THE GREEN SHEET



CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

Volume 4

August 1996

Number 5

August Meeting

Conestoga Country Club

Tuesday, August 20, 1996

11:45 AM - Lunch 1:00 PM Shotgun - Golf 5:15 - 5:45 PM - Cocktails 6:00 PM - Dinner

There will be a CPGCSA Board of Directors Meeting at 9:30 AM.

Superintendent Profile

Mark Hendrixson has been the Golf Course Superintendent at the Conestoga Country Club in Lancaster for 8 years. Before that he was the Superintendent at Coatesville Country Club for 3 years. He graduated from Penn State in 1985 and also worked at Rolling Green Golf Club, Llanerch Country Club, and Merion Golf Club in Philadelphia. Mark is married to Cathy and together they have been blessed with a large Christian family consisting of seven wonderful children -- Brandon, Lauren, Acacia Renee, Jared, Alana Joy, Bryn and a new born Luke Patrick.

Course Profile

Conestoga Country Club was constructed by it's members in 1948. They paid architect Bill Gordon \$5000.00 for a design by which the members moved only 50,000 yards of soil to build the course. The total size of the course is only 117 acres. The course is almost 50 years old, therefore many of the fairways are tree lined which makes the course very tight to play. The greens are typical Bent/Poa. The fairways and tees are 100% Rye.

Get Sharp: The Benefits of Better Blades

By Ray Winoski

A sharp, well balanced mower cutting blade is the single least expensive way to gain the most advantage out of any mower. Many operators do not follow this advice and neglect the practice of keeping their cutting blades sharp and properly balanced. This may be due to immediate labor costs, busy schedules, lack of skilled maintenance personnel or simple procrastination.

A sharp, well balanced blade will be more fuel efficient, require less horsepower, and prevent turf browning due to the grass being cut rather than torn or ripped. A dull blade may result in patches of uncut grass or an uneven cut.

Properly sharpened and well balanced high lift blades coupled with proper deck and skirt heights will guarantee the required vacuum lift to maintain quality cuts in damp or wet turf conditions. Lack of a properly balanced blade will result in uneven cuts, early blade dulling and excessive vibrations. These fluctuations may loosen attached deck items and result in the premature failure of wear surfaces and blade spindle bearings. Excessive vibrations may cause structural damage to the deck as well.

The method of blade attachment plays a role in the long-term maintenance of blades. A blade with a support bar will tend to give stability to the blade during operation while a blade with single bolt attachment to the spindle which may cause premature wear on the thread on the spindle from the continuous removal and replacement of the blade.continued on page 5......

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President's Message

by John Dougherty

I would like to thank Ted Zabrenski and his crew for a fine day of golf. The course was in excellent condition, and the beer was cold. I would like to thank the Philly sections for coming and making it a great meeting.

Next month's meeting is at Conestoga Country Club, with Mark Hendrixson as our host. Paul Heller from Penn State will be our speaker. It will be a question and answer meeting, so plan to be there with all of your bug questions.

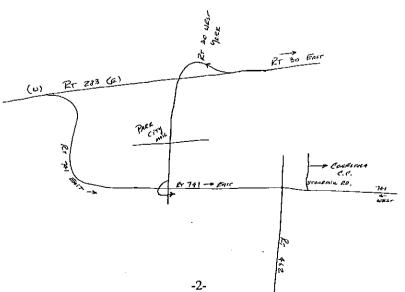
Well, we are coming down to the home stretch of the summer. My irrigation pumps have been off more than they have been on. Although my sprayer has not had a rest in a long time. This has been a rather different summer, mother nature does not know what she wants to do. You get a couple days of nice weather, then a couple days of rainy weather, and then you get a couple days of hot and humid weather.

I just hope everyone's summer is going well. I am sure everybody has had time to take off with their families because you can bet the golf pro has. For those of you out there that have yet to come to a meeting you still have time. Hope to see everybody at Conestoga Country Club.

Directions To Conestoga Country Club

Conestoga Country Club is located off of Stone Mill Road.

- λ From 283 East -- to 741 East over Route 462. Left on Stone Mill Road.
- λ From 30 East -- Take 741 Exit (East), over Route 462. Left on Stone Mill Road.
- λ From 741 West -- Right on Stone Mill road
- λ From 222 South -- Take Route 30 West to 741 East, over Route 462. Left on Stone Mill Road.



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Membership News

We want to welcome the following individuals into the association.

Greg S. Hain, Superintendent				
Limerick Golf ClubClass A				
Rick Ciuccio, Sales Representative				
Northern Nurseries				
Peter D. Diebolt, Owner				
Diebolt Landscape CompanyClass AF				
Barry G. Goodhart, Sales Representative				
Exeter Supply, Co. IncClass AF				
Donald Klein, Sales Representative				
Tera International				
Keith Perl, CGCS, Regional Manager				
Walker SupplyClass AF				
Chip Presendofer, Sales Representative				
Tee & Green SodClass AF				
Daniel W. Rozinak, Sales Representative				
United Horticultural SupplyClass AF				
R. Michael Shoppell, Sales Associate				
Sleepy Hollow TurfClass AF				
Paul H. Szymanski, Sales				
Golf Cars, IncClass AF				

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.

