



COURSE

Conditions

SUMMER 2017

Quarterly Publication of the Michigan Golf Course Superintendents Association



FEATURE SUPERINTENDENT

Jared Milner
Superintendent

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

A Chance at Restart:

A Glimpse into Skin Cancer Treatment

Industry Partner Profile: Brett Roberts

Assistant Superintendent Profile: Zachary Redman

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Profile interviews conducted by Greg Johnson, Greg Johnson Media L.L.C.

MIGCSA MEMBERSHIP REPORT SUMMARY OF CLASSES

	CURRENT MEMBERSHIP	SUMMER 2016 MEMBERSHIP
Class A	237	232
Class B (this used to be SM)	55	57
Class C	97	78
Class AA	39	37
Class AFF	141	145
Class EM	33	37
Class E	18	17
Class H	32	30
Class R	9	8
Class SA	14	13
TOTAL	675	654

Please log in to your account at www.migcsa.org to renew your membership for 2017. If you are unsure of your status contact us at info@migcsa.org or 1-888-3-MIGCSA.

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



MARK OSTRANDER

As August is amongst us, these are the days that expose all the hard work that is put into maintaining a solid operation. The grass is tired, the staff is tired, and often time, we are tired. For many of us, aerification is right around the corner and a breath of fresh air is there for both the turf and staff. What always amazes me is the lack of understanding that current conditions aren't a result of what we have done recently but rather a cumulative effect of all that goes into it. There is much more that occurs when no one is watching. "They" don't necessarily need to know all that goes into providing the product. As long as "they" find value in what we do, we have done are job well. As you cruise around the course for your

morning routine, reflect on all the sweat and hard work that has occurred that has made the product what it is today.

The MiGCSA has also been busy this year to provide the best possible product to you the member. One of the most exciting projects that is in the works is a brand new, modern website. I want to thank the Website Committee for all their arduous work to ensure that we will have a first-class product. One of our goals is to have members use the new site as their home screen on their computers. We want the new site to provide as much useful information as possible. The launch date is scheduled for early 2018.

Recently, we hosted a T-shirt fundraiser. This was well received by the membership as well as a few outside our membership. The green MI Turf shirts are unique and quite cool as they display our logo. If you were unable to purchase one, Adam will have a few available at upcoming events. The best part of the fundraiser was the associations ability to send a member, all expenses paid, to this year's GIS! There will be a blind drawing at this year's state championship. What better way to give back to our members.

All successful operations start with a good plan executed by a dedicated team. It's not important to everyone how you get there. It's only important that there is a high value provided in the end. The MiGCSA is not any different.

Have a great rest of the summer. Remember to enjoy the view.

President Mark Ostrander
President, MiGCSA

All successful
operations start
with a **good plan**
executed by a
dedicated team.

A CHANCE AT RESTART: A GLIMPSE INTO SKIN CANCER TREATMENT

BY CHAD PALICKE, CGCS, GOWANIE GOLF CLUB



Current Photo

Nearly everyone knows of someone who has been affected by cancer. At times there's no rhyme or reason as to why it affects a person while other times

it's the direct result of personal habits or environmental exposure. In the golf course profession we can be subjected to an array of carcinogens; from simply inhaling topdressing silica dust to contact with the chemistry we so carefully apply to the turf. Fortunately with augmented training and safety practices we minimize these hazards. But one of the most commonly overlooked perils is the threat of ultraviolet radiation from sunlight, a known environmental human carcinogen.

The first sign of sun damage comes in the form of the precancerous cells of actinic keratosis (AK); when discovered there is seldom just one area of damage. If left untreated it can advance into any of the forms of skin cancer: basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma or even worse melanoma.

Now the purpose of the article isn't to get too comprehensive with regards to skin cancer symptoms and treatments. With a simple keystroke or Google search all the information you'll need is at your fingertips. The point is to shed some light into my own experience with the treatment as I was diagnosed with widespread AK and basal cell carcinoma this past off season.

Shortly after Christmas I went to see my physician for my annual check-up when he noticed dry, flakey red areas on my face. Being the typical male I thought nothing of it as I had been dealing with these spots for at least a couple of years.

From the MD Anderson Skin Care Center:

The two most common kinds of skin cancer:

Basal cell carcinoma accounts for more than 90% of all skin cancers. It is a slow-growing cancer that seldom spreads to other parts of the body. However, if left untreated, it can spread to nearby areas and invade bone and other tissues under the skin.

Squamous cell carcinoma is much less common than basal cell carcinoma. It can be more aggressive than basal cell carcinoma and is also more likely to grow deep below the skin and spread to distant parts of the body.

