

The Green Sheet



Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association

Volume 6 Issue 6

August 1998

August Meeting

Honey Run Golf Course

Tuesday, August 11, 1998

Lunch - 11:30 AM

Golf - 12:00 Noon

Dinner - 5:00 PM

Speaker - 6:00 PM

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

Superintendent Profile

Don Dodson has been superintendent at Honey Run Golf Course since July 1995. Prior to that he worked 1 year in golf course construction and 4 years as Assistant Superintendent at Conestoga Country Club. Don is a 1991 Ornamental and 1992 Turfgrass Penn State University graduate.

Course Profile

Honey Run Golf Course opened in 1970. It was designed by Ed Audit. Over the years, this championship course has hosted the Women's Future and Nike Tour events.

ATTENTION!!!

CPGCSA now has it's own fax and phone number. Please make this adjustment in your records.

(717) 279-0368

USGA "Tip of The Month"

by

Darin S. Bevard and Stan Zontek

The Dog Days of summer are upon us in the Mid-Atlantic. We have seen some turf problems, mostly related to heat stress and its effects on Poa annua. Also, Black Turfgrass Atenuis have been active and causing damage. However, most of what we are seeing is relatively healthy turf in spite of the hot weather.

On July 15, the agronomists from the Mid-Atlantic region attended the University of Maryland's Turfgrass Field Days in Beltsville, Maryland. Principle topics of discussion included post emergent crabgrass control and preventative fungicide applications. The researchers mentioned several important points to keep in mind when utilizing these programs.

The most frequently used post-emergent crabgrass herbicide is Acclaim Extra. The efficacy of this product is greatly enhanced if several guidelines are followed. Most importantly, good soil moisture must be present for the herbicide to be taken in by the plant. Also, Acclaim cannot be tankmixed with or applied following the use of phenoxy herbicides. The broadleaf herbicides occupy the uptake sites on the crabgrass plant, reducing control.

When making fungicide applications in the summer, use caution in applying sterol-inhibiting fungicides. One study clearly illustrated the negative effects of these fungicides through repeat applications at high, curative rates during periods of stress. Fortunately, there are alternative fungicide chemistries available that do not provide negative growth-regulation side effects.

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President's Message

by John Gehman

Well, I did it again...two rounds of golf on back to back days. (Neither one being a memorable experience.) The first fiasco was played at White Manor with the Philadelphia Association followed by an even more humbling experience at our meeting at Reading Country Club. I did learn something from those two courses, I now know what *fast greens* are. I also know what you all can do with your fast greens. I don't get it. I understand the desirability of lightning speeds for the pro tour, but I question whether this is really practical or even fair for the average person who plays for fun. You know the people I'm talking about, the majority of the customers who fund the majority of the operating expenses and will never experience single digit handicaps. The game of golf has degenerated to where a five and a half hour round is commonplace and anyone finishing in under four and a half feels he's experienced a major achievement. It doesn't help the situation when we find ourselves traipsing back and forth across the green, chasing after a ball that won't go into the hole and all too often won't even stay on the green. ...Otherwise both courses were quite wonderful. I want to thank Brian Ahrens for hosting our group at Reading. It really is a beautiful course with a lot of history in golf (with modest green speeds) and club house architecture. August's meeting will be hosted by Don Dodson at Honey Run Golf Club. Let's all take a mid summer/pre-aerification break and give Don a Central Penn season high turn out.

As I had hoped, our board has decided to insure our association's fiscal solvency. Without getting into the details, you can safely assume that whatever you paid for anything this year, it will cost a little more next year. We will also be proposing bylaws revisions. One will increase the affiliate membership maximum percentage, the other will simply add a student classification. Those revisions will be published in the Green Sheet for your review.