Upcoming Events

- λ October 14, 1996 -- 20th Annual Joseph Valentine Memorial Golf Tournament, Bent Creek Country Club, Lancaster, PA
- λ November 12 14, 1996. Penn State Golf Turf Conference. Penn State University.
- λ Tuesday, March 11, 1997 -- GCSAA Seminar, Irrigation Systems Scheduling, Repair and Maintenance at Heritage Hills Golf Resort, York, PA

Equipment For Sale

/e 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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PARTS SALES SERVICE



From the Editor Terry Morgan

With the recent weather we've been having, I thought you might find this interesting.

Enlightening Facts About Lightning

- λ Average lightning stroke is 6 miles long.
- λ Average thunderstorm is 6-10 miles wide.
- λ Average thunderstorm travels at a rate of 25 miles per hour.
- λ Once the leading edge of a thunderstorm approaches to within 10 miles, you are at immediate risk due to the possibility of lightning stokes coming from the overhanging anvil cloud. Because of this, many lightning deaths and injuries occur with clear skies directly overhead.
- On average, thunder can only be heard over a distance of 3-4 miles, depending on humidity, terrain, and other factors.
- A Approximately 100,000 thunderstorms occur in the United States each year. Approximately 10% of all thunderstorms are severe enough to produce high winds, flash floods, and tornadoes.
- λ Thunderstorms cause an average of 200 deaths and 700 injuries in the United States alone each year.

96 John Deere Tournament

Plans are set for the 10th Annual John Deere/Finch Turf Equipment Regional Team Championship Tournaments. The first tournament is set for Kennett Square Golf Club in Kennett Square, PA on September 3, 1996. The second tournament will be at Easton Club, Easton, MD on September 19, 1996. Each club may choose to participate in only one event.

The winning regional team qualifies for the National Championship in Newport Beach, California, November 14-17, 1996. The foursome must consist of the *superintendent, president, general manager and golf pro. The format is a modified scramble with limits on the team handicaps. Prizes, gift certificates and free use of John Deere Turf Products are among the team prizes.

Deere and Company will be donating \$20.00 per team, which participates in our regional qualifier to the GCSAA Scholarship and Research Fund. The total donation thus far is in excess of \$100,000.00.

Each tournament has limits on the number of clubs which can play. More information will be forth coming to each superintendent in our territory.

*The superintendent must be a member of the National GCSAA in order to advance to the national event. Non membership does not prohibit entry into the regional tournaments.

The World's Easiest Quiz

Do you hate trivia games because you never know any of the answers? Finally, here's a quiz just for you. If you can't guess the answers to these questions -- well...

- λ How long did the Hundred Years War last?
- λ Which country makes Panama hats?
- λ From which animal do we get catgut?
- λ In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
- λ What is a camel's hair brush made of?
- λ The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal?
- λ What was King George VI's first name?
- λ What color is a purple finch?
- λ Where are Chinese gooseberries from?
- λ How long did the Thirty Years War last?

Answers

- λ 116 years, from 1337 to 1453.
- λ Ecuador.
- λ From sheep and horses.
- λ November. The Russian calendar was 13 days behind ours.
- λ Squirrel fur.
- λ The Latin name was *Insularia Canaria* -- Island of Dogs.
- λ Albert. When he came to the throne in 1936 he respected the wish of Queen Victoria that no future king should ever be called Albert.
- λ Distinctively crimson.
- λ New Zealand.
- λ Thirty years, of course -- 1618 to 1648.



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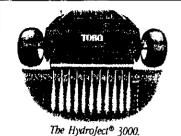
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Get Sharp ... cont'd from page 1...

Safety First, Second and Third

When checking your blades or removing them, be sure all safety precautions are adhered to. Be certain that the tractor is shut off and if decks are in the raised position, that safety locks or devices are in place and in proper working condition. precaution, gloves should be worn when handling blades.

Blade spindles should be greased according to manufacturers' The condition of the blade and security of specifications. attachment should be checked daily. Replace any blade that is bent, excessively nicked or worn. Small nicks can be ground out when sharpening. Always follow the original sharpening pattern and sharpen to manufacturers specifications. Do not sharpen the Be sure your blade is balanced before back of the blade. reinstallation. When replacing your blade be sure you replace it with original equipment blades only.

The next time your mower hits the turf, why not consider the cost, time and quality advantages that sharp and properly balanced blades have to offer.