These types of skin cancer are sometimes called nonmelanoma skin cancer. When they are found early, there is nearly a 100% chance for cure.

Another type of cancer that occurs in the skin is melanoma, which begins in the cells that produce pigment in the skin. It is less common than basal or squamous cell skin cancers, but it is more dangerous than either and can be deadly. If caught early, there is nearly a 97% chance for cure.

Symptoms of Skin Cancer

Symptoms of skin cancer vary from person to person and may include a:

- Change on the skin, such as a new spot or one that changes in size, shape or color
- Sore that doesn't heal
- Spot or sore that changes in sensation, itchiness, tenderness or pain
- Small, smooth, shiny, pale or waxy lump
- Firm red lump that may bleed or develops a crust
- Flat, red spot that is rough, dry or scaly

Many of these symptoms are not cancer, but if you notice one or more of them for more than two weeks, see your doctor.

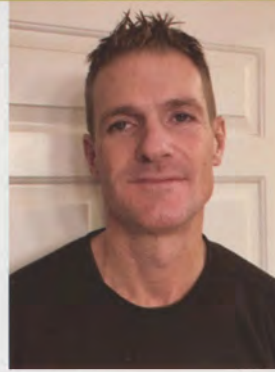
Tips from the Skin Cancer Foundation website:

- **Asymmetry** - If you draw a line through this mole, the two halves will not match.
- **Border** - The borders of an early melanoma tend to be uneven. The edges may be scalloped or notched.
- **Color** - Having a variety of colors is another warning signal. A number of different shades of brown, tan or black could appear. A melanoma may also become red, blue or some other color.
- **Diameter** - Melanomas usually are larger in diameter than the size of the eraser on your pencil (1/4 inch or 6 mm), but they may sometimes be smaller when first detected.

He suggested I see a dermatologist and within a few weeks I went in for a skin cancer examination. The doctor immediately identified extensive sun damage to my facial area. Essentially the majority of my face displayed actinic keratosis with areas that had progressed into basal cell carcinoma. I was prescribed a 30-day program of Fluorouracil (5-FU) which is a topical chemotherapy applied daily. At first I thought nothing of it although that quickly changed when the nurse shared with me images of what to anticipate.

Upon getting back home I began my own research scouring the internet and found a whole host of photos and blogs of patients' experiences with the treatment. Needless to say I was less than thrilled to begin this whole endeavor. The mode of action with any topical chemotherapy is to destroy all mutated skin cells while leaving the healthy, normal skin cells unscathed. One's experience with this treatment will vary as it is dependent upon the level of sun damage.

After a week delay with our health insurance (due to being prescribed chemotherapy) I began my daily applications. From the information I'd gathered I knew there would approximately 2-weeks before things would take a turn for the worse. During that time I informed my club owners and employees of what to expect and the likely need for a couple of weeks off once the treatment was effectively at work.



Day 1



Day 14

Just as the research indicated, the first couple of weeks were effortless; the only noticeable areas were blotchy, red areas afflicted by carcinoma. But as day-14 arrived the true level of sun damage became quite evident when all areas afflicted with actinic keratosis and carcinoma became red and discolored. After meeting with my dermatologist, he assured me that everything was proceeding as normal and to continue on with the treatment.

The schedule for the last two weeks involved applying the topical chemo in the evening; gently washing my face in the morning and applying

Evolving - Any change — in size, shape, color, elevation, or another trait, or any new symptom such as bleeding, itching or crusting — points to danger.

Risk Factors

The greatest risk for developing all types of skin cancers comes from sunburns. People with fair skin and those who tend to burn easily are more at risk.

Other risk factors include:

Age. The longer a person's skin is exposed to the sun over time, the higher the risk of developing skin cancer.

Appearance. People who have red or blond hair, fair skin, freckles and blue or light-colored eyes are more at risk of developing skin cancer. Skin cancer occurs less often in Hispanics, Asians and African-Americans. However, darker-skinned people and those who tan easily can still develop skin cancer as well as suffer other long-term effects of exposure to ultraviolet light, like dry skin and premature aging.

Climate. People who live in sunny climates are at an increased risk for skin cancer.

