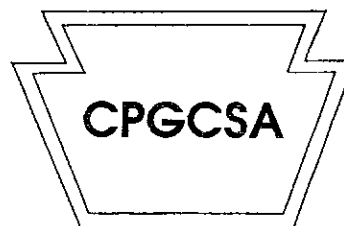


THE GREEN SHEET



CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

Volume 4

April 1996

Number 1

April Meeting

Armitage Golf Club
Thursday, April 18, 1996

10:00 AM - Lunch

11:00 AM - Golf

3:30 PM - Dinner

There will be a CPGCSA Board of Directors Meeting
at 9:00 AM.

Superintendent Profile

Mark has been a Golf Course Superintendent for 15 years. He has been at Armitage Golf Course the past two years. Mark and Janet, his wife, have three children and are foster parents.

Course Profile

Armitage Golf Club, one of the busiest courses in the region, is owned by Hampton Township. The development of the golf course started about 1960. Most of the present day renovations are the result the dedicated work of our colleague, Bill Wall, who was Superintendent at Armitage from 1975 through 1993.

Frost Delays

How can a footprint be a killer? When it's a footprint made on a putting surface that's covered with frost.

It's hard to believe that simply walking across a golf green covered with frost can cause so much damage, but the proof will be there in a few days as the turfgrass dies and leaves a trail of brown footprints. That's why most courses will delay starting times until the frost has melted. And it's also why golfers who appreciate a quality putting surface will be patient during frost delays.

Why does frost cause problems?

Greens are fragile. The putting surface, or green, is an extremely fragile environment that must be managed carefully and professionally. Remember that every green is a collection of millions of individual grass plants, each of which is a delicate living thing. Obviously, Mother Nature never meant for these plants to be maintained at 3/16 or even 1/8 of an inch for prolonged periods. This "stress" makes greens constantly vulnerable to attacks from insects, disease, heat, drought, cold -- and frost.

Frost is essentially frozen dew. It can form when the temperature (or wind chill) is near or below the freezing point. The ice crystals that form on the outside of the plant can also harden or even freeze the cell structure of the plant. When frosted, the normally resilient plant cells become brittle and are easily crushed. When the cell membranes are damaged, the plant loses its ability to function normally. It's not much different than cracking an egg. Once the shell is broken, you can't put it back together.

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President's Message

by John Dougherty

I'd like to start by thanking Jim Loke for his organization of the Winter Educational Meeting and for the interesting slate of speakers. And I would also like to acknowledge Mike May, Mike Prest and the staff at West Shore Country Club for hosting the meeting.

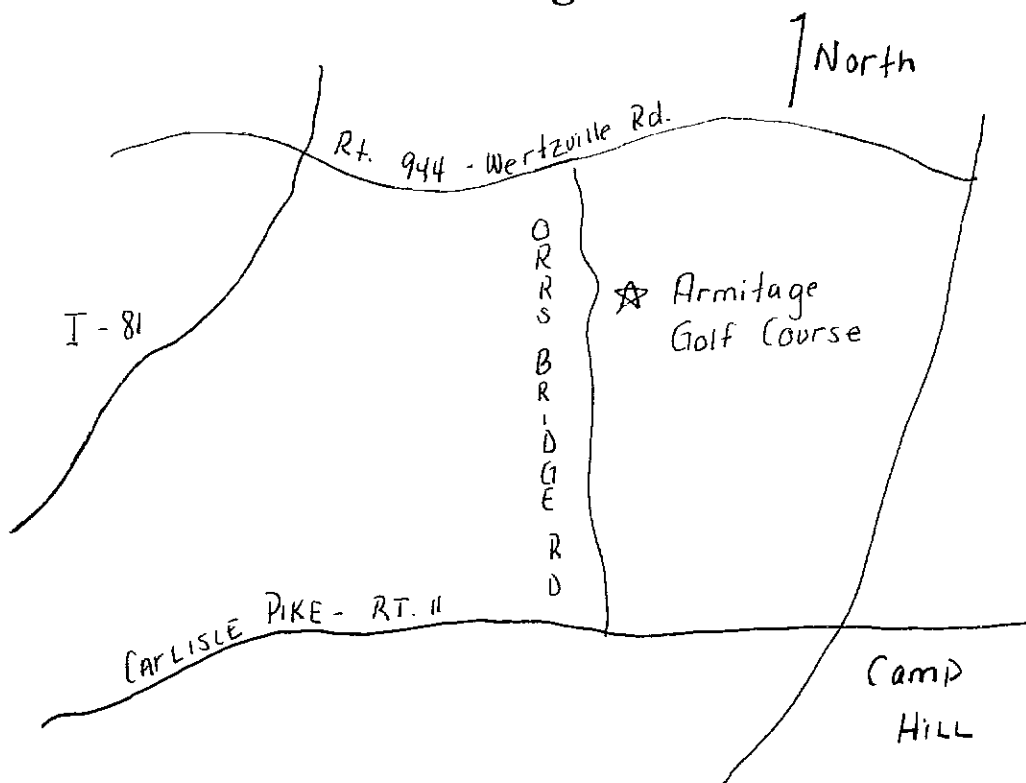
Here we are another spring time is upon us. The birds are chirping, the flowers are blooming. It's pretty tough to remember the summer and winter of 1995. Except if you have ice damage or snowmold to take care of.