1996 CPGCSA Meetings

September 24 Berkshire Country Club

Robert Ehrhart, Superintendent

October 22

Outdoor Country Club, Annual Meeting

Robert Beyer, CGCS

Practical Purchasing

Purchasing decisions encompass much more than price. Use the following suggestions to ensure you receive the most value for your purchasing dollars.

Tips to Value-Purchasing:

- λ Availability of quality technical support
- λ Prompt delivery
- λ Completeness of product line
- λ Development of new products
- λ Product quality
- λ Quality of service representatives
- λ Extension of payment terms
- λ Comprehensive literature and training manuals
- λ Stability of supplier - longevity of business
- λ Responsiveness to special requests
- λ Complete and easy-to-follow invoices

Helpful: Ask your suppliers for ideas on how you can run a Since they see a huge number of similar better business. operations, you'll benefit from the best and the brightest. (Leader Board -- Source: Michael Tinkey, Director of Purchasing, National Golf Course Owners Association, Mt. Pleasant, SC.)

Speaker Profile

The speaker for our August meeting at Conestoga Country Club will be Paul Heller, Professor of Entomology at The Pennsylvania State University. Paul will be holding an informal question and answer session.

Paul is completing his 20th year of service at Penn State. His research focuses on the management of cool season turfgrass pests, including determining the effectiveness of biorational and conventional management studies. studies include: (1) management of black cutworm on bentgrass, (2) annual bluegrass weevil management on close mowed annual bluegrass fairways, (3) management of green June beetle on fairways, (4) management of Japanese beetle grubs with conventional and biorational formulations, and (5) management of bluegrass billbug on home lawns. Heller also serves as instructor of ENT952 (Anthropod Pests of Cool- and Warm-Season Turfgrasses: two year program) and serves as one of three instructors in AGR236 (Turfgrass IPM). Paul also has been an active member on the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council's Technical Advisory Committee and has been responsible for the PTC booth at the Eastern Pennsylvania Turfgrass Conference. He has a three-way split assignment at Penn State which includes teaching, research, and extension. In addition to turfgrass, he is also responsible for greenhouse and Christmas tree pests.

Golf Results

The following are the results from the golf tournament at the joint meeting with Philadelphia.

1st	Bill Rahling	74	Central
2nd	Chet Walsh	74	Philadelphia
3rd	Steve Graybill	77	Central
4th	Bob Mogel	78	Central
5th	Ray Zelek	83	Philadelphia

Closest to Pin -- Hole #4

Kirby Putt

Central

J. Cantwell

Philadelphia

Long Drive -- Hole #2

Lee Frey

Central

Ron Gorniak

Philadelphia

Team Score -- Results from each team's 25 low scores

2294

Central

2400

Philadelphia

The tournament at the Conestoga Country Club will be two person teams using a Stableford scoring system - total score of partners will be used.



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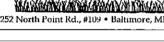
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Why 18 Holes?

By John Mac Leod

(Courtesy of the Milwaukee and Illinois St. Andrew's Society)

I can remember my grandfather telling me stories of his early years in Kilmarnock, Scotland, at the turn of the century before he immigrated to the United States. He worked as a young lad in the local distillery running errands for a Mr. Walker....that is, Johnny Walker, chairman of the board of that famous Scotch whiskey company. He told me that he had once delivered to Mr. Walker some of the latest American Haskell wound golf balls, Mr. Walker being an avid golfer. The following story, however, takes place some 50 years earlier, about the time gutta percha, or rubber balls were first introduced, and where another "board member" and some Scotch whiskey play an interesting role in the fate of the game of golf.

Why couldn't a golf course have 10 or 13 or 21 holes? Well, it seems that back in 1858, the board of one of the oldest, most venerable courses in Scotland sat all day trying to settle this very question. There were 7-hole courses, 13-hole courses and 15-hole courses. At one time, the famous St. Andrews itself was made up of 22 holes; and another, the Montrose, had 25. Finally, after fruitless all-day discussion, it is said that one of the Scottish board members, an elder of very good standing, arose and spoke as follows:

"You good men have been considering this situation for many I have been hoping you would decide along lines agreeable to me without any insistence on my part. I see, however, that I must now speak for myself. As you know, it has long been my custom to start out for a game with a full bottle of Scotch Whiskey in my bag, treating myself to a wee nip on each tee. Naturally, I find it pleasant to play golf as long as there is a drink left in the bottle. And, it makes no sense to continue the game when the bottle is exhausted. Here I have a small glass which contains about an ounce and a half. I have found that one bottle will fill this glass just 18 times, so it has been my custom to play 18 holes each afternoon, no more, no less. I see no possible way of changing from this custom, unless the bottles are larger, which I fear would be too marked a difference in our manufacturing life."

And that's how a golf course came to have 18 holes.

(Credit: Through the Green, July/August 1996 Georgia GCSA.)

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 so it can be included in the newsletter.







Terry B. Morgan - Editor P.O. Box 1420 P.O. PA 17042-0200

The Green Sheet