Preventing Skin Cancer

The main way to avoid skin cancer is to protect yourself from the sun's ultraviolet rays. There are several ways to do this. These include:

- Stay indoors or avoid unnecessary sun exposure, especially between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., when the sun's rays are the strongest. When you are outside, remember that the shorter your shadow, the more damaging the sun's rays.
- Use sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 15 or higher, depending on your skin type. SPF measures a sunscreen's protection against UVB rays only, so look for sunscreen that protects against both UVA and UVB rays.
- Apply a sunscreen as part of your daily routine. Do so generously for maximum protection, especially on body parts easily overlooked (i.e., lips, tops of ears, head, back of neck and hands and feet). Some moisturizers and foundation include sunscreen.
- Apply sunscreen 30 minutes before going into the sun.
- If you are perspiring or in the water, you must reapply sunscreen more often regardless of the instructions on the packaging.
- Wear protective clothing (e.g., wide-brimmed hats, long-sleeved shirts and pants, sunglasses with UV protection).
- Stay in the shade, and avoid reflective surfaces such as water, sand, snow and concrete. You can burn from indirect exposure to the sun.
- Beware of cloudy days. You can still get burned.
- Don't use sunlamps or tanning beds. There is no such thing as a safe tan.

For further information please visit the MD Anderson Web Site on Skin Cancer.



Day 24



Day 28



Day 30



Day 31



Day 33

Aquaphor (i.e., Vaseline) for the remainder of the day. The degree of misery became quite apparent by day-16 as my skin started to burn and swell. I would best describe the experience as having the worst sun burn times two.

As each day progressed, the worst sections developed blisters and became ulcerated while any afflicted area became increasingly red and sore. It was at this point where I couldn't sleep, became extremely irritable and sought isolation. During the final week the blisters and ulcerations began to excrete a fluid as the skin began "the weeping phase". Finally as day-30 arrived the cancerous cells had hopefully been destroyed as my body began to heal and generate new, healthy skin cells. At this point there was a sense of great relief realizing the treatment was over even though discomfort continued for a number of days following the last application.

Once finished, the dermatologist provided a topical antibiotic to help fend off infections and to diminish the chance for scarring. He also reiterated the importance of embracing the healing process. This not only includes utilizing antibiotics and moisturizers, but more importantly keeping your whole self healthy and minimizing stress levels. In our profession this can be difficult as we often place work ahead of our own health.

If I could offer any advice, I would first recommend being proactive with protecting your skin from exposure and getting an annual skin cancer screening. Dermatologists truly are the only ones who can accurately define any potential concerns.

Keep in mind actinic keratosis can evolve into carcinoma or melanoma; left untreated it can advance into a much greater variant.

Secondly, if your doctor suggests this treatment, it's a necessity to plan it in the off season. Once the topical chemo begins to work, the skin becomes extremely sensitive to temperature, sunlight and wind and exposure to contaminants such as dust or pollen should be avoided. Most importantly, this will permit you the necessary time away from work to reduce stress and ensure proper healing.

Finally, I would suggest preparing your family by showing them images of what to expect. This is especially important with young children as they'll have difficulty understanding the circumstances. Inform them you'll be tired and irritable or that they'll be unable to give you a kiss goodnight. Your loved ones will offer you help when in reality there's not much they can do but support you. At the height of the chemotherapy, you'll be less than willing to be out in the public eye. Not only do people tend to stare but you'll constantly feel the need to explain your situation. In my own case, I was very uncomfortable attending my 5-year old's "Daddy Daughter Dance" in the midst of my procedure although I was very proud she insisted we still attend.

In the end I found this event enlightening and insightful. This procedure reversed 45-years of neglect and offered me a second chance at doing things right; it gave me a small perspective into what some individuals experience on a daily basis; it shattered my own invincibility; and most importantly it drew me to appreciate my family and life even more.

THE 32ND ANNUAL TUCK TATE CHAMPIONSHIP

The 32nd Tuck Tate Championship was conducted on the Moor golf course at Boyne Highlands. A huge thank you to Superintendent Jeremy Neer with his Assistant Darryl DeShais and all of the MiGCSA Members at Boyne Nick Shaw, Kevin Graf and Tom Alonzi for hosting us, the golf course was phenomenal. Thank you to General Manager Mike Chumbler, Josh Richter the Director of Golf, John Meyers the Head Pro, Bernie Friedrich VP of Golf and Retail and Mike Wilson F&B Director for all of their help in running such a great event.

This was a best 2 of 4 net team game with prizes for individual net and gross as well. Here are the results from the day.



2017 Tuck Tate Champion, Joe Baluis

Proximities from championship:

Closest to the pin on #4 Kevin Graf and #17 Jim Higgs. Long Drive on #3 Steve Koskuc

Best 2 of 4 net team game was won by Nick Shaw, Bill Bozel, Kevin Graf & Mike Still with a 117. Followed by Darryl Deshais, John medicine, Steve Kockuc & Jeremy Neer at 120 and third place with a 126 went to Jim Higgs, Alex Greenacre, Kim Rouleau & Kevin Frank.