At Butter Valley we often hear comments on the beauty of our surrounding countryside. While I often take the wide open environment for granted it's not always a bonus. Today the farmer next door is cleaning out his slurry storage and spreading it on the field across the road. I've got an outing shotgunning off the back 9 and the front is full of individual tee time holders. That's about 120 people all down wind of a monster manure spreader. Ahh, that fresh country air...NOT!! I don't think we're going to hear any accolades today.

Directions to Honey Run Golf Course

From West (Gettysburg, etc.)

- Take Route 30 East to Baker Road. Turn left at light. Go to stop sign and turn left. 1 mile from stop sign look for Honey Run sign on right, turn right onto South Salem Church Road. Clubhouse is approximately 1/2 mile on right.
- Take 74 South to square in Dover. Turn right at square on Canal Road (Route 921 West). Go approximately 1 mile and turn left onto South Salem Church Road. Go through one light and one stop sign and you will come to clubhouse on left.

From East (Lancaster, etc.)

- Take Route 30 West Bypass around York. Follow 30 West signs towards Gettysburg. After road turns into a 2 lane road continue 1/4 mile to traffic light. At light take a right on Baker Road. Go to first stop sign and turn left on East Berlin Road. 1 mile from stop sign look for Honey Run sign on right, turn right onto South Salem Church Road. Clubhouse is approx. 1/2 mile on right.

From North (Harrisburg, etc.)

- Take 83 South to Strinestown exit (#12). Turn right at stop sign. Go approximately 3-1/2 mile to 4-way stop sign. Turn right onto Canal Road (Route 921). Canal Road will take you into the square of Dover. Go straight through approx. 1 mile. Turn left onto South Salem Church Road. Go through one light and one stop sign and you will come to Clubhouse on left.

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Membership News

We would like to welcome the following individuals into the association.

James V. Byrne, Superintendent

Tanglewood Manor Golf Club.....Class A

John M. Colo, Assistant Superintendent

Bent Creek Country Club.....Class C

Michael S. Bedi, Sales Representative

Philadelphia Turf Company.....Class AF

Steven Chirip, Sales Representative

Egypt Farms.....Class AF

Al Sonchen, Sales Manager

Jade Run Turf & Sod Farm.....Class AF

Rich Valentine, Sales Representative

Valentine & Sons.....Class AF

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the association or has questions on the status of their applications, please have them contact Mark Malasavage at (717) 533-3269.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Proposal: Change Affiliate Member ratio from 30% to 40%

Section 6.11. **Class AF - Affiliate Members.** To qualify for affiliate membership, an applicant must be a person interested in the growing, management or production of turf grasses, either individually or through employment by, or other affiliation with, a company, proprietorship, or association, who does not qualify for membership in another class. Affiliate members shall have all privileges of the association, except those of voting and holding office. Affiliate members shall not exceed forty (40%) of the total of Classes AA, A, B, C, and voting R members with the following exceptions: A bona fide turf oriented company may be granted one (1) membership representative into the association, regardless of the Class AA, A, B, C, and voting R members to commercial ratio, provided they are not presently represented in the association. He or she shall pay fees, dues, and assessments.

Proposal: Add Student Classification

Student - To qualify for Student membership, an applicant must be a full time turfgrass student enrolled in a formal course of education, or have completed his or her formal education less than one year prior to the date of application for membership.



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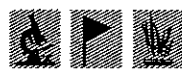
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USGA Tip..... continued from page 1

Both of these thoughts should be kept in mind when scheduling for spray programs during the summer.

Aside from these points, careful water management on putting greens should be a priority. It's very easy to over water. Wet, soggy soils should be avoided. Most of our worst summer diseases are favored by high soil moisture. Soils should be maintained on the dry side as much as possible. As agronomists, we see more turf damage from over-watering than we do from under-watering! On most of our soils, it is easier to add water than to remove an excess.

We hope these points help. The next week should be interesting. Daytime highs in the mid to upper 90's (thank you Texas) with no relief in sight! Be careful out there.