Take heart, the grass is starting to grow. The golfers are happy to be out and playing golf. Even your crew is in a better state of mind after being cooped up in the shop all winter.

Spring is a time when you can get all those projects either started or finished that you wanted to do all winter. This is also a time of the year we start having our monthly meetings. If you have not attended a meeting in the last few years, come on out. It wouldn't kill you, and your course will still be there when you return.

So let's enjoy the spring time, forget about last year and don't worry about this year, because my crystal ball tells me mother nature is going to cooperate this year.

Directions to Armitage Golf Course



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Membership News

The following individuals have applied for membership into our association. If there are no written objections within the next seven days, they will be accepted into our association at the next meeting.

Andy Mummert, Assistant Superintendent
Outdoor Country Club.....Class B

David Visocan, Assistant Superintendent
Chester Valley Golf Club.....Class B

We regretfully inform you of the death of Honorary member, John P. Meszaros on January 7, 1996.

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the organization or has questions on the status of their applications, please have them contact Ted Zabrenski at (610) 326-7069.

Equipment For Sale

Please contact Bob Wert at Harrisburg North Golf Course regarding the following equipment. (800) 4424652


λ	Smitco Sand Pro	\$500.00
λ	Dedoes Drum Aerator	\$400.00
λ	Fly Mower	\$125.00
λ	Tecumseh Blower	\$300.00
λ	Legacy Wood & Coal Burner	\$200.00
λ	Kerosene Heater	\$75.00

Please contact Michael Anderson at South Hills if you have any of the following equipment for sale. (717) 637-7500.

- λ Jacobsen Triplex Greensmower - A mower in any condition will be considered.
- λ Jacobsen or Toro walk behind greensmower. An offer will be considered for units in any condition.

We will continue to advertise used equipment each newsletter. If you have anything that may be of interest to anyone else, please contact Wanda to place your ad FREE!!! Remember, one person's junk is another person's treasures.

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From the Editor Terry Morgan

With record heat last summer and record snowfalls this winter, here's a little paragraph I felt you might want to read.

Don't Quit

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will, when the road you're trudging seems all uphill, When the funds are low and the debts are high and you want to smile, but you have to sign, When care is pressing you down a bit, Rest, if you must, but DON'T QUIT. Life is queer with it's twists and turns, as everyone of us sometimes learns, and many a failure turns about when he might have won had he stuck it out; DON'T YOU QUIT though the pace seems slow. You may succeed with another blow. Success is failure turned inside out, The silver tint of the clouds of doubt, And you never can tell how close you are. It may be near when it seems so far; So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit. It's when things seem worse you mustn't quit.

If you have not yet paid your 1996 Membership Dues, please do so by April 15, 1996 so that you will continue to receive your mailings. If you have any questions regarding your dues, please call Wanda at (717) 274-6004.