2017 Low Net Tuck Tate Champion Nick Shaw with a 68

2017 Tuck Tate Champion Joe Baluis who shot 71



Our host Members Steve Koskuc, Superintendent Jeremy Neer, Darryl Deshais.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 - Western Golf Day (Muskegon C.C., Muskegon)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9 - The Big Event (Bloomfield Hills C.C.)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1 - Detroit Holiday Party (The Lodge at Keego Harbor, Keego Harbor)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7 - Northern Holiday Party (Buffalo Wild Wings, Traverse City)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8 - West Holiday Party (Peppinos Downtown, Grand Rapids)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15 - Mid Holiday Party (Bottoms Up, Holly)

Please visit www.MiGCSA.org for all of the latest and most up to date information. You can quickly and easily register for events, view past issues of Course Conditions, browse and post items for sale, post and browse classifieds, and so much more. If you need help logging in email us at info@migcsa.org

LEGISLATORS LEARN GOLF INDUSTRY'S IMPACT

LANSING – Lt. Governor Brian Calley presented the proclamation declaring June is Pure Michigan Golf Month, and then he told the members of the Michigan Golf Alliance that they are a big deal.

"What you do is a big deal," he said at the Michigan Golf Industry Legislative Day on the Capitol Lawn Thursday.

"The economic impact is massive. What is happening is so special. It is a quality of life enhancement to our communities and is a great illustration of what makes pure Michigan so amazing."

Sen. Wayne A. Schmidt, R- Traverse City, said he always enjoys lunch at the turn with the golf industry partners.

"This is a great event to help the legislators to understand the business side of golf," he said. "There's a lot of impact, a lot of people employed, especially in the spring, summer and fall and these are mostly small businesses, independently owned and family-owned."

"When you talk over \$4 billion total economic impact from an industry, wage contributions of almost \$1.5 billion, \$118 million in charitable impact, 58,000 jobs, it's clear golf is not just a wonderful, enjoyable sport, but important to Michigan in so many ways."

The Michigan Golf Alliance is made up of the Michigan Golf Course Owners Association, the Michigan Golf Course Superintendents Association, the Michigan Section PGA, the Golf Association of Michigan, the Greater Michigan Club Managers Association, the Michigan Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship Program and the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation.

Members of the Alliance spread out around the Capitol to visit to each legislator in their Senate and House offices, and legislators and staff members were also treated to a "lunch at the turn" in a large tent on the Capitol Lawn.


Kate Moore, executive director of the Michigan Golf Course Owners Association, was thrilled by the response of legislators and the large crowd that joined the alliance members for lunch.

"The goal of Michigan Golf Day at the Capitol is to educate and enlighten the state legislature about the importance of our industry in the state – the economic impact, the impact on tourism, employment and we don't think people realize or recognize how big our industry is with \$4.2 billion in economic impact, 58,000 employees, being caretakers of the earth, education, exercise, all rolled into one," she said. "It's also important for people to realize the collaboration among the golf groups and associations, how strong we are and how important it is that we all work together."



Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, center, is holding the June is Pure Michigan Golf Month proclamation, and is joined by, from left, Ron Osborne of the Michigan PGA, Bill Fountain of the Michigan Golf Course Owners Association, Doug Johanningsmeier of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation, Mark Ostrander of the Golf Course Superintendents Association, John Allen of the Golf Association of Michigan and Tom Schwark of the Michigan Golf Course Owners Association.

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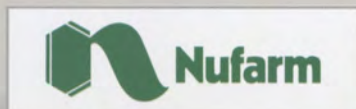
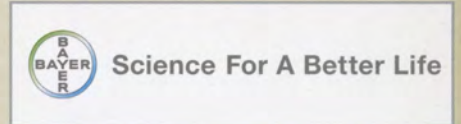
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THE WRENCH:

BY SAM HOLYSZ, GULL LAKE COUNTRY CLUB



My name is Sam Holysz, I have been the Equipment Manager (EM) aka "Wrench" at Gull Lake Country Club in Richland Michigan since early 2010. I started with a strong mechanical background but no "Turf" experience, and thanks to many of my peers I have come a long way. I have been fortunate to work with a great group of guys and had the opportunity to work with and network with some extraordinary talent. Twitter has become a great resource for many in the Turf world and if you have not checked it out yet I would encourage you to give it a try, you can find me on Twitter @GLCCTurfMec. EM's, Supers, and Assistants alike are using twitter as a platform to share ideas, ask questions, and see what is going on out there in our industry. This is where I caught the attention of Adam Ikamas from MiGCSA, and he approached me about writing a recurring article for Course Conditions.

