

NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents Association
OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.



November 1977

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

Take A Look At Yourself

Take a look at yourself. No, I don't mean rig up a full length mirror and drink in the All-American individual you think you are. I mean look at yourself as a member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England.

All right, now proceed with this piece and check off the type of member you actually are . . . not what you think, hope or fantasize your association actions are. Be honest and know thine own self.

Are you the complete fade as a member? This species joins the association simply for the sake of being a member of a professional organization. It doesn't attend meetings, uses the Newsletter to housebreak animals and is usually late paying dues. He takes pride, though, in noting affiliation with the organization when applying for a new and more lucrative position. In a word, it uses the association for personal gains and advantage while contributing nothing.

Or are you the "pick-em" meeting member? This species usually has the organization at heart by professing, "I go to as many meetings as I can which is more than a lot of people I know." However, this member has only himself in mind when he somehow makes a meeting at a renowned golf course or an appearance at a function where a "free" cocktail party has been arranged.

Which brings us to the "golfing" member. He makes only those meetings held in conjunction with some kind of golfing event. Not only that, he usually arrives too late if the meeting is scheduled for before golf or leaves too early if the session is set for after play. He, too, is famous for begging out of any dinner, lunch or whatever at the specified club and can be seen at a highway or turnpike restaurant on the way back to the old home club.

Then, you could be the fair-sited meeting-going member. This type draws a boundary . . . usually a 10-mile circumference around his club and never crosses it. It all depends, too, on where he is located. If, for example, he's in the Holiday Inn chain area, he makes most of the winter sessions. But, as a rule, he thinks anything over a 10-mile trip constitutes a safari and he makes two-three meetings a year.

Or are you the member who attends according to the projectory of the sun or some other weather-oriented measure? Certain of this cult maintain that they never venture out when it's raining, snowing, the temperature goes above 90 or below 25. This bird is interested in the association . . . but only on meeting days when it's 75 degrees with a wind from the southwest and the sky a spotless azure blue.

You might be the perfect attendance type . . . the one who sits in the front row without uttering a word while the session is underway. But then becomes the culprit who retreats to the bar or some other away place to express his opinions and often shout his complaints, "about the way our association is being operated."

Are you a volunteer-type? Do you run for office, perhaps get elected and then spend the rest of your office tenure avoiding making suggestions and offering constructive criticism? Sad to say, there are such members. Flashy on the outside . . . dull on the inside.

Or are you the member who tries to make as many meetings

as you can . . . joins in on discussions of topical subjects . . . attempts to understand the other fellow's outlook and opinion . . . reads the Newsletter and lets his reaction be known to the proper persons . . . and doesn't take every opportunity to downgrade the association?

Which member are you out there? You don't need any mirrors to determine your status. Just go over the list and see which descriptive applies. And then do something about it . . . if need be.

Gerry Finn

THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

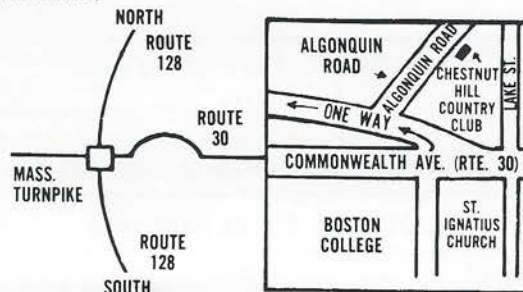
November 18, 1977 at Chestnut Hill Country Club, Chestnut Hill, Mass.

Open Bar Cocktail Hour at 7:00 p.m.

(Sponsored by the Friends of the Association)

Dinner at 8:00 p.m.

Dancing at 9:00 p.m. (Music provided by The Stern Wheelers)



HOW TO GET THERE . . .

Chestnut Hill Country Club is on Algonquin Road in the vicinity of Boston College. Coming east on Commonwealth Avenue (Rte. 30), make U-turn on to Waban Hill Road, directly opposite St. Ignatius Church; then first right on to Algonquin Road. From Cleveland Circle, turn right on to Waban Hill Road.

ANNUAL MEETING OF GCSA OF NEW ENGLAND

Dec. 5, 1977

Dedham Inn, Dedham, Mass.

