

Turfgrass Matters



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Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Newsletter

Superintendent-Pro Tournament May 11

Walter Montross to host at Westwood

Westwood CC, built in 1954 and known originally as Westbriar CC., was designed by architect A.H. Tull, an Englishman who worked in the D.C. area in the early 50s. The course was built on a dairy farm purchased by a Mr. Horowitz to develop a golf course and home sites. In 1962, due to financial difficulties, it was sold to a group of 62 members who changed the name to Westwood.

Other than the original routing of the course, little to nothing remains of the past except the dairy barn, now the site of our maintenance facility. Many of the changes are the redesign work of Ed Ault and subsequently Brian Ault.

Over the years a few of our association members earned their stripes here—Buck Wetsel, Mike Burkholder, Jack McClenahan, Wally Steading and his humble assistant, Angelo Cammarota, Ken Comminsky and Tom Haske. I am still trying to figure out which one used the dynamite to aerate the 16th green. I heard this story years ago and I also heard they had to clean the sod off the barn roof! I assume the practice was discontinued about this time, but imagine the extra benefit of long-term grub control.

All these men put their personal stamp on the place, but the real changes occurred during Tom's 17 years: all the greens—except #7—were rebuilt, many new tees were added, cart paths

installed, and many of the trees I enjoy were planted.

Notes Walter, "I started here in April 1990 and have tried to put my own stamp on the place. With the generous support of the member-

ship we have been actively involved with change. Many new projects have been initiated and many still to be done. The most exciting: converting the 95% *poa annua* fairways to bentgrass in the fall of 1990. We hoped to achieve around 80% bent to 20% *poa*. We have not reached these numbers yet, but are slowly gaining on it."

Another project is replacing the old bridges. "We have done two and hope to do a third this fall. We also continue to rebuild the old tees. In the last three years we have five new ladies' tees and two men's tees. The major project last year was complete restoration of our sand bunkers. We removed all the old sand—3,000 tons—established new drainage and added new sand. While we were at it, we decided to build seven new bunkers and build target greens in the driving range with the waste material generated from the bunkers. All this, coupled with



Golf/Dinner: Because this is the Super/Pro tournament your entry fee covers all costs for golf, lunch, dinner and the cocktail party. If you are not playing in the tournament you are most welcome to come to the cocktail party and dinner. Cost for this is \$35 which is inclusive. Cocktails are at 6:00, dinner at 7:00. Coat and tie are required in the dining room.

Directions: From Baltimore/Eastern Shore take I-495 across the American Legion Bridge. Take exit 11B (Rt. 123, Chain Bridge Rd. toward Vienna). You will pass through Tyson's Corner, a large shopping mall. After approximately 2 miles on Rt. 123 Westwood will be on the right. From the west, take Rt. 66 to Rt. 123 north toward Oakton/Vienna. After approximately 6 miles, the club will be on your left.

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