Tree Planting Tips

Dr. Alex Shigo's tips for correct tree-planting:

- λ Dig a hole that's as deep as the root ball and at least twice as wide. Avoid small, deep holes.
- λ Don't improve the soil unless it's extremely poor.
- λ Choose a tree that has a root ball that's at least eight times as wide as the base of the trunk.
- λ Only prune off branches or roots that are broken or crushed.
- λ Planting depth should be at the point where the tree's roots just start to flare out. Don't bury the trunk.
- λ Water well after back-filling and mulch with composted wood chips and leaves. Keep mulch away from the trunk so as not to encourage rot.
- λ Brace the tree with a broad, belt-like material if the tree will not remain upright in a moderate wind. Don't brace so tightly that the tree can't sway. And don't wrap the trunk.
- λ Wait until the second year to fertilize and to begin making shaping cuts.

Frost Delays ..continued from page 1

The Proof is in the prints.

Although you won't see any immediate damage if you walk on frosted turf, the proof will emerge within 48 - 72 hours as the leaves die and turn brown. And, since just one foursome can leave several hundred footprints on each green, the damage can be very extensive.

Thanks for Understanding.

The damage isn't just unsightly -- putting quality will also be reduced until repairs are made. Those repairs are expensive and, in some cases, the green may have to be kept out of play for days or weeks until the new turfgrass is established. A short delay while the frost melts can preserve the quality of the greens, prevent needless repairs and may even save you a few strokes the next time you play.

(This is a Greentips from the GCSAA, for more information please contact them at 1421 Research Park Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049-3859, (913) 841-2240.)

Upcoming Events

- λ Monday, October 14, 1996 -- 20th Annual Joseph Valentine Memorial Golf Tournament, Bent Creek Country Club, Lancaster, PA
- λ Tuesday, March 11, 1997 -- GCSAA Seminar, Irrigation Systems Scheduling, Repair and Maintenance at Heritage Hills Golf Resort, York, PA

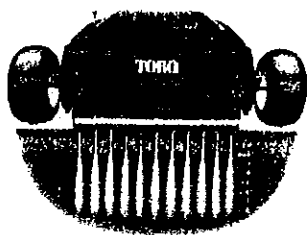
Just a Reminder - -

Should you need to fax information to Wanda, the number is the same as her home telephone number (717) 274-6004. If the answering machine picks up, be sure to let it run through the recorded message, then the fax will automatically turn on.

If you have any accomplishments or things you have done that could benefit other members, please be sure to get the information to Wanda or Terry Morgan.

Attention

A number of members have expressed a desire to meet on an informal basis for mutual encouragement in the areas of personal, spiritual, and professional concerns or needs. We would plan to meet briefly at our monthly meetings prior to our scheduled activities. To express interest or for more information, contact John Chassard at (610) 967-4643, FAX - (610) 966-5301, E-Mail 104171.2306compuserv.com. or he can also be reached via TurfNet Online.



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The Facts About Golf Course Pesticides

Why do golf courses use pesticides?

Pesticides help to limit the damage that can be caused by insects, weeds and plant diseases. Insecticides, herbicides and fungicides are used very selectively to protect the health of turf, trees and other living things on the course. Fertilizers provide much-needed nutrition for the course's plant life.

It is very important to note that pesticides and fertilizers are not used primarily for aesthetic reasons. First and foremost, they are tools that help ensure a healthy playing surface for the game. Furthermore, they help to protect a valuable and ecologically important piece of land. Golf courses are tremendous economic assets as well as vital greenspaces for communities. They employ hundreds of thousands of people, enhance local economies through tax revenues and tourism, and provide many ecological benefits. For example, golf courses help to filter air pollutants and create fresh oxygen; they are excellent groundwater recharge sites; and most importantly, they are critical wildlife sanctuaries in urban and suburban areas.

Are golfers at risk?

No. There is no scientific evidence that golfers face any chronic health risks from the pesticides used to maintain courses. Once a liquid product is applied and the turfgrass is dry or the product has been watered in, there is very little chance of exposure to golfers or others who enter the area. It is worth noting that a small percentage of people may be allergic to a particular product, just as come people are allergic to household cleaners, soaps or perfumes. Golfers with possible chemical allergies are always encouraged to contact superintendents to find out what products might be in use.

"Par" Season begins this Month!

