

Golf Course Superintendents Association

OF NEW ENGLAND



NEWSLETTER

May 1963

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The May meeting was held May 6 at the Spring Valley C. C., Sharon, Mass. This was the first outdoor meeting as well as the Supt. - Chairman meeting.

Several equipment dealers had various types of equipment on display and demonstrations were available for the asking.

John Callahan, host Supt., had the course in fine condition and the only complaint overheard was, "the tee markers weren't back far enough." Eighty-five lunches were served, 6 chairman were present and 60 golfers teed off.

Results of the Tournament

Chairman - Supt.

Bob Mucciarone & Dr. Shedd	Low net 74
Julie Acken & Owen Williams	75
Norm Mucciarone & Bob Slattery	75
Sam Mitchell, Jr. & Bob Goodrae	75

Supt. Tournament

John Sperandio	low gross
Nary Sperandio	1 low net
Dick Mansfield	2 " "
Roger Hiner	3 " "

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U.S.G.A. member club Supts. and G.C.S.A. of A. members are admitted to all golf events. All members of the New England G.C.S.A. with 1963 dues cards and proper identification will be admitted to the Open Tournament at the Country Club, June 20 - 21 - 22.

Next Meeting

June 3, 1963 at Country Club of New Bedford, Host Supt. Mike O'Grady. Business Meeting 11:00 A.M. - Ladies are invited for golf & dinner.

Golf after lunch (make your plans for lunch), dinner to be served at 6 P.M. Please return card at your earliest convenience.

Rte. 24 to Rte. 6 and look for signs best and quickest way from Boston to New Bedford.

The July meeting will be held at Wannamoisett C. C. on Monday, July 15th. This will be a joint meeting with the Rhode Island Association. Malcolm Wendell, Host Supt.

Application for Membership

George J. Quimette, Assistant Supt. at Hyannisport Golf Club, Hyannisport, Mass.

the Editor

Dick Blake

"Care Of The Greens"

A good greenkeeper is not easily to be had, and when a capable man is secured he ought to be retained. It is only by careful study and experience of any particular golf course that the best effects can be had. Soil varies, and the situations of golf greens differ, so that a man has to adapt himself to his position. No hard-and-fast rules can be laid down, therefore, for the guidance of greenkeepers, and each man must be able to judge for himself, and to think out the course of treatment he intends to apply to the ground under his charge. It is a mistaken notion to imagine that because a man is a good gardener he must of necessity be ready for greenkeeping work. A golf links is not a tennis lawn, and an intimate knowledge of the requirements of Golf, together with as wide an acquaintance as possible with good class links, is a necessary outfit if a greenkeeper is to be of use and make his services appreciated. At the same time, clubs should not be hasty in deciding on the merits of a new employee. As has been said, there is nowadays a great diversity in the nature of the land brought under golf, and I have seen golf courses which would puzzle the genius of Tom Morris to devise methods to make them fit for the great Scottish game. If a man who has all his life been accustomed to the sandy soil and old turf of a seaside links is suddenly placed in control of a new inland green on heavy clay soil, with perhaps an additional field or two to sow in grass, he may be pardoned if he does not all at once create a second Westward Ho.