Director's Meeting 10:30 a.m.

Lunch available in restaurant

Membership Meeting 1:30 p.m.

Agenda

- 1.) Business Meeting
- 2.) Election of Officers

Directions:

Rte. 128 to Exit 60 North (Rte. 1). Take right at traffic light by movie theater and Dedham Inn is 1/4 mile down on the right.

Myrtle Beach Tee Party

Those golf architects of a decade or so ago, who raced into the international battle to design "the toughest course of them all", are finding some of their so-called "gems" cut back to workable and sensible size in a simple process of relocation of tee markers.

In a recent golf tour of Myrtle Beach - where the game has taken on incalculable popularity gains - it was more the rule than the exception to discover the four-tee system.

Golf course superintendent Bill Mooney, who plots the ways of member and visiting hackers on an adventurous strip called the Deer Track Golf and Country Club, is a big booster of the four-tee arrangement.

"First of all we label the tees in a rather diplomatic manner," Mooney tells. "There is no such thing as 'men' or 'women' tags. We start at the beginning with 'short', got to 'executive' and on back to 'regular' before extending the tees to the farthest point or our 'championship' location. To tell the truth, golfers playing Deer Track have become used to the four tee system. And it's not unusual to see a foursome of men tee off from the short markers."

Deer Track is only three years old and has the convenience of large teeing areas. "I have to be a little more careful about the way I rotate markers," Mooney reveals. "With the four tees the damage to driving areas is spread out, not confined with the old arrangement of 'regular' and 'long'. So, I may do little more shifting of tees than usual. However, since the damage is not concentrated on one or two areas, it is not as acute as before."

The mileage at Deer Track shows much variety. The short course, which is basically for women and beginners, measures 5231 yards. The executive yardage jumps to a respectable 6208. The regular tees run the course to 6574 yards and the championship reading is 7057.

Golfers have been known to carry a vain streak in them. Yet,

there are those who put practicality ahead of fabricated confidence in their playing ability.

"From our standpoint, the best thing we ever did was come up with an executive distance," Mooney remarks. "We get a lot of elderly gentlemen who simply can't hit the ball as far as they used to. And with the cutback in distance some of the old joys of playing golf are lost in that reality. The executive markers make up for that natural loss of strength. And I think it puts more pleasure back into the game. Who wants to be hitting a wood on every second shot?"

The same four-tee arrangement is practiced at what is ranked as the best of the Myrtle layouts - the Dunes Golf and Beach Club. This water-guarded treasure of the Grand Strand (the South Carolina coast where there are 25 golf courses in about a 30-mile stretch) has been the scene of major tournaments and its lengthy setup used twice for the PGA tour qualifying school.

The Dunes runs the tee symbols - red, gold, white and blue. The red pick up the shortest route of 5206 yards. The gold measures 6045, white 6435 and blue 7030.

Since the hazards abound at the Dunes, it makes much sense to install an executive-sized course which happens to be the white. In addition to giving the average player a chance to clear some of those hazards, the element of time benefits from shortening up the challenge. The Dunes is the most-populated layout at Myrtle and the four-tee system has helped reduce the playing time of a round considerably.

The four tees of Myrtle Beach, then, bring some logic back to a game that for a while catered only to the strong, long and bold. They get the average - even sub-average player into a more substantial mood of action. The system has to appeal to the masses and what's wrong with that?

Gerry Finn

MEETING DATES for the coming year.

Dec. 5, 1977 (Annual Meeting)

Jan. 9, 1978

Feb. 6, 1978

All meetings held at the Dedham Inn, Dedham, Mass.

SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 1978

President	Dean Robertson
First Vice President	Ron Kirkman CGCS Robert Grant CGCS
Second Vice President	Brian Cowan CGCS Nary Sperandio
Secretary	Dave Barber CGCS
Treasurer	Don Hearn CGCS
Finance Chairman	Robert Johnston
Golf Chairman	Ken Mooradian
Educational Chairman	Pete Coste CGCS
Newsletter Chairman	Larry Bunn
Trustee (3 Yrs.)	Bert Frederick
Nominating Committee	
	Tom Curran, Chairman
	Bob Mucciarone
	Bill Carter
	Bert Frederick
	Dave Barber

Newsletter Notes

As always the weather has been the superintendents biggest problem this past season. After a very difficult winter many courses were set back from snow mold and ice damage. There were a lot of broken irrigation pipes this spring and some courses were still making repairs into June. When things started looking upwards around the first of May, we were hit with a 6 inch snow storm on May 10. Again, many courses were still cleaning up branches in June, as trees were damaged a great deal. Then came the summer with the hot weather and an extreme amount of humidity. The superintendent had his hands full fighting diseases. Now during the fall, when a number of extra projects are scheduled, we have had a tremendous amount of rainfall. It has rained at least one day of the last 8 weekends. Some weekends both days! Too bad we can't send the rain to California. Did you get the feeling the weatherman was never right in his predictions? I think the last time they predicted the weather correctly was when God told Noah to build an ark!

Arthur Anderson will be awarded his 50 year plaque at the annual meeting in December. If there was ever a man who put more into his profession than he took out it is Arthur. A man we can all learn from.

The MGA has sent out their annual golf course maintenance questionnaire to all member clubs. These questionnaires were sent to the greens chairman of each club. Seems there was an oversight on the MGA's part, as our association was named a sponsor without us knowing anything about the questionnaire. You should contact your greens chairman, as the questionnaire is quite extensive.

President	First Vice President	Second Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	Trustee	Trustee	Trustee	Finance Chairman
WAYNE ZOPPO 9A Village Green North E. Providence, R.I. 02915 Home Phone 434-1759 Office Phone 434-8512 Club Affiliation Agawam Hunt	DEAN ROBERTSON 24 Riverview Drive Newbury, Mass. 01950 Home Phone 462-4540 Office Phone 624-3878 Club Affiliation Chestnut Hill Country Club	RONALD KIRKMAN, CGCS 25 Green St. Needham, Mass. 02192 Home Phone 444-8412 Office Phone 444-5545 Club Affiliation Needham Golf Club	DAVE BARBER 1 Muriel Road Chelmsford, Mass. 01824 Home Phone 266-4417 Office Phone 368-4882 Club Affiliation Wayland Country Club	DONALD HEARN 4 Topeka Road Chelmsford, Mass. 01824 Home Phone 256-8709 Office Phone 854-5906 Club Affiliation Weston Golf Club	PAUL JOHNSON RFD 1 Locust St. Middleton, Mass. 01949 Home Phone 777-0902 Office Phone 777-1134 Club Affiliation Ferry Country Club	ARTHUR WASHBURN, CGCS 108 Crestwood St. Cohasset, Mass. 02025 Home Phone 383-9532 Office Phone 383-1870 Club Affiliation Cohasset Golf Club	MAX MIERZWA 3 Andover Rd. Chicopee, Mass. 01020 Home Phone 594-4996 Office Phone 592-9540 Club Affiliation Chicopee Country Club	AL AUGER 3 Andover Rd. Beverly, Mass. 01915 Home Phone 927-0060 Office Phone 922-8511 Club Affiliation Folly Hill Country Club

President Wayne Zoppo has appointed Pete Coste to attend the Advisory Committee meeting at the national conference in San Antonio and Larry Bunn as the alternate. Don Hearn has been appointed voting delegate and Bert Frederick as the alternate.

Several items from the past season. It is a sad day when the half-century old caddie camp at Hyannisport closes. This was a place a kid could learn some responsibility and the game of golf. Many of today's golfers started playing golf as caddies, where they attained their interest for the game. It gave the kids a job for the summer and kept them off the streets. Seems the golf cart has done away with caddies. The MGA reported in 1971 that on 100 golf courses surveyed there was 1531 golf carts and 2328 caddies. By 1976 there were 2722 golf carts and only 1707 caddies. The golf cart is good for only one thing, and that is for those golfers who have a legitimate physical handicap. The damage done to golf courses by these vehicles is unlimited. If there is ever a serious energy shortage, they should be the first to go!

