

NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents Association
OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

MARCH 1974



Sponsors and administrators of the Lawrence S. Dickinson Scholarship Fund — Awarded yearly to deserving Turf Management Students.

1974 TURF CONFERENCE

*"Better Turf through Research
and Education"*

March 6, 7, 8, 1974
Highpoint Motor Inn
Chicopee, Massachusetts

Sponsored by
Massachusetts Cooperative Extension Service
Massachusetts Turf and Lawn Grass Council
Golf Course Superintendents Association of New
England

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

—Morning—

11:00 Registration—Lobby

—Afternoon—

GENERAL SESSION Hall of Fame

Chairman: Mr. John O'Connell,
Superintendent
Blue Rock Golf Club

1:00 Welcome

—Dr. Joseph Troll

University of Massachusetts/Amherst

1:15 1973 Turf Problems in Review—

1974 Possible Remedies

—Mr. Alexander M. Radko, Eastern
Director

USGA Green Section

Panel—

—Mr. George Thompson, Superintendent
Columbia Country Club
(Transition area)

—Mr. John Martin, Superintendent

Shackamaxon Golf & Country Club

(New Jersey—New York area)

—Mr. Robert Grant, Superintendent

Brae Burn Country Club

(New England area)

—Mr. William Burdick, Superintendent

Canterbury Golf Club

(Midwest area)

2:45 Break

3:00 Movement of Water to a Holding Pond

—Mr. Anthony Caranci, Superintendent

Ledgemont Country Club

3:45 Maintenance of Low Budget, Short

Season Golf Courses

—Dr. Vaughn Holyoke,

University of Maine

4:30 Massachusetts Turf and Lawn Grass

Council

—Membership Meeting

4:45 UMass Turf Alumni Meeting

—Evening—

Free—A good time to look up old friends.

ALTERNATE SESSION—Those not interested in
golf course maintenance can attend the Alternate
Session on general turf management.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

—Morning—

GOLF COURSE SESSION

Hall of Fame

Chairman: Mr. Tom Curran, Superin-
tendent, Eastman Golf Courses

9:30 Turfgrass Fertilization

—Dr. J. C. Harper II

Pennsylvania State University

10:15 Determining Turfgrass Fertilization
Needs

—Dr. F. W. Wray

Nova Scotia Agricultural College

11:00 Shortage of Plant Food and How to
Adjust to Supply and Cost

—Mr. William Fines

Corenco

11:45 Lunch

—Afternoon—

1:00 Tri-Calcium Arsenate—Use and Abuse

—Dr. Robert C. Carrow

University of Massachusetts/Amherst

Panel—

—Mr. Thomas Rewinski,

Superintendent

National Golf Links of America

Mr. Leon St. Pierre, Superintendent

Longmeadow Country Club

—Mr. Melvin B. Lucas, Jr., Superin-
tendent

Garden City Golf Club

—Mr. Joseph Flaherty, Superintendent

Baltusrol Golf Club

—Mr. J. R. Bone, Manager Field

Development, Rhodia

2:30 Operating and Maintaining Municipal
Golf Courses

—Mr. Gregg Deegan, Superintendent

Unicorn Golf & Recreation Area

3:15 Break

3:30 Maintenance of High Budget Course

—Mr. Edward C. Horton, Superintendent

Winged Foot Golf Club

4:15 Maintenance of Multiple Golf Courses

—Mr. Richard Silvar, Superintendent

Pinehurst Golf Club

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

—Morning—

ALTERNATE SESSION

Room ABC

Chairman: Mr. Charles Mruk

Hercules Inc.

