



CHIPS & PUTTS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION

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May 2011



May Meeting Jack Frost National Golf Club

Bryan Nuss, Superintendent
Dr. Peter Landschoot, PSU

Jack Frost National is located in Blakeslee, PA, in the heart of the Pocono Mountains. The course is situated on over 200 acres and was planned as the centerpiece of a housing development. The course was designed by Terry LaGree who has designed other courses as well, including Royal Oaks Golf Course in Florida, along with Pennbrooke Fairways, Diamond Players Club, and Citrus Hills all located in Florida, as well.

Jack Frost National, since opening in 2007, has been credited with quite a few accolades, some of which include Top 20 new course 2009 by Golfweek and being named a Top 10 course to play in PA 2010 by *Golfweek*. Jack Frost is designed with five sets of tees ranging from 5129 yards all the way up to 7256 yards for the daring. With all the elevation changes in the area, the course was designed with no blind shots, which takes a bit of doing considering the rocky terrain found in the area.

The course is managed by Billy Casper Golf, which has a few courses in Pennsylvania in its portfolio. Bryan Nuss is the superintendent and has been there since the grow-in started in 2005. Bryan started at Pocono Farms C.C. as the assistant superintendent and then moved on to be the superintendent at Timber Trails G.C. before coming to Jack Frost National. Danny Barone has just been promoted this year to be Bryan's assistant. He started at the club in 2006 as a laborer and just finished the two year program at Rutgers.

Bryan has a state-of-the-art maintenance facility, which was built during construction and is home to all of his equipment. The club is equipped with a wash station and storage bins for materials also located in the maintenance area. The maintenance building is a spacious 5500 square feet.

Bryan has a crew of 11 in the summer and a winter crew of 2. They are charged with caring for 3.5 acres of greens, 3 acres of tees, 30 acres of fairways and 65 acres of maintained rough. Bryan has been battling extremely low pH issues on his course since its opening. This was treated with copious amounts of lime during the first 4 years. The treatments have helped establish stronger and more dense turfgrass. The course has low mow bluegrass fairways with tees and, of course, bentgrass greens seeded with A-4.

The course features a practice area of 10 acres including a putting green, chipping green with a sand bunker, a short game area, and a driving range, including a sand bunker.

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President's Message.....

Here we go.....everybody buckle-up, looks like we are off to a rough start. Living here in Northeast Pa never ceases to amaze me and confuse me at the same time. This year's beginning has me feeling like we are still in a holding pattern and not sure when we can land. Most seasons we hit the ground running, but this time its start and stop-repeat. Good luck this year and come to a meeting. We had a great time at Southmoore. A big Thanks to Kelly and all the staff.

It looks like this is the last newsletter for quite a while, Jim has done a wonderful job of keeping us informed, making us laugh and has taught us a few things along the way. My personal Thank-you to Jim is a heartfelt one.

Rick Anglemyer

Editor's Notes.....

Guys, it has been a great ride, but this is my last newsletter. You will have to find someone else who will take no pay for a job no one wants. I have done my best to grow the newsletter advertising, provide useful information and try to keep a little levity in the newsletter each month.

I am hopeful someone will step forward and continue to grow this publication and double my advances. The newsletter was a four page issue barely getting out all the issues in a year and look at it now; well I guess I did increase the size of the issues, granted I still had some work to do on the timeliness side, but each year we did get all 9 out. I hope those who supported our publication appreciated the effort, even if I was a wee bit tardy sometimes.

I would like to thank all those supers who gave of their courses and their time with me to do the meeting write ups. It was great to get to know each of you a little better and see the passion you had for your properties. I really will miss doing that and may still do it for a blog that I am considering, but that is for another day.

Thanks to both of you who submitted articles, you know who you are and thanks to the presidents for handling their duties and getting me the message each month. Duane. feel free to drop a beer in my mailbox once in a while.

Addios and Happy Trails,
Jim Gurzler



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April Meeting Wrap Up

We had quite a good turnout considering the weather forecast. We had twenty four for golf, who enjoyed the tournament and then the speaker, Joe Gallagher. Joe spoke on pond management strategies. Kelly Kressler, Superintendent, made sure everything was great for our group. Sam in the restaurant provided us with food that will prove very tough to beat going forward.

