

Turfgrass Matters



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Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Newsletter

Bill Neus to host MAAGCS Annual Picnic at Hobbit's Glen Golf Club

Hobbit's Glen Golf Club is a semi-private facility in Columbia, Md. It is part of the Columbia Association which also owns and operates 22 pools, three tennis clubs, two athletic clubs, one indoor ice rink, and the Columbia Bus System. CA (as the company is affectionately known) maintains 2,000-plus acres of parkland and other community services too numerous to mention. It is the largest private, non-profit recreation corporation in the country.

The course, opened in 1968 and designed by Ed Ault, serves 52,000 18-hole rounds annually. So as you might imagine, traffic stress tends to be our biggest problem. There are four sets of tees measuring: blue—7126, white—6789, gold—6212, red—5463. The greens average 6,000-plus square feet and are mowed six times per week at 3/16". They receive 6 lbs. N, 2 lbs. P, 6 lbs. K per year. A TGR program started one year ago followed several years of Turf Cal applications and there is still too much poa.

Fairways are mowed with a 450D, three times per week at 3/4". They are primarily ryegrass and receive 3 lbs. N per year.

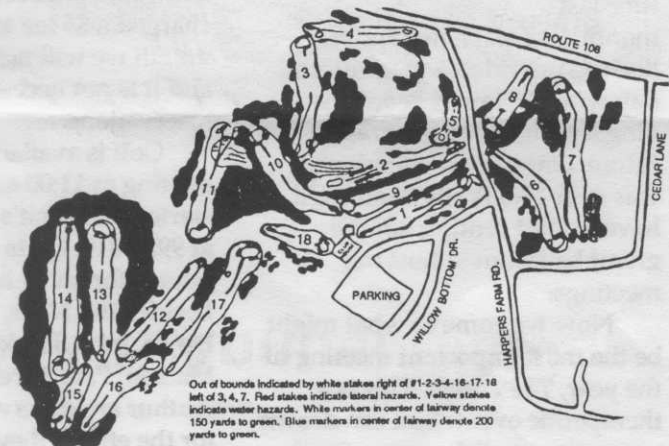
Most tees are ryegrass with some consisting of Zoysia. The Zoysia has generally done very well under the heavy traffic until this year. With the cold spring, it was very slow breaking dor-

mancy and in a few areas is still very thin and recovering.

The biggest challenge at Hobbit's the last several years has been the seemingly unending construction and changes to the course due to development in and around the area. Three new greens have been built, two fairways moved, tee enlargement never stops, traps are being renovated, paths are constantly being installed and the list goes on and on. One day I'll know what it is like to just maintain a golf course. Dealing with developers day in and day out has been a very discouraging experience. I wouldn't wish it on my worst enemy.

I was fortunate to build a new maintenance facility last year. It is located very close to the picnic site and I would encourage anyone who is interested to go down and look around. We're very proud of our new home.

This is always a great evening of fellowship (or crying on each others' shoulders). So Hobbit's is ready to throw the biggest bash yet. **Don't miss it.**



Out of bounds indicated by white stakes right of #1-2-3-4-16-17-18 left of 3, 4, 7. Red stakes indicate lateral hazards. Yellow stakes indicate water hazards. White markers in center of fairway denote 150 yards to green. Blue markers in center of fairway denote 200 yards to green.

DIRECTIONS

From Baltimore: Take 70 west to Route 29 to Columbia. Turn right (west) on Route 108. Go approximately three miles to Harpers Farm Road and turn left. Then take first right on Willowbottom Drive. Go several blocks to club on right. **From Washington:** Take 495 to Route 29 north to Columbia. Go west on Route 108 and continue as described above.

Golf Notes

The annual picnic will be on Tuesday August 14 at Hobbit's Glen at 4:00 p.m. Families are invited. Guests are also welcome; their fee is \$5. There will be no speaker and reservations are not necessary. Golf is available beginning at 11:00 a.m. Call the starter (997-9810) or the pro shop (730-5980). Carts are \$10 per person for an 18-hole round.