Is our Superintendent/Press Day worth while? There has been a lot of discussion on this subject. What does the superintendent gain from this? This past summer, Woodland Country Club celebrated their 75th anniversary. The Boston Globe had a full page article about the history of the club. The article stated that Woodland Country Club has had two long-term club professionals. Nothing was said about the superintendent who is responsible for keeping the golf course in the condition noteworthy of the club's fine reputation. Superintendent Norm Mucciarone has been at Woodland for 27 years. I would call that long term and the job he has done for Woodland certainly deserves some recognition!

Final reminders to start making plans to attend the GCSA 49th International Turfgrass Conference and Show to be held Feb. 12-17 in San Antonio. Don't forget to make your reservations for the Holiday Party Nov. 18 at Chestnut Hill Country Club. And make it a point to attend the annual meeting Dec. 5 at the Dedham Inn, Dedham, Mass. See you there.

Larry Bunn
Newsletter Editor

JOB OPENING

Furnace Brook Country Club, Wollaston, Mass.

Write:
Joseph E. Gilmartin
P.O. Box 92
Wollaston, Mass. 02170

Report of members and clubs who have been a host at one of the monthly meetings over the last 5 years. We play the Supt./Pro tournament every year at Brae Burn Country Club which is hosted by Bob Grant CGCS. So, if you're not among this group you should consider being a host for the coming year.

Thanks to those who have been our host over the last 5 years.

- Woodland Country Club - Norman Mucciarone
- Orchards Golf Club - Dave Vibber
- Vesper Country Club - Bert Frederick (2)
- South Shore Country Club - Al Auger
- Juniper Hill Golf Club - Al Sanders
- Blue Hill Country Club - Larry Bunn
- Eastward Ho Country Club - Brian Cowans CGCS
- Oyster Harbor Country Club - Charlie Gardner CGCS
- Crestview Country Club - Dave Clement
- Hyannisport Country Club - Bob St. Thomas
- Green Harbor Golf Club - Manny Francis
- International Golf Club - Nick Cammuso (2)
- Ferncroft Country Club - Paul Johnson (3)
- The Country Club - Pete Coste CGCS
- Franklin Country Club - Gary Luccini
- Woonsocket Country Club - George Machado, Jr.
- Milton Hoosic Country Club - Bruce Petrelli
- Mt. Pleasant Country Club - Bob McGuire
- Weston Golf Club - Don Hearn CGCS
- Agawam Hunt Golf Club - Wayne Zoppo (2)
- Hampden Country Club - Bob Johnston (2)
- Bass River Golf Club - John Morse (2)
- Clauson's Inn - Dave Mauk
- Longmeadow Country Club - Leon St. Pierre CGCS
- Cohasset Golf Club - Art Washburn CGCS
- Spring Valley Country Club - John Sperandio
- Needham Golf Club - Ron Kirkman CGCS
- Dedham Polo & Country Club - Bob Mucciarone
- Halifax Country Club - Francis Murphy (2)
- Mt. Pleasant Golf Club - Meindert Shultz
- Tedesco Country Club - Lenny Gregory
- Hopedale Country Club - Ken Mooridian (2)
- Brae Burn Country Club - Robert Grant CGCS (5)

GCSAA 49th International Turfgrass CONFERENCE and SHOW

February 12 - 17, 1978 San Antonio, Texas

"ECONOMY THRU IDEAS" is the theme for the premier turfgrass industry conference and show, sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. This is a once-a-year opportunity for turfgrass managers, educators and industry representatives to learn about and share the latest ideas and developments in turfgrass management, services and equipment. Exhibits featuring new products for the turf industry will be open February 14-16; the conference will be in session February 12-17. This is the place for you to meet the other people who make the turfgrass industry dynamic and to capture dollar-saving ideas. See you in San Antonio in '78.

Brochures and registration materials for GCSAA's 49th International Turfgrass Conference and Show will be mailed to all GCSAA members October 1. Others may use this coupon to request the materials.

Send 1978 GCSAA Conference and Show materials to:

_____ name
 _____ address
 _____ city _____ state _____ zip
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Mail this coupon to: **GCSAA Headquarters**
1617 St. Andrews Drive
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

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* Contributors to the Lawrence S. Dickinson Scholarship Fund

NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents Association

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