It has been a hot June this year and looking like a hot July too. This got me thinking about irrigation, known to many of us as irritation. One of the best ways to reduce irrigation issues is to have a well maintained system. Clean suction lines, greased pumps, cool running motors, and a clean pump house are a great start. That list is pretty easy to handle except those suction lines. If you have ever had to wrestle with a suction line or other large supply and discharge lines you will understand they are heavy, bulky, and difficult to maneuver. So for me as the EM, I needed a way to safely remove the suction lines, transport them, and service them. We did not have a good way to do this so I threw the "Box" out of the overhead door and went to work.

- Step 1:** Figure out how to lift and balance a heavy, lopsided object so when you maneuver, its parts line up and you are not putting any personnel in harm's way.
- Step 2:** Design something to safely transport and store the suction lines on.
- Step 3:** The best part! The fabrication, test, and making adjustments.

In this case the suction lines are made with heavy duty plastic piping and steel fittings. The suction line set's center of gravity is way out of the pipes center line and one



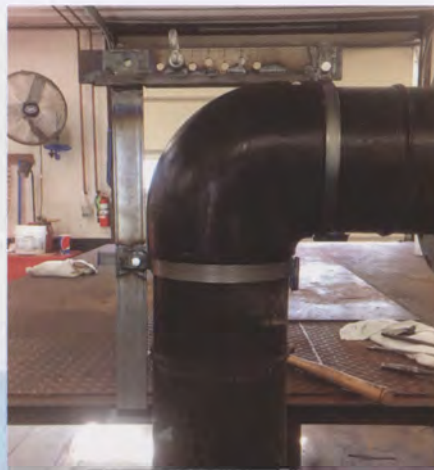
unit weighs enough that heavy equipment is needed to safely lift them. The first thing that came to mind was an engine hoist hanger. These lift brackets use a screw to adjust the angle of the engine and transmission while positioning it in the car making it much easier to maneuver. I didn't have parts on hand for a screw style adjustment but a rail with holes worked just as well for what I had in mind. The collars are hinged with bolts to hold them tight, one collar supports the load while the other prevents lateral movement. Then I made a chain with a swivel to mount to the end of the tractors forks. Because the balance point is correct as the load is taken up by the forks it is easy to remove the clamp connection and the suction line doesn't swing wildly while it is being lifted from the pit. The swivel makes reinstallation much easier too by allowing small adjustments as the piping fittings are connected.

Once I had made a safe way to remove and reinstall the suction lines we needed a safer and easier way to transport them. We used to manhandle the lines into the back of a truck then unload them at the shop, it was not the safest operation and it was far from nice to the truck or the suction lines. Being large objects the lines needed a substantial rack to be secured into and during the winter they would be in the way so this rack needed to be easily moved. What better to use than a heavy duty sod pallet and some recycled lumber?

The swivel chain and bracket needed a bit of tweaking but once that was done it made it easy to remove the suction lines, load them onto the rack, and reinstall them after service and or storage. It only takes one guy on the tractor and one to guide the suction line. The rack transports safely on the forks and easily moves about storage and the shop with a pallet jack. A job that used to take up to four people now only needs two, it has become a much safer operation, and there is much less risk for damage to parts or equipment. Almost everything was made from spare parts or recycled materials, so the material cost was low, and maintenance is much easier to do.

Following along with networking and sharing ideas with our peers I would love to hear from EMs and other Turf Heads. I will be sharing my ideas in this article and would love to share yours too. Write up something and include pictures, send it to me and if I put it in an article you will receive full credit for your contribution.

Sam Holysz
 Equipment Technician
 Gull Lake Country Club
 Richland, MI. 49009
 E-mail: sholysz@gmail.com
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THE CAMPUS

NATIONAL TURFGRASS EVALUATION PROGRAM

BY KEVIN W. FRANK

The National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) is designed to develop and coordinate uniform evaluation trials of turfgrass varieties and promising selections in the United States and Canada. Test results can be used by national companies and plant breeders to determine the broad picture of the adaptation of a cultivar and by turf managers to make informed decisions on how a specific cultivar is adapted to a local area or level of turf maintenance. Currently at MSU we have 6 NTEP trials with another to be seeded this fall. The trials currently under evaluation include: creeping bentgrass putting green and fairway, fine leaf fescue fairway (with traffic) and lawn, perennial ryegrass fairway, and low input sustainable turf. The Kentucky bluegrass lawn trial will be established this fall. The trials cover a broad range of conditions and management from the relatively high maintenance of creeping bentgrass putting green to the lowest maintenance of only mowing for the low input sustainable turf trial. The results from these trials can be found at www.ntep.org. All of the trials are available for view at the annual turfgrass field day but if you are interested in viewing them at any other time during the growing season just contact me and we can make arrangements to provide plot maps.