The course was in great shape for us and the teams had at it in the light rain. We shortened the tournament to nine holes but have played them all. We had two Closet to the Pins; #3 was won by Jerry Decker of Fern Hall and #5 was won by Patrick Knelly of Sugarloaf. The Long Drive was awarded to new member T. J. Hart of Golf Car Services who can play this game and can handle some good natured ribbing as well. The tournament was a two part tournament with a 2 man scramble and a blind draw after golf to make up a four man team. The winning team with a 72 was Patrick Knelly, Chris Butler of Lawn and Golf, Ed Ladamus of Huntsville, and newcomer Jeff Smolha of Davidson Golf. We had two skins awarded in our skins format, as well; one went to the group of John Downer of Elkview and Barry Goodhart, the other went to Steve Chirip of Grass Roots and Corey Pries of Pocono Manor.

We raised \$68.00 dollars for the scholarship with our 50/50 this month and Steve Chirip of Grass Roots and Jim Hill of Huntsville went home with some additional pocket change from your generosity.

Joe Gallagher of Ecological Solutions gave a talk on pond management. He discussed the different aeration methods and how and why they work or don't work, sedimentation remediation and the benefits of dredging your pond, aquatic plant id on the most common species and then he talked about control methods, both chemical and natural methods. Joe did a great job talking about the various topics and keeping the audience involved.

Once again, thanks to Kelly Kressler, Jim Muschiltz, and all the staff at Southmoore and Gaetano's Restaurant for going above and beyond to make our tournament special. Next month we return to Jack Frost National, and Dr. Peter Landschoot will be there to give us an update that is sure to prove useful. Come on out and enjoy these great events with your peers. Thanks to Syngenta and Advanced Turf for their sponsorship of the meeting this month.



Reminder from the Golf Committee and the Board of Directors:

We have a reservation deadline for meetings as a courtesy to the hosting superintendent, and the pro shop and restaurant staffs. The PTGA policy is: a cancellation 24 hours prior to the event will result in no charge to the club or individual who cannot attend; additionally late registrations incur the additional fee of \$10.00 over the regular advertised price of the meeting. We use these rules out of respect to our members who graciously give of their course for our gatherings. These fees will be assessed to the member for themselves and their guests. Please make the necessary calls to Melinda regarding your attendance so that everyone may enjoy these gatherings. Thank you!



Proposed By Law Changes

This is the first reading of the 2011 proposed by law changes. The by law changes will be emailed to each member for review. The changes are to be voted on by A and SM members after 3 readings. The changes and current by laws are available on the website for review as well. Should you have questions or comments on these proposed changes or any other changes you may wish to have made, please contact Tom Height with your suggestions and make yourself available for the voting meeting to be held in July at Scranton Canoe Club.

SECTION 3 . MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

Class AA - Life Members

To qualify for Life Membership one must have retired as a Golf Course Superintendent, and have reached the age of 55, and meet one of the following criteria:

- (a) A voting member for at least twenty-five (25) years
- (b) A former board member

A Life Member shall have all the rights and privileges of the Association except that of holding office. They shall pay no dues or assessments.

Class A - Golf Course Superintendent

To qualify for Class A membership, an applicant shall have at the time of application for membership a minimum three (3) years experience as a Golf Course Superintendent and be employed in such capacity. Class A Members shall have all the privileges of the Association, subject to the provisions of Article V, Section 1 hereof.

Class SM . Golf Course Superintendents (formerly Class B)

To qualify for Class SM membership, an applicant shall be a Golf Course Superintendent who has at the time of application for membership, less than three years experience as a Golf Course Superintendent, and shall be presently employed in such capacity. Class SM Members shall have all the privileges of the Association, subject to the provisions of Article V, Section 1 hereof.

Class C - Assistant Golf Course Superintendents

To qualify for Class C membership, an applicant shall be, at the time of application for membership, an Assistant to a Golf Course Superintendent, and shall be presently employed in such capacity. Class C Members shall have all the privileges of the Association, subject to the provisions of Article V, Section 1 hereof. One Class C member will serve as a "C Liaison" on the Board of Directors as voted on by the membership.

Class D - Golf Course Employees

To qualify for Class D membership, an applicant shall be any person of good character who at the time of application for membership is employed at a golf course represented by a Class A or Class SM member of this Association. Class D members shall have such privileges of the Association as the Board of Directors may specify

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by Standing Rules, except those of voting or holding office.

