

CHIPS & PUTTS

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Jack Frost National

*Blakeslee, PA
Bryan Nuss, GCS*

July affords us the opportunity to play for the first time Jack Frost National Golf Course in Blakeslee, PA. Designed by Terry LaGree and opened in 2007, Jack Frost National is currently managed by Billy Casper Golf. Bryan Nuss has been on board as the golf course superintendent since construction began in 2005.

The course plays to par 72 and measures almost 7300 yards from the back tees. The championship tees have a course rating of 74.9 and a slope rating of 139. The course develops over 200 acres surrounded by acreage that is designed to be housing in the future.

Prior to Jack Frost, Bryan was superintendent at Timber Trails in Pocono Pines, PA. Bryan has had to forgo an assistant this year due to budget cuts but small staffs are not new to him. Bryan has a summer crew of 9 and a winter crew of just 2. The shop at Jack Frost is about 5700 square feet and is heated throughout.

One of the major issues with the site was an acidic soil. This soil had pH's in the 4's; chemical amending of the fairways was and still is a daunting task for the crew at Jack Frost. The amending of the soils has helped and Bryan is seeing an improvement in growing conditions.

The course has 3.5 acres of Greens, 3 Acres of Tees, 40 Acres of Fairways and 65 acres of managed rough. The course is still maturing, but should prove to be a great venue for years to come.

This month Mark Fine will be our speaker. Mark is a golf course architect out of Allentown, PA. Mark has authored many articles, some of which you have seen right here in our newsletter and also a book titled "Bunkers, Pits and other Hazards," which, by the way, was selected by Grass Roots Inc. as their book of the year

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President's Message.....

First of all, I would like to thank Bryan Nuss for hosting our July meeting at Jack Frost National.

Secondly, don't forget that the clam bake is coming up at Elmhurst C.C. Get your team together and come out for a great day. If you would like to contribute to our scholarship fund by being a tee sign sponsor, let me know.

Lastly, I would like to relay to everyone the passing of John "Chip" Washburn. Although he wasn't a member of the PTGA, he has been a member of our community for many years. He worked at Honesdale C.C., Elkview C.C., and Sleepy Hollow G.C. "

Darrin Larkin

Editor's Notes.....

July is here and the weather doesn't seem to be as bad as normal. Rainfall has been plentiful and temperatures have been mild, bringing with it some pretty good conditions for players.

June allowed us to revisit Blue Ridge Trail, and Duane Schell and Tony Barletta were once again great hosts of the PTGA. Thanks guys for another great event.

The PECPA has released their " Golf Course Water Resources Best Management practices" handbook. This handbook details storm water management irrigation choices, and other topics to improve water quality and watershed habitats. See inside for more detailed information on how to get your copy of this literature.

August will again bring us to Elmhurst for our annual scholarship fundraiser, so try to keep August 17th free for a great day of golf and some wonderful food.

Jim Gurzler



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GOLF COURSE WATER RESOURCES BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL:

RE: RECENTLY PUBLISHED "GOLF COURSE WATER RESOURCES BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES" HANDBOOK - FOR GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

"The Golf Course Water Resources Best Management Practices Handbook includes 18 Best Management Practices (BMPs) that can help you improve water quality and manage stormwater and storm events on your property and enable you to be a better steward of the environment in your local watershed.

The Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) and LandStudies, Inc. developed the Handbook with the support of the PA Department of Environmental Protection Growing Greener grant program. PEC and Land Studies were assisted by John Chassard, Director of Grounds at the Lehigh Country Club and Jeff Broadbelt, President, Agrostis Golf Management.

The handbook builds on BMPs developed by the GCSAA and the Environmental Institute for Golf and elements of the Audobon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses. The BMPs range from chemical and fertilizer storage and application practices to wetland and floodplain restoration practices that can improve water quality and flood control at your golf course.

The Handbook describes how several of the recommended BMPs can generate environmental credits for developing environmental service markets including nutrient reduction, habitat creation, wetland mitiga-

tion, stormwater and groundwater recharge. Such credits can be created by installing BMPs such as forested riparian buffers, wetlands and natural floodplains.

Each of the BMPs includes a detailed description of the practice, its associated environmental benefit and a local example of most of the recommended practices at a golf course in the region with contact information so that superintendents can learn firsthand how to best install the practice.

The Handbook can be downloaded at: www.pecpa.org/gchandbook.

For additional information about the Handbook please contact:

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Continued from Cover

in 2008. Mark will be speaking on topics such as how to reduce maintenance costs, how to treat bunkers like hazards, and turf management plans. His firm is called Fine Golf Design and can be found on the internet at www.finegolfdesign.com

Our sponsors this month are Turf Equipment Supply (Matt Brown and George Skawski) and the George Ley Co. Thanks to our sponsors in helping to keep our meetings reasonable for our members. The format for play this month will be the 4 man better ball tournament with a Pink ball tournament as well.

We look forward to seeing you and remember, please register early to accommodate our boxed lunches.



June Meeting Wrap up

Duane Schell and Blue Ridge Trail hosted our June meeting. The weather was great and the course was in wonderful shape. Dr. John Kaminski of Penn State University was our speaker this month and John brought his data on dollar spot control, as well as, nozzle selection. Dr. Kaminski also spoke on the benefits of early season control of dollar spot. There was also talk about resistant strains of dollar spot and methods to reduce incidence at your course. Check with Dr. Kaminski for more information if you couldn't make it. He is the director of the two year program at PSU.