In addition to the NTEP trials, we established a roadside turf evaluation project in the fall of 2016 in cooperation with researchers at the Univ. of Minnesota, Nebraska, Wisconsin, and Rutgers. This research is funded through a grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation. The objectives of this research are (1) institute a multi-state roadside turfgrass testing program, (2) develop a data collection and reporting system that provides the most recent research results to state DOTs in a timely manner; (3) increase collaboration between university research programs that work on roadside turf. The primary emphasis of this project is to determine what grasses can establish and persist in roadside environments typically characterized by poor soils and road salting. We established 60 different



Fine Leaf Fescue Fairway



Roadside Trial

'entries'. These entries included single species/cultivars and mixtures. Entries included alkaligrass, tall fescue, hard fescue, Kentucky bluegrass, sheep fescue, common department of transportation mixes and several other mixtures and species. We established trials on I-96 adjacent to the Williamston rest stop and on the east edge of campus on Hagadorn Rd. Plots will be evaluated through 2018.

THE MID GOLF EVENT



MiGCSA Board Member Rob Steger, CGCS presents the thank you plaque to Superintendent Chris Ballosh.

Thank you to Chris Ballosh for hosting the 2017 Mid Golf Event at Apple Mountain. This was a scramble event and the members in attendance were greeted with excellent conditions and a great day for golf and networking with their fellow members. The staff had the event set up perfectly.

The winning team of Tom Sieggreen, Jim Stoll, Jim Kruske and Kathy Kruskeshot won with an amazing score of 55! Second place went to Jim Higgs, Alex Greenacre, Christain Koval and Ryan Godard with a score of 60 and third place went to Brett Roberts, Rob Steger, Scott Sabgash and Colin Stewart with a scorecard playoff 62.



Dr. Kevin Frank updates the group on the latest from MSU and the MTF.



MiGCSA Board Member Rob Steger, CGCS thanks the 2017 Industry Partners.





GOLF COURSE DRAGONS

BY PAUL ALBANESE, ASGCA

The form of golf has evolved since the game began on the linksland of Scotland centuries ago. What started as a completely natural art form become one in which humans dominated its creation, incorporating anthropomorphic concepts into the design process, including "dragons". But, those type concepts are relatively modern. The form of golf really started to become determined by men, in both the UK and USA, in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Many people consider the early part of the 20th century the "Golden Age" of golf course design. During this era, the architects of the time developed some of what are still considered the best golf course in the world; they have stood the test of time. Names such as Ross, Colt, Allison, Mackenzie, Tillinghast, Macdonald, Thomas, Bell, and others are golf artisans of that period. And, one thing they all had in common was they all did NOT have mechanized implements with which to create their masterpieces. And, this fact, coupled with a design aesthetic that demanded forms utilize natural features make the forms of these golf courses seem as if they have been there for longer than the actual years they have been used for golf ground.

Many of the designs via these architects tried to emulate the original "natural" courses from Scotland. CB MacDonald's The National Golf Links on Long Island is an 18 hole collection of what he considered the best holes from overseas. And, as good design requires, he did not copy the literal forms of the originals, but rather he borrowed the design concepts and utilized these to inform his design.

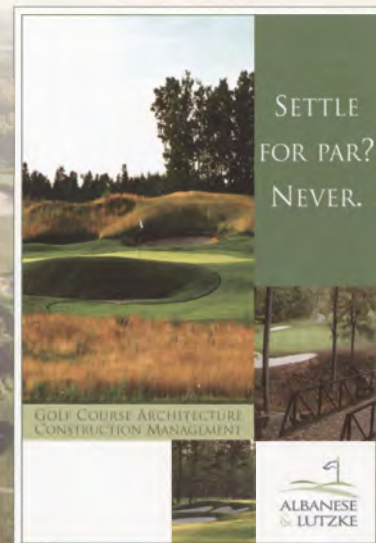
In addition to their belief in making courses look "natural", the architects of this era also did not have machinery that would allow them to move massive amounts of dirt – even if they

had the desire. So, part of their forms was determined by their lack of function. I have always wondered, if large-scale machines such as bulldozers and scrapers were available during that time, whether these architects would have utilized them? And, how different their masterpieces may have looked otherwise? Or would others, who may have had more talent using machines, have turned into the revered designers of that time?

But, as it stands, the most studied and appreciated courses of that era have forms that followed the available functionality of the time. They utilized the natural features and contours of the sites on which they were being built. There was very little earth moved, and what was moved was done with horses and pull scrapers. If one looks closely at the bunkers and greens from this period, it becomes clearer why they appear as they do.