9:30 Trends in Agricultural Education and
Where Are the Emphases

—Dr. John Denison, Director
Stockbridge School of Agriculture

10:15 Maintenance of Municipal Parks and
Recreation Areas

—Mr. Baldwin Lee, Superintendent

Springfield Department of Public Parks
and Recreation

11:00 Maintenance Grass Tennis Courts

—Mr. Joseph Leander, Superintendent
Newport Casino

11:45 Lunch

—Afternoon—

1:00 Transition from Natural to Artificial Turf

—Mr. George Toma, Director of Field and
Landscaping, Arrowhead and Royal
Stadiums

1:45 Plant Materials for Outlying Areas

—Prof. John M. Zak

University of Massachusetts/Amherst

2:30 Break

2:45 Maintenance of University Grounds

—Mr. Jack Moodie, Superintendent

Springfield College

3:30 Maintenance of Industrial Sites

—Mr. George Moore, Manager, Grounds
Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co.

—Evening—

Room ABC

7:00 Banquet

Astrology & Humanism

—Frances Sakoian

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

GOLF COURSE SESSION

Hall of Fame

—Morning—

Chairman: Mr. John O'Connell,
Superintendent
Blue Rock Golf Club

9:30 Turfgrass Diseases and Systemic
Fungicides

—Dr. Houston B. Couch

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State
University

10:15 A Look at the Future

—Mr. Mike Sheridan, Facility

Development Consultant

National Golf Foundation

11:00 Watering of Golf Course Turf

—Mr. William H. Bengueyfield, Western

Director

USGA Green Section

11:45 Cost of Living Is Going Up—and So Is
Grass Seed

—Mr. Robert J. Peterson

E. F. Burlingham & Sons

MAN AND HIS MANY CASTLES

If a man's home is his castle, where does he place his place of business--the office--the shop--the workbench or what have you?

"I can usually tell whether or not a superintendent does his job out on the course effectively by the way his maintenance building looks", a salesman once remarked. "It may sound crazy but this has been my experience. If a man is sloppy inside his place of business, you can almost bet he'll be sloppy in the field."

This is an interesting bit of observation and perhaps it could serve as a shot in the arm to the superintendent who carries the added responsibility of keeping an orderly and clean maintenance building. No workshop or warehouse qualifies as man's castle. However, it should not be treated as a trash pile and catch-all.

"I think the superintendent should take care with the upkeep of his office or whatever he calls the place where he hangs his hat," the same salesman went on. "After all, what you see there is a reflection of his effectiveness or the lack of it to organize himself and his men. It's a sure tipoff to the way he conducts his job."

That particular observation seems to emphasize the possibility that the salesman has seen examples of flagrant disregard of his "castle" by the super. "That I have," he continued. "Some of the shops and buildings I visit are a disgrace. And I would think a man would take it upon himself to improve and clean up those places. After all, if he takes no pride in his working area, how can he drum up pride when he gets out on the course where it really counts."

The attitude of the superintendent inside his workshop probably transfers to the golf course. This is evident, according to our omnipresent observer, in the general appearance of golf courses. He says there is a definite connection.

"What would be your reaction if you visited a course where litter was strewn all over the place?" he offered. "Mine is that the superintendent, who works this course, almost always is the superintendent whose maintenance building looks like a giant litter bag--turned upside down!"

So, what should the super do? First, the suggestion goes, is that he should take a look at his place of work. And he should ask himself the following questions:

1. Do I know where all my equipment is at all times and is it accessible without tearing up the whole maintenance building?

2. Would my building be suitable for a meeting of the country club's board of governors? Suitable in this place means is there a spot for chairs and a table or would it be necessary to move half the room to fit them in?

Would I think twice about staying overnight in my maintenance building?

4. Could I offer the rest room facilities in my building to anyone without fearing the possibility of being embarrassed?

5. Is there a clear path from one end of the building to another?

6. Is my building a firetrap?

7. Could I wear a suit in my building without fear of having it soiled or permanently damaged?

True, a man's home is his castle. But his place of work doesn't have to be a rubbish heap. Remember, man makes his own castles and keeps them eligible for that description with diligent care.

Gerry Finn

1974 TURF CONFERENCE

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and Education"



March 6, 7, 8, 1974
Highpoint Motor Inn
Chicopee, Massachusetts

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SOUND OFF

(Time again for the reader to come to the fore and let his views be known. This is Sound Off, the popular monthly feature which airs pertinent issues and allows a freedom of expression by the reader. All letters should be short and to the point, signed with the name of the sender and properly addressed. They are accepted at the Newsletter Mail Bag, 290 North Road, Sudbury, Mass. 01776. Contributors are reminded they may write on any subject in the golf world. The Newsletter reserves the right to comment on all letters published.)