P. S. Don't forget Penn State University's Field Days on August 12-13, (814) 863-3475!

Scholarship Golf Tournaments

This fall there are two turf student scholarship golf tournaments being held in our general area. The first is September 16, 1998 at Pilgram's Oak Golf Club and is being sponsored by the George E. Ley Company. The proceeds will be split between the scholarship programs for the CPGCSA, as well as the PGCSA. The cost is \$75.00 per person. The George E. Ley Company, which is an irrigation contractor and supplier located in Glenmoore, PA, will be providing all golfing fees and lunch. The scholarship funds will be raised directly through entry fees and hole sponsorships.

The second golf tournament is October 14, 1998 at the White Deer Challenge Course. The golf tournament is being hosted by the Keystone Association of Golf Course Superintendents, with proceeds benefitting their turf student scholarship fund. The cost is \$200 per foursome.

For more information about either of these events, please contact Wanda at (717) 279-0368.

1998 Meeting Sites

September 8	Foxchase Golf Course Dan Achenbach, Superintendent <i>Joint Meeting with Philadelphia and Pocono</i>
October 7	Lebanon Country Club Jeffrey L. Fry, CGCS <i>Annual Meeting/Association Championship</i>

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PSU Disease Diagnostic Update

Speaking with Mike Soika, Senior Research Aide for diagnosis and management of turfgrass disease at Penn State, he has informed us that through July 20th, the majority of disease outbreaks in the field have been along the lines of Dollar Spot and Brown Patch. Professor DelSantoro also knows about at least one Pythium outbreak on ryegrass fairways, and a semi-inexplicable Anthracnose outbreak on bentgrass greens. There have been some rumors about some Gray Leaf Spot in the Philadelphia area, but these are unconfirmed.

If you have a UFO (Unidentified Fungal Organism) munching on your turfgrass, or are having trouble diagnosing a disease problem, you can contact Mike at Penn State. His office number is (814) 863-3440.

Attention...

If you or someone you know is interested in running for the 1999 CPGCSA Board of Directors, please contact Mark Malasavage at (717) 533-3269.

Equipment For Sale

Please call Dan Achenbach at Foxchase Golf Course (717) 336-3847 if you are interested in the following equipment.

- 2 Groomer attachments for GK IV Cutting Units.

Please contact Rick Eschbach at Upper Perk Golf Course (215) 679-7790 for information on the following equipment.

- 2 Brouwer Gang Mowers - 7 gang, PTO driven reels, hydraulic lift, 7 blade - \$5,500.00 each.
- Case Tractor - Model 395, 1450 hours, turf tires, Rops canopy, 35 HP - \$9,500.00

WANTED: Sam Snyder, CGCS at Hercules Country Club (302) 995-3610 is interested in purchasing an off the market insecticide called Triumph. Please contact him if you have this chemical and would like to sell.

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!!!

Just A Reminder

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 that it can be included in the newsletter. The deadline for the September newsletter is August 19, 1998.

Should you need to fax information to Wanda, the new phone and fax number is (717) 279-0368.



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Heather And Gorse

by Mark V. DelSantoro, CGCS

Looking at the calendar I see that it is British Open week, which reminds me that we have just passed the mid-way point of the summer. I'm feeling rather refreshed following a week of rest and relaxation in the mountains of West Virginia. My wife and I spent seven glorious days in the Canaan Valley hiking, swimming, golfing and generally just forgetting about work. It is something that I would certainly recommend to workaholics and non-workaholics alike. An old superintendent friend once told me that a golf course could survive without the superintendent for seven days or so, while the superintendent could survive without his golf course for only about three days. I am of the belief that that old superintendent's tendency was to puff himself up with imaginary self-importance; more specifically meaning that his particular golf course could have survived a lot longer without the said superintendent than the said superintendent believed. Of course, I was the assistant superintendent at that said superintendent's golf course at the time, so my point of view might have been a bit "puffy" in its own way, shape, or form.