Associate (AS)

To qualify for Associate membership, an applicant must be a person interested in the growing, management or production of turfgrasses. Associate members shall have all the privileges of the Association, except those of voting and holding office.

Affiliate (AF)

To qualify for Affiliate membership, an applicant must be a person interested in the growing, management or production of turfgrass, either individually or through employment by, or other affiliation with, a company, proprietorship or association, who does not qualify for membership in any other class. Affiliate Members shall have all the privileges of the Association, except those of voting for the Class A, SM and C members of the Board of Directors. AF members vote for AF board members.

ARTICLE V

OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1 . OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The control and management of the Association and its affairs and its property shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors, consisting of its officers and at large Directors. A majority of the Board of Directors shall be Class A, Class SM, as well as one Class C Member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. The Officers of the Association shall be Class A or SM members of the Golf Course Superintendent Association of America which shall include President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

SECTION 2 . QUALIFICATIONS AND TERMS OF OFFICE

Class A, Class SM, and one Class C member(s) who are actively employed as Golf Course Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents are eligible to serve as Directors of this Association. Affiliate (AF) Members can also hold positions on the Board of Directors as long as their numbers are in a minority to the Class A, Class SM and Class C Board Member summation. There shall be elected at each annual meeting of this Association the following named Officers who shall serve on the Board of Directors: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall hold office for a period of one (1) year and until their successors are elected and qualified and who shall perform the duties hereinafter prescribed for each of such offices. There shall likewise be a maximum of three (3) successive terms. There shall likewise be elected to the Board of Directors five (5) members of this Association who shall be elected to two year terms by the membership. An election

(Continued on page 6)

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shall be held each year for those Director positions whose terms are to expire. The Immediate Past President of the Association shall serve as a Director until he is succeeded by the presiding President. The Officers of the Association, as hereinabove provided for, together with the Directors as above constituted, shall constitute the Board of Directors of this Association. Each member of such Board of Directors shall be entitled to vote at the meetings thereof and a quorum necessary for the transaction of business shall be not less than a majority of said Board of Directors. In the event a member of the Board of Directors becomes unemployed, he has six (6) months to become employed again as a Class A, Class SM, or Class C Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent before having to resign his seat on the Board of Directors. In the case of the Affiliate Member, a vacancy shall occur, and a replacement found under the guidelines of Section 3 of this Article.

**ARTICLE XI
DISSOLUTION**

SECTION 1

In the event of the dissolution of the Pocono Turfgrass Association, after all liabilities and responsibilities have been met, its assets shall be distributed for one or more of the exempt purposes specified in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as from time to time amended. Decision of distribution shall be by the Board of Directors, and focus on Universities and research programs with the highest regard to Turfgrass studies.

(Continued from page 1)

Dr. Peter Landschoot of Penn State University will be our speaker. Dr. Landschoot will be talking on the topic of Pythium Root Rot and Dysfunction and Bacterial Wilt as well as symptoms commonly misdiagnosed as diseases. This is sure to be a great topic so be there early to hear Dr. Landschoot.

Our meeting sponsors this month are Bob Seltzer of Fisher & Sons and Joe Sellers of Premier Turf Solutions. We have a Closet to the Pin sponsorship from Jim Gurzler of Sportsturf Irrigation as well. The tournament this month will be a 4 man best ball blind draw after golf.

Make sure you come on out and enjoy this great new golf course and our speaker. Thanks to our sponsors for helping to keep meeting costs down.



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Pocono Turfgrass Association 2011 Scholarships

The Patterson Scholarship for Turfgrass Related Studies

The Pocono Turfgrass Association is now accepting scholarship applications for the Patterson Scholarship. The deadline for application is June 30, 2011. The following is a list of guidelines for all individuals interested in applying for the scholarship:

1. Applicant must be in his or her final year of study or a recent graduate of a two- or four-year turf related program.
2. The applicant must be a member of the Pocono Turfgrass Association, employed by a member of PTGA, or an immediate family member of a member of PTGA.
3. The applicant must submit, in writing, why he or she would like to be considered for the scholarship. The essay should include what he or she feels their contribution to the turfgrass field will be.
4. Applicants must include a letter of endorsement from their PTGA relation with their application.