"I am one country club member who is on your side...the side of the golf course superintendent, that is.

"I have been a club member for more than 15 years and have seen our course mature into one of the nicest layouts in the vicinity. It is, I'm sure, no small wonder that the superintendent feels that his efforts are not appreciated when certain members go against the grain in matter of wishing complete freedom to play whenever they want.

"A few times last year our course was forced to close because of bad weather conditions. I was glad to see that our board of governors saw fit to go along with the superintendent's wishes and protect the course from possible future damage. As it turned out, we had perfect conditions later in the summer when some of the courses in our area was torn with lost greens and skimpy fairways. Good luck in your try to take complete charge in matter of conditioning the course."

ALBERT JOHNSON
Seymour, Conn.

The superintendent doesn't wish animosity on anyone. All he would like from members is one word--co-operation--and when he gets it, everyone is the beneficiary.

"Which came first...the golf course or the country club?'. Are you kidding?

"You superintendents seem to forget that the most important person in the country club is neither one of the following...1. The pro. 2. The club manager. 3. The superintendent. Much to everyone's surprise, you see, the most important person in the club is the MEMBER.

"I wish that all the groups connected with the country club would realize the fact most golf courses, country clubs and other forms of recreation were started because a few people had the foresight and courage to invest in the building of them.

"Once this fact is established perhaps we won't hear of the constant undertone around the country club as to the relative worth of the pro, the manager and the superintendent. If it weren't for the members or the players in the case of public courses, there would be no need for pros, managers and superintendents. Don't forget it."

PETER SIMMONS
Hyde Park, Mass.

You have a good point, Peter. The superintendent doesn't seek super status, though...only equality among the three professions.

"I was wondering if you people were aware of the present mess involving one of the outstanding golf courses in the state of Massachusetts--the Westover Air Force Base course.

"Right now it has been turned into a political football in that the course could be lost in a hassle involving the government of the United States and the cities of Chicopee and Ludlow. It would be a shame should the course be torn up and be made available for industrial purposes.

"Many of my friends have tried to organize and attempt to have the Air Force either continue the Westover course as a semi-private club or perhaps turn it into a public layout for the many public links players in the Springfield-Chicopee-Ludlow district.

"Right now we are at a loss for making connections with the right people. This might sound ridiculous, but has the national association of superintendents ever thought of buying the golf course to coincide with their national headquarters the way the pros did several years ago? If you do, there is the perfect place here in Chicopee."

JOSEPH TRYBO
Chicopee, Mass.

You're about a year late with your suggestion Joe. The GCSA moved headquarters at that time. Maybe the New England PGA Section or Conn. Section is interested.

"We're a couple of newcomers to the New England golf scene and are not aware of the so-called 'season for golf' in the area. Therefore, we're writing to the Newsletter (we hear you people work around the calendar and are available for comment) in a hope we can find out just when we can dust off our clubs.

"The gas shortage prevents us from taking long trips. The last time we saw winter we drove to South Carolina for a few days of golf while others skied or took sleigh rides. But this year we don't want to take the chance of such a long trip. Can you help us?"

CHIP RIDEOUT
STAN STREETER
Boston, Mass.

Golf in the winter exists on Cape Cod and the shore points of Connecticut and Rhode Island. But don't you come swinging clubs up here 'till you get the go signal from your superintendent!

(That puts the three-oh mark on this month's efforts. Keep those cards and letters coming. We read 'em all.)

CONGRATULATIONS TO THOMAS WRIGHT

124 Hale Street
Beverly, Mass.

Voted in as an Associate member at the February meeting.

To be voted on next meeting --
Dewey Bullard - Pine Oaks Country Club

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* Contributors to the Lawrence S. Dickinson Scholarship Fund

NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents Association
OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

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