The form of golf, like the forms of all art, continually evolve. The next two articles will look at the bigger shifts in golf design form – post-World War II and the post-modern era.

*Paul Albanese, ASGCA is a principal with Albanese & Lutzke, Golf Course Architects/Construction Managers.
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JARED MILNER

Jared Milner, 32, is the golf course superintendent at Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville, and has been with the club for about 20 months. He is a Michigan native, has worked since age 12 at golf courses and received his education at Michigan State. He is married, and he and his wife Aleah have two daughters (Naydine, 4, and Aspyn, 2).

1. **HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN THE GOLF BUSINESS?** I grew up in Houghton Lake Michigan and I was fortunate because a family friend of ours owned White Deer Country Club. I started at the age of 12 watering roughs and washing golf carts at night. When I was 15 or 16 they put me on the maintenance crew and I worked there all the way through high school.
2. **WHEN DID YOU DECIDE YOU WANTED GOLF TO BE YOUR CAREER?** Going into my senior year my boss took me down to Turf Day at MSU. That opened my eyes and I saw there could be a rewarding career.
3. **WHAT ARE SOME OF THE COURSES YOU HAVE WORKED AT?** I worked every summer in high school at White Deer Country Club, then went to Michigan State, worked my freshman year at College Fields, then worked at Walnut Hills and for a year at Crystal Downs in Frankfort, too. The last summer I did an out-of-state internship at Baltimore Country Club, then got hired on as a staff member and worked there eight years total. I was superintendent at both courses there, went through renovations, which really help set me up for where I'm working now at Meadowbrook.
4. **WHAT PART OF YOUR EDUCATION DO YOU USE THE MOST?** Dr. (Thomas) Nikolai's classes on irrigation and soil science were great, and Dr. (John) Rogers on turfgrass practices and recommendations, and of course Dr. (Joseph) Vargas on diseases. That might not answer your question, but those three guys had

the most influence on me at Michigan State and it seems like I use parts of what they taught me all the time.

5. **HOW HAS YOUR JOB AT MEADOWBROOK PROGRESSED, ESPECIALLY IN REGARD TO THE RECENT RENOVATION?** I took the job in November of 2015, and last summer we went through a major renovation. I have been through a few renovations before, but this is the first one that I managed fully on my own. This one I was the point man for the project and it was a great challenge. I enjoyed it, but I really leaned on my staff and the people who have been at the club for years. The staff was so important. There are a lot of things I did not have a clue about, but they knew the history of the golf course, they knew where the irrigation system was, how it worked. They just knew the property and that was really valuable. It was huge for me to get their input. I couldn't have done it without them. They were huge for me. Even my relationship with the previous superintendent, Mike Edgerton is great. He comes back every few weeks and helps. I mean he was here over 40 years. Why not use his knowledge to help me out?
6. **WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS OF THE MICHIGAN GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION?** I really like that they are putting on events that bring guys together to network. I don't always get there, but I at least try to send at least one representative from Meadowbrook to the events. Things like that are important. It's great to get guys together because there is always more than one way to do things. I don't know it all. But in a group like that you can get a heads up on things. Out east there was too much separation. In Michigan there seems to be more togetherness and that is great.

7. **WHAT IS YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH THE MICHIGAN TURFGRASS FOUNDATION?** The annual conference and the continuing education they provide is top notch. The agenda they put together for the conference is great. It is leaps and bounds beyond what they do out east and really almost as good as what they do at the national conference. We have this great program right in the back yard. The people at Michigan State are 45 minutes away, and there is so much value in that. We've had help from the foundation with our renovation. Great advice and the guys just welcome you with open arms around here.
8. **DO YOU FEEL LIKE YOU HAVE GIVEN BACK TO GOLF?** I try to and when things slow down with this job I will give more. That is my goal. I want to volunteer for local organizations and be more involved with the superintendents. They have been great to me.
9. **DO YOU HAVE HOBBIES OR SPECIAL INTERESTS AWAY FROM THE GAME?** Golf is it I guess, or golf and work. I just learned to work, work and work. If I have hobbies, it is my kids and my family. I have two young girls and I need to spend more time with them. Perhaps someday I will get back to being an outdoorsman. I was born and raised in Northern Michigan and I love the outdoors. I would like to ski more, things like that.
10. **WHAT IS HARDEST PART OF YOUR JOB?** Balancing family time and work time is very difficult. I really need to be better at it. As far as at work, I would say communication with members. You have to keep the communication open and honest with the members, and that's not always that easy.