A well-known expert in this particular subject says that greenkeepers, as a rule, have little idea of cause and effect; and this, I should say, is not to be wondered at, taking all the circumstances into account. Club committees should not hesitate, therefore, in affording their greenkeepers the opportunity of consultation with one or another of the men in charge of our best known links, and who, through long experience and close attention, have acquired much valuable information. The expert I have already referred to lays down as an essential that greens should be made up either in the very early spring or late in autumn. Whenever the turf is re-laid a good coating of grass seeds (Blake's can be recommended) should be sown over it; this binds and improves the turf. Then from time to time a top dressing of some kind of manure (Poynter's of Dumfries is one of the best for this purpose) should also be used. This treatment of top dressing applies to both inland and seaside courses, and although the re-turfing of the inland greens would give the best satisfaction if properly carried out, still proper seeds and manure should work wonders. If club committees are in doubt as to the exact kind of seed to use, they should place themselves in communication with some well known firm of seed merchants, and they will receive useful advice on the subject. And in this connection I may quote from the report submitted by Mr. John Thorpe, Fellow of the Royal Horticultural Society to the U. S. Golf Association, in which he says: "The grasses, of which there are hundreds of species, are as varied in their natural habitat as are animals - some thrive and do well only in very low and damp grounds; others, again thrive only on high, dry and what seems poor soil, and most golf courses have low swampy grounds, as they also have elevated and seemingly poor spots. It is the latter which, seemingly, is the greatest obstacle to overcome.

On inland putting greens the greatest trouble is worm casts. Many and various devices are suggested and the turf has been dosed with mixtures calculated to bring about the desired end, but unfortunately no effectual potion has been discovered. From long experience, the conclusion has been arrived at that the only actual remedy for this nuisance is to lift the turf and dig out soil to the depth of twenty inches then fill in with gas lime to a depth of eight inches, thereafter level down and add four inches of cinders on top of lime, over which again place two inches of soot. After this foundation has been covered with soil, returf to proper level. While this completely prevents the appearance of worm casts it also makes the turf more porous, so that water will not lie long, and it does not fog up. In returfing if the turf which has been lifted will not suit, care should be exercised to get the right kind to replace it: what may suit one soil will not suit another. Certainly the re-laying of greens is both troublesome and expensive, but to the golfer nothing pleases better on a golf links than beautifully-returfed, gently-undulating putting greens. He may forgive defects and make allowances for drawbacks through the green, but, once within holing distance, he is implacable if the green is not equal to the best he has seen.

New England Golf Clubs as listed in the Guide for 1897

Excerpt from chapter "Golf In The United States."

The initial expense of buying a property large enough for an 18 hole round at Lake Forest, near Chicago, was 15,000 pounds sterling; after securing the land 1000 pounds sterling was immediately put into the ground, and the running expense for the links alone last year were 100 pounds sterling a month.

From Golfers Guide for 1897

Maine	New Hampshire
Campobello Golf Club	Hanover Country Club
Campobelloe Island	Navy Yard Golf Club
Portland Golf Club	Portsmouth
Portland	
Tarratine Golf Club	Vermont
Isleboro	Woodstock County Club
Massachusetts	
Allston Golf Club	Rhode Island
Allston	Bristol Golf Club
Phillips Academy Golf Club	Bristol
Andover	Narragansett Golf Club
Country Club of Brookline	Narragansett Pier
Warren Farm Golf Club	Newport Golf Club
Brookline	Agawam Hunt
Cambridge Golf Club	Misquamicut Golf Club
Harvard College Golf Club	Wickford Golf Club
Cambridge	
North Shore Athletic Club	Connecticut
Clifton	Brooklawn Golf Club
Concord Golf Club	Bridgeport
Locustwood Golf Club	Hartford Golf Club
Great Barrington	Fairfield County Golf Club
Myopia Hunt Club	Greenwich
Lenox Golf Club	Litchfield Golf Club
Lenox	Yale College Golf Club
Lexington Golf Club	New Haven Golf Club
Longmeadow Golf Club	New Haven
Lowell	Norwich Golf Club
Vesper County Club	Norwich
Lynn Golf Club	Oxford Golf Club
Essex County Club	South Manchester
Manchester-by-the-Sea	

Listing the golf clubs where the location is obvious I omitted the city or town name.

I never hear Vesper listed as Vesper County Club but that is the way it appears in the book. Essex County Club at Manchester has always been known that way. I should have stuck Club after Agawam Hunt but we have a running battle with all suppliers to omit the club for it is incorporated as Agawam Hunt

Charles W. Parker
Supt. Agawam Hunt