

Turfgrass Matters



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Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Newsletter

MAAGCS Individual Championship To Be Held at Queenstown Harbor on October 11

by Bill Shirk

Queenstown Harbor Golf Links is a 36-hole, daily-fee golf course located in Queenstown, Maryland on the Eastern Shore. The two 18-hole golf courses known now as the Lakes and the River were carved out of 750 acres of woods, farmland, and of course wetlands. The property lies at the mouth of the Chester River and Queenstown Creek.

This property has been owned by Washington Brick & Terra Cotta Company since 1972. Washington Brick & Terra Cotta Company developed the golf course and still manages its operations. Both courses were designed by Lindsay Ervin & Associates, Inc. and built by Kenova Construction. On July 1, 1990, construction began on 27 holes, and enough construction was completed to open 18 holes on July 1, 1991. The third nine was opened April 1, 1992, and on August 1, 1993, construction for the fourth nine was started and that nine opened on July 29, 1994.

The original 27 holes averaged about 50,000 18-hole rounds for 1992 and 1993. The first month, which was August, 1994, QHGL did 9,350 18-hole rounds on 36 holes with three days closed due to rain. Queenstown Harbor GL is constantly trying to improve. Even at our young stage, we have already completely rebuilt one green, now known as #3 River, last October due to severe con-

touring and a perched water pocket. We have two more greens due for reconstruction in the near future, #14 River and #18 River.

I have an outstanding crew of 20 full-time employees, with two good assistants. Jeff Wolfe is a Penn State graduate and has been

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with me since March, 1991, and John Stern who is a University of Maryland graduate and has been with me for two years.

Queenstown Harbor GL has approximately 200 acres of rough which is a bluegrass and ryegrass mixture; 50 acres of fairways is Penneagle bentgrass; eight acres of tees and eight acres of greens that are Penncross bentgrass, and for good measure, approximately 200 acres of wetlands and wildlife areas.

Queenstown Harbor GL was awarded GCSAA's 1993 Environmental Steward Award at the last conference in Dallas, Texas for public golf courses in the Mid-Atlantic region—an honor we are all proud of!

Our course has already hosted several superintendent meetings in our short history, one of which was Superintendent-Pro in 1992. The owner, Arthur Birney, the head golf professional, Trent

Wright, and I are always ready to welcome any Superintendent or Pro meeting at QHGL. We are very proud of the golf courses, whether it be in peak condition or less than peak condition—which happens from time to time. I also wish that more superintendents and clubs would adopt this same attitude as many of us do.

I have been at QHGL since the beginning of construction. I have
See Shirk, page 8, column 2

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Directions: Take Route 50 east across the Bay Bridge. Ten miles beyond the bridge, on the "Land of Pleasant Living," take 301 north toward Wilmington. One-half mile on your left side is QHGL.

Dinner: Will be at Annie's Paramount Steak House. Take 50 west back toward the Bay Bridge. Take exit 42, Kent Narrows East. Turn right at the stop sign. Annie's is at the end of the road.

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