superintendent. To qualify for a Class D membership an applicant must be actively employed as a golf course superintendent or an assistant golf course superintendent. Class D members shall have all the privileges of the Association except that such member may not vote or hold office." (Note that we currently have at least 6 superintendents in Class D.)

"Section A - Classes" would be amended as follows to reflect the above change:

"Class D - Golf Course Superintendent or Asst. Golf Course Superintendent"

On The Tee . . .

Gerry Gerard, CGCS, Chairman of the Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for the Board. His Committeemen are Ben Stagg and Grant Pensinger, CGCS. Your nomination is a way of guiding the direction of the MAAGCS. The only bad idea is the one not vocalized! So sound off and GET INVOLVED!

Speaking of getting involved, a hearty thank you to all members who have taken the time and the effort (and I recognize this can be considerable) to submit articles for your newsletter. Keep them coming and remember Article of the Year receives a \$100 bond.

Tip of the Month is having a bit of rough going and needs some major domestic aid, however. Come on people, we know that superintendents are the most advice giving individuals in the world next to mothers-in-law! Let loose with a few of yours and win a \$25 bond if your tip gets published. As they say, nothing ventured, nothing gained — and our odds are certainly better than Ed McMahons!

Note the proposed By-Law changes and take some time to read them over and understand them. While the changes may not be of monumental significance, these are your by-laws and as a member you have an obligation to know what your voting for or against.

Lately the Board has gotten vocal by writing various letters to the PGA and John Deere. The PGA for their commercials depicting our lack of existence, and surely implied that we work for a golf director and John Deere for their total disregard in scheduling a tournament for club officials. President, General Manager, Golf Professional and Golf Superintendent. Somehow we were overlooked. Possibly, from arranging percentages of the entry fees being donated back to PGA funds, simultaneously playing a pro sweep event, making the fun day into one of competition for the pro only, since he will be playing his ball out regardless of the other three workers. Rumors have it the tournament winner is based only on how the pro plays. Hopefully those who played September 30, will not be stuck only carrying the golf bags but enjoy a good event, the original format was good anyway.

Please take a moment to introduce yourself to Carol Offenbacher and congratulate her on being this year's recipient of the MAAGCS scholarship. \$500 has been deposited into her student account. The decision was a difficult one, because all the applicants were truly outstanding. Carol presently works at Eisenhower Golf Course studying under the capable hands of Lou Rudinski. A formal presentation will take place during the Maryland Turfgrass Conference.

A Look Ahead . . .

The November meeting will be hosted by John Tutich and Herndon the 10th. This date should be the final round of the match play tournament. December 8th meeting will be hosted by Dave Fairbank, CGCS and Army Navy Country Club, for our election of Directors.

A three gang Blitzer unit is for sale. Units are five bladed, 4 x 20 semi-pneumatic tires with complete frames. Like new, please call for appointment. Originally \$6,080, take it away for \$3,500. Mr. Gillis, Sherwood Forest G.C.

Permanent Solution to Drainage Problems (Continued from page 2)

But beware! Just like any other product you buy to achieve a desired solution, cheaper is not always better. There are big differences in these systems! One key is the geotextile (there goes that word again). Does it have the correct properties for drainage which we learned earlier? Can you interlock the waffle-like core easily to make permanent locked together butt joints? Have you taken a rule and actually measured that core to see its true height and width? (In this instance, bigger is better.) Does the product have university testing to back up the claims of the supplier? Can you purchase this product from a supplier you depend on for service or quality products? Answer yes to the above questions and you have found the "best for your money" prefabricated drainage system.

Drainage Design — Federal laws protect our fragile environment from draining excess surface water loaded with pesticides and fertilizers directly into our natural watershed. These laws state that excess water must pass through the soil, or drainage aggregate prior to watershed entry. Exercise caution when considering catch basins, or drainage channels.

Properly designed sub-surface drainage, using the materials discussed above collects water after it percolates through soil and/or aggregates. It helps us fight the environmental battle to keep our natural resources clean longer. Identify your excess water sources. (If one happens to be the guy running the irrigation system — get him fired!) Then map your plan; and, if necessary, contact your turf supply dealer of quality drainage supplies. Please keep this last thought in mind gentle reader. The only creatures on this fragile green earth that don't get fired because of excess water problems are fish!

Puddles of standing surface water are the enemy of healthy turf, trees and shrubs. The time to declare war has arrived!