We had an exceptional turn out of 52 golfers and 54 total attendees for the event. The tournament was a modified scramble this month.

Lunch and Dinner were well received by the crowd as was the golf course. Duane and the staff at Blue Ridge Trail did a great job getting the course ready after the heavy rains just prior to our event. The blending of the new nine holes with the existing 18 is well done, and if you haven't been able to make it to a meeting, you should try to venture out here and see this wonderful layout.

In an overzealous act of "Thinking Green", I inadvertently recycled the results from the June meeting. My apologies to the winners of the skins, skill contests, and tournament winners.



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Don't Tread Lightning

Presented by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

What to do when lightning is detected on the golf course

It always seems to happen when you are having the round of your life. The sky darkens, the wind picks up and the thunder begins to roll across the golf course.

It's tempting to convince yourself and your playing partners that there is enough time to finish your round, or at least a few more holes. If you play on, instead of seeking shelter, your great round could become the last round of your life.

Every year more people are killed or injured by lightning than by tornadoes, floods or hurricanes. In fact, it's estimated that in the United States, as many as 300 people are killed by lightning each year.

Because of the generally open areas with scattered individual trees, golf courses are dangerous places during a thunderstorm. A lightning bolt will take the shortest route between the cloud and the ground, which means that a golfer standing in the middle of a fairway or huddled under a tree is a prime target for a strike.

However, there are several safety measures you can take to avoid being hit by lightning:

Key points:

- Seek shelter at the first sign of a thunderstorm. If the course's warning system sounds, take cover.
- If possible, get off the golf course or go to a designated lightning shelter.
- Do not stand under a lone tree. This is where most people are injured or killed.
- Stay away from water.
- Stay away from your golf clubs.
- If your shoes have metal spikes, take them off.
- Move away from your golf cart.
- If stranded in the open, go to a low place such as a ravine or valley.

First aid

If a player in your group is struck by lightning, the person is no longer carrying any electrical current, so you can apply first aid immediately. The golfer will be burned and have received a severe electrical shock.

People who have been apparently "killed" by lightning can be revived if quick action is taken. If you must

make a choice, treat those who are not breathing first - those who are unconscious but still breathing will probably come out of it on their own.

First aid should be rendered to those not breathing within four to six minutes to prevent irrevocable brain damage. Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation should be administered once every five seconds to adults and once every three seconds to infants and small children.

However, if the victim is not breathing and has no pulse, cardiopulmonary resuscitation is necessary, but should be administered only by persons with proper training. You should also check for burns along the extremities and around areas in contact with metal, give first aid for shock and then send for help.

For more information regarding golf course management practices, contact your local superintendent or the GCSAA at (800) 472-7878 or www.gcsaa.org.

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Looking for Volunteers!

Elmhurst C.C. is looking for volunteers for their Northeast Classic scheduled for August 27-30. They will be shorthanded that week and will certainly need some help. Please call Ray Waddell at 570-842-4705 to offer your assistance. It will be greatly appreciated!



A moment of Humor
Golf can bring out your
darkside

<http://www.spike.com/video/starwars-shoot/2996496>
Check this site out when you have a moment!



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Join the PTGA at PNC Field for an enjoyable evening hosted by Turf Equipment supply. Contact Matt Brown for more information about the event on August 6th at 7PM. Space is limited to the first 100 members and their immediate families so register early for this great night out. The game will be a contest between the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs and the Scranton Wilkes Barre Yankees.

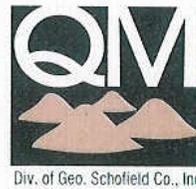


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POCONO ROUNDUP

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Patrick Knelly and his wife Michelle on the birth of their son Evan Michael Knelly. Evan joined the PTGA on May 29. All are doing well.

Oops! Congratulations to Chris Thomson on taking the position of Golf Course Superintendent at County Club of the Poconos. I inadvertently listed Chris Young as the superintendent, Chris Young is the Superintendent at Port Jervis CC in Port Jervis, NY.

Mike Darby has taken the position of Golf Course Superintendent at Eagle Rock Resort. Mike had been the assistant to Bobby Brown prior to becoming superintendent. Good Luck to Mike in his new position.

Looking for something different this winter?

The Canadian Golf Course Superintendents Association has invited their U.S. comrades to the 43rd Annual Canadian International Turfgrass Conference and Show February 26 to March 2, 2010, in Toronto, ON. See the website for more info www.golfsupers.com

PTGA MEETING SCHEDULE

2009 Golf Schedule

August 5	Rutgers Turfgrass Field Day Hort Farm II, New Brunswick NJ
August 12	Ohio State University Turfgrass Field Day Columbus, OH
Aug 17	Elmhurst Clambake
Sept 15	Huntsville Golf Club
Oct 15	Glenmaura National Championship

Local Tournaments

**Northeast PA Classic Elmhurst CC
Moscow, PA August 27-30th**

**The Barclays Fed Ex Cup Playoff
Liberty National Jersey City NJ August 27- 30th**



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