Tune in to "Par for the Course" to see what golfer Ben Crenshaw, Steve Elkington and Peter Jacobsen are saying about their favorite game. Find out where golf's real birdies and eagles are flourishing. Watch for new and exciting features on the game of golf, as well as how lawn tips from professional superintendents who host the top televised events.

It's 30 minutes of golf you won't want see anywhere else! Find out what really makes golf great -- don't miss "Par for the Course."

**March 10 -Aug 25, Sundays, 7:30AM Eastern
ESPN**

**March 10 to August 25, weeknights, (check local
listings): ESPN2**

1996 CPGCSA Meetings

May 14	Harrisburg North Golf Course Robert Wert, Superintendent
June 11	Galen Hall Country Club Robert Mogel, Superintendent
July 8	Brookside Country Club Joint Meeting with Philadelphia GCS Ted Zabrenski, Superintendent
August 20	Conestoga Country Club Mark Hendrixson, Superintendent
September 24	Berkshire Country Club Robert Ehrhart, Superintendent
October	Outdoor Country Club Robert Beyer, CGCS

Superintendents

There is still some time to return your 1996 CPGCSA Superintendent Survey if you want to fill it out by April 15, 1996

For Your Information

GCSAA has developed a new piece of "clip art" that superintendents can use to encourage golfers to repair ball marks, replace divots and rake bunkers. "It's every player's responsibility" is a black-and-white, camera-ready ad slick that any GCSAA member can reproduce in club/course newsletters, local golf publications or even on scorecards. To obtain a copy, contact the GCSAA Public Affairs Department at (913) 832-4435.

It's every player's responsibility...

- Repair ball marks
- Replace or fill divots
- Rake bunkers



A message from your golf course superintendent and GCSAA



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Winter Play Myths

Myth: Sand based greens drain well and don't compact, making them very suitable for winter play.

FACT: Direct wear injury is likely to be more severe on sand greens.

Myth: Traffic on dormant turf doesn't cause injury.

FACT: Weather and soil conditions at the time of play will dictate the type and extent of damage.

Typical Soil Scenarios:

- λ Traffic on dry unfrozen soil (rare during winter) - causes least damage.
- λ Frozen soil - Can cause significant wear injury but little soil compaction.
- λ Wet, unfrozen soil - Significant soil compaction but less wear injury.
- λ Thawing soil (wet on surface, frozen below) - Severe soil compaction and wear injury.
- λ Frosted turf - Direct injury.

Myth: A good golf course superintendent should be able to fix the damage done during the winter by implementing management technics during early spring: aerifying, top-dressing, overseeding, fertilizing, applying herbicides for weed control, and irrigating.

FACT: Rarely can intensive springtime work completely compensate.

FACT: Chemicals applied to control weeds have a negative effect on root growth.

FACT: Renovating the greens takes more money for labor and materials and comes at expense of other spring course preparation activities. **Statistics:** Industry surveys estimate 35 to 75 percent of all energies put into turf management involve preparation for and recovery from winter.



Robb A. Werley, C.I.D.
Manager - Golf Division



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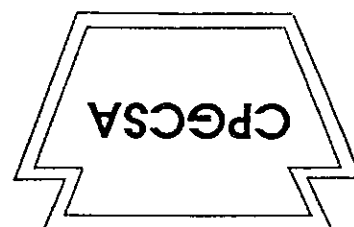
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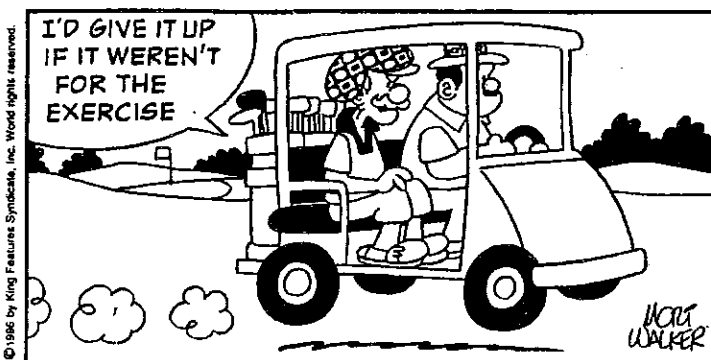


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The Green Sheet



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