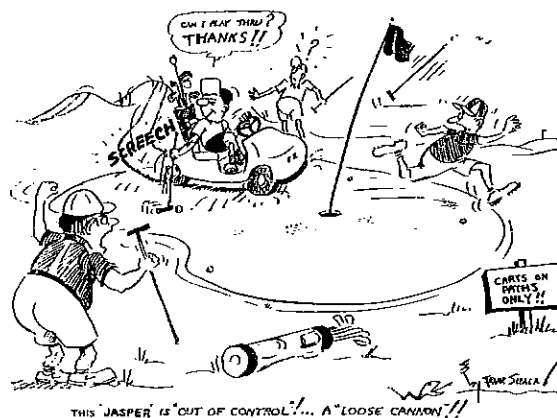
As far as I am concerned, the speaker at Reading Country Club whacked little rabbit foofoo on the proverbial head when it comes to exposing communication problems. The examples portrayed in his talked titled "Poor Instructions Followed Well," each sounded vaguely familiar to me, but not necessarily in the way one might expect. Maybe I've ingested too much mercury and lead over the length of my career, but when it comes to "Good Instructions Followed Poorly," answer me this...how is it that some of the most cognitive elite people in our society today become absolute morons the moment they sit down behind the wheel of a golf car?

After 4-1/2 years of battling on a daily basis to keep the golf cars on the paths at Wyncote Golf Club, we decided to take the big plunge and allow golf cars onto the fairways beginning May 1, 1998. Unfortunately for us, taking the plunge is exactly what many of the golf cars have done. In merely 2-1/2 months, we have had golf cars go in places where no man has gone before. Plunged in wetland creeks, buried in sand bunkers, driven across greens and tees, flipped on moguls, sunken in irrigation ponds; I guess Robert Frost was correct in stating "The brain is a wonderful organ. It starts the moment you get up and doesn't stop until you get behind the wheel of a golf car at Wyncote Golf Club." Our instructions were clear and quite simple, "Golf cars either on the fairways or on the paths. No other rough travel is permitted. When you reach the fairway exit point, (clearly marked by several signs) drive back to the path and remain there until the next tee." Maybe we needed an instructional video and an IQ test.

Quite possibly the best solution to golf car traffic problems that I've heard about was introduced over the past few years. I

call it "Robo-Ranger." It is a computer-aided golf car GPS satellite system. Each golf car has a GPS computer message screen that is mounted on the dashboard of the golf car that allows the Pro Shop and the golf car operator to communicate. A GPS computer in your Pro Shop constantly tracks the movement of each golf car as it traverses across the golf course. If pace of play is too slow the computer automatically sends a message to the operator to pick up the pace. If problems continue, it alerts the golf car operator that a Pro Shop thug is en-route to break someone's fingers. If the golf car enters an area that is off limits, the computer automatically disables the golf car. If there is a mechanical problem with the golf car, or any other type of problem, the golf car operator can send a message to the Pro Shop so the problem can be solved. Robo-Ranger just might be the creme-de-la-creme of rangers. It doesn't hawk golf balls, it doesn't avoid confrontation, it doesn't read the newspaper and take afternoon siestas, it doesn't need a 45 minute lunch break, it doesn't play golf on its days off, it doesn't tell boring stories, and it isn't old, stubborn, and retired. Wow, what a deal! If we could only get it to terminate unruly golfers...in the mean time, I wonder if the ranger from the Ping ISI commercials is available for hire. "You're out of control, Mister!"

Of course, sometimes the answer to a paradox is in that which is unseen. We effectively cured a perennial problem at Wyncote through the use of human fear. For years, players were constantly walking past "Environmentally Sensitive Area: Keep Out" and "Do Not Enter" signs to hawk golf balls in the wetland areas that meander through nine of our golf holes. An average golfer walking into a grassy area where they are bound to stumble upon four or five golf balls without trying, is like letting a kid go unsupervised in a candy store for a few minutes. Hawking golf balls is more addicting to a golfer than heroine is to a drug user. You get consumed by wanting to find just a few more free golf balls, and you lose track of time. The golfers were spending five, ten, even fifteen minutes in the wetlands looking for golf balls and as a result, the entire golf course was backing up. After 4-1/2 years of constantly fighting this problem, it was cured by a few simple signs saying, "BEWARE OF DEER TICKS!"continued on page 7.....