The Pocono Turfgrass Association Scholarship for Non-Turf Related Studies

The Pocono Turfgrass Association is now accepting applications for a non-turfgrass related field of study scholarship. The deadline for application is October 31, 2010. The following is a list of guidelines for all individuals interested in applying for the scholarship:

1. Applicant must be in his or her final year of study or a recent graduate of a two- or four-year non-turf related program.
2. The applicant must be a member of the Pocono Turfgrass Association, employed by a member of PTGA, or an immediate family member of a member of PTGA.
3. The applicant must submit, in writing, why he or she would like to be considered for the scholarship. The essay should include information pertaining to field of study, educational achievement, and future goals with respect to utilization of his or her education.
4. Applicants must include a letter of endorsement from their PTGA relation with their application.

Applications should be submitted to:

Rick Anglemyer
 Water Gap Country Club
 PO Box 725
 Mountain Rd.
 Delaware Water Gap, PA 18327




Steve Chirip
Technical Sales Rep.

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MetGCSAA Tournament Qualifying Rules

The PGTA will send 8 participants to the MetGCSAA Tournament, 4 players in the Gross division and 4 players in the Net division. The current president of the PTGA will be given the option to participate in his preferred division without qualifying. If the president chooses not to use his exemption, the next highest qualifier in his preferred division will earn the spot. PTGA members will be given preference for attending PTGA monthly Meetings. Meeting attendance is worth 3 points per meeting attended. Point totals will be available before the qualifying meeting for members to view. These results will be posted to the website, and published in the newsletter before the qualifying tournament.

MetGCSAA Qualifying Tournament Rules:

The qualifying tournament will use the standard PGA Stableford scoring system of -3pt (double bogey or worse) -1pt (bogey) 0pt (par) 2pt (birdie) 5pt (eagle) 8pt (double eagle)

There will be 2 divisions, Gross and Net

- Any player that does NOT present a verifiable USGA handicap will be automatically placed in the GROSS division of the tournament
- In accordance with MetGCSAA policy a maximum handicap ceiling of 18 will be enforced in the NET division
- The top four accumulated point totals from each division will qualify for the MetGCSAA tournament. Any qualifiers unable to attend will be replaced by the next highest available qualifier
- Both divisions are open to PTGA members in the A, SM, AF, and AS classifications
- Guests of PTGA members are not eligible to qualify for the MetGCSAA tournament in either division

There will be a maximum of 4 Affiliate members allowed to attend the MetGCSAA tournament per year.

All meeting results and MetGCSAA tournament qualifiers will be posted on the PTGA website upon completion of the qualifying tournament.

This year's tournament is at Galloway National in New Jersey, rated one of the top 100 new courses.



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POCONO ROUNDUP

The By laws are under review and changes will be voted on in July at Scranton Canoe Club. Check the website and newsletter for the revisions. The first reading will be at the May meeting, so try to at least make dinner to hear about the forthcoming changes.

It was nice to see Ron Garrison of Fox Hill at the April meeting, although someone else pulled a Garrison.

Welcome **T.J. Hart** of Golf Car Services, **Tom Klich** of Atlantic Irrigation and **Jeff Smolha** of Davidson Golf to the Association. Thanks for coming out and supporting the Association.

The 2011 directories have gone to press. If you are not listed, you were not paid for 2011. There are some events that are open only to members of the Association, such as the Championship, the Met Team Championship and invoicing of fees for events to name a few.

To my CSI informant, your article was a hit. Thanks for taking care of it.

PTGA SCHEDULE

- May 2** Rutgers Turfgrass Research Golf Classic, Fiddlers Elbow, Bedminster NJ
- May 17** Jack Frost National, Blakeslee, PA
Bryan Nuss, Supt.
Dr. Peter Landscoot, PSU
- June 21** Mountain Valley, Frackville PA
Jeff Reber, Supt.
Mike Hartley, TES
- July 12** Scranton Canoe Club, Lake Winola, PA
Pat Healey, Supt.
John Kaminski, PSU
- Aug 16** Buck Hill Country Club Buck Hill Falls, PA
Tim Stem, Supt.
- Sept 27** Paupack Hills Country Club, Greentown PA
Mark Monahan, Supt./GM
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- Oct 18** Blue Ridge Country Club, Palmerton PA
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