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Golf Results

Thank you to Brian Ahrens and his crew at Reading Country Club for providing us with a spectacular golf course. Following are the results of the Calloway Individual Ball.

Low Gross	Bob Mogel	71
Low Net		
1st Place	Ted Zabrenski	70
2nd Place	Dave Mattes	71
3rd Place	Don Benner	72
Closest to Pin #6	Brian Ahrens	6' 5"
Closest to Pin #15	Terry Bennett	4' 0"
Long Drive	Lee Koszey	470 yards!

(The next Tiger Woods)

Earlier this year we were trying to structure a Superintendent, General Manager, Greens Chairman, Pro Tournament at a respectable club. The clubs that were looked at were Bent Creek and York Country Club, however, there were no dates available at those clubs. We will plan now to try to organize this for 1999.

In the meantime, we are encouraging you to sign up and try to use this structure for the other scholarship tournaments described in this newsletter.

Our next meeting is at Honey Run Golf Course. We'll see you all there. Thanks!

Bill Brooks and Bob Wert, Golf Chairmen

Upcoming Events

- Penn State Turfgrass Field Days — August 12-13, 1998 at the Joseph Valentine Turfgrass Research Center and Landscape Management Research Center at Penn State University. For information contact: Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council (814) 863-3475 OR Mr. George Hamilton, Department of Agronomy, (814) 865-3007.
- The 22nd Annual Joseph Valentine Memorial Golf Tournament — October 19, 1998 at the Philadelphia Cricket Club. For additional information call John Chassard at (610) 967-4643.

Heather and Gorsecontinued from page 6....

Now I have to be honest, in the four years I've been here, I've never seen a deer tick in our wetlands, and thanks to these signs, through the halfway point of this golf season, I haven't seen many golfers in there either. Remember 90% of this game is half mental! Bidding you a fond farewell, this is Professor DelSantoro in the moronic enriched, deer tick infested heather and gorse.



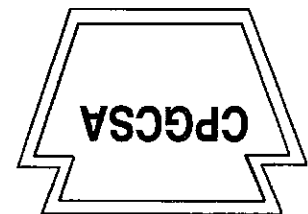
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Wanda S. Fry - Executive Secretary

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The Green Sheet



The Rules of the Game

Rule 16-2/2 Ball Overhanging Hole Falls into Hole After Player Waits 20 Seconds.

Question: A player's ball overhangs the edge of the hole. The player walks up to the hole. He then waits about 20 seconds, after which the ball falls into the hole. Is the player subject to penalty?

Answer: Yes! The player incurs a penalty of one stroke for the breach of Rule 16-2 which states that "when any part of the ball overhangs the lip of the hole, the player is allowed enough time to reach the hole without unreasonable delay and an additional ten seconds to determine whether the ball is at rest. If by then the ball hasn't fallen into the hole, it is deemed to be at rest. If the ball subsequently falls into the hole, the player is deemed to have holed out with his last stroke, and he shall add a penalty stroke to his score for the hole."

Now, what if player A and B are in a match, A putts and his ball apparently comes to rest, but is overhanging the hole. Within five seconds, player B concedes A's next stroke and knocks A's ball away. Was player B entitled to knock player A's ball away???

Answer: No! Under Rule 16-2, A is allowed reasonable time to reach the hole and an additional ten seconds to determine whether the ball is at rest. Since player B infringed A's rights, B was in breach of Rule 1-2 (Exerting Influence on Ball) and lost the hole, assuming that Rule 2-2 (Halved Hole) did not apply.