11. WHAT IS THE EASIEST PART OF YOUR JOB?

I think here at Meadowbrook it is trusting employees to do their job. That has been the best part. This staff has been great. Me being new, I didn't have a lot of choices but to give guys opportunities and trust and they have been great to me. I like to give guys opportunities to learn.

12. WHAT ARE BIGGEST ISSUES FACING GOLF?

In my experience it has been finding good staff members. That's no knock on my guys here at Meadowbrook. We have a great staff, and a lot of guys returned from working here before and have helped. But I know in the industry not every place has it as well as us. Good, qualified people are just not that available, so I keep that in mind for the future.

13. IS THERE RESEARCH YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE ACCOMPLISHED IN TURFGRASS MANAGEMENT?

I don't have a specific answer for that because from what I see it they are doing so much right now. I think we are pretty lucky to have the resources we do.

14. WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN 10 YEARS?

I would love to be at Meadowbrook. For me and my family it is great. Our families are in Michigan, and we know we can raise a family here. This is a great club with a thriving membership and a lot of good things going on. I want to be a part of it for as long as they will have me.

15. HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE REMEMBERED 100 YEARS FROM NOW?

I think as hard-working and caring. That's really it.

16. WHO HAS INFLUENCED YOU THE MOST IN YOUR TURFGRASS CAREER?

Two people without a doubt stand out, though there have been many. Richard Brown, the owner at White Deer Country Club gave me my start, and Tim Kennelly, who is the head superintendent at Baltimore Country Club where I learned so much.

17. WHAT IS THE MOST VALUABLE THING YOU'VE LEARNED THAT YOU USE ALL THE TIME?

It is not a specific thing. I think it is learning about hard work and dedication. I have learned those things and what they mean.

18. HOW DO YOU RATE THE IMPORTANCE OF A SUPERINTENDENT IN A GOLF OPERATION?

On a scale of 1 to 10 it is 10. The super is extremely important. The golfers are there to play the golf course and if the super has it in good condition they are going to come back. It's that simple. I think that is crucially important.

19. WHAT PERCENTAGE OF TIME DO YOU DEVOTE TO NON-AGRONOMIC GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT?

I would say 25 to 30 percent, and that includes communication with membership, emails, meetings, paper work, things like that.

20. WHAT IS YOUR OPINION OF THE ROLE OF AN ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT?

You are only as good as the least experienced staff member and your assistant is involved at all levels. At Meadowbrook my assistants (Brian Hilfinger and Andy O'Haver) are paid well for industry standards, but at a lot of places they are underpaid and let's face it, all assistants are overworked. Thank goodness the assistants I've worked with have great work ethics. They get the full picture, and they are critically important to me and the operation.

21. WHAT IS YOUR OPINION OF THE ROLE OF THE GOLF COURSE MECHANIC OR TECHNICIAN?

It is right up there with the assistant superintendent. Our equipment tech has so much equipment to take care of, and you have to realize they get it all going. The fleet has to go and it is on them. If you are missing equipment, if a mower is down, something is not getting done.

22. WHAT IS YOUR OPINION OF GOLFERS WALKING VERSUS RIDING IN A CART TO PLAY?

I'm 100 percent for walking the golf course. That's the way golf was founded and the way it was meant to be. I hate cart tracks. I actually instituted and brought to the board a way to monitor cart traffic and isolate where they go. In a way, carts take away from the game. I'm so amazed that we have a huge caddie program at Meadowbrook. Of all the rounds of golf we have, caddie rounds are 35 percent. You don't hear of that at too many clubs. It helps wear and tear of golf course, especially new courses and renovations like we are working with right now. Every cart that doesn't go out saves some turf in my opinion.

23. WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST PET PEEVE IN GOLF COURSE ETIQUETTE?

Not repairing ball marks and not replacing divots like all superintendents I hope. No question getting members and guests to repair the golf course is tough. Another thing is when somebody hits a bunker shot and then walks and tracks sand across the entire green. Knock the sand off your shoes before you get up on the green.

24. WHAT OPINION DO YOU HAVE OF GREEN SPEEDS IN TODAY'S GAME? They are blown too much out of proportion. People watch TV and hear about it and think we need our green speeds to be at 13 or whatever. It is way more important to have a smooth green. Our goal is to have green speed between 10 and 11 and the greens smooth. Then the members are happy. Turf health can also be jeopardized if you get too caught up in green speed.

25. DO YOU HAVE A HUMOROUS OR INTERESTING STORY YOU CAN SHARE FROM YOUR CAREER? Out east one of our interns was running multi-manual simultaneous irrigation heads on a hot, humid day. At the club we had these twin brothers, who always complained, raised their voices, and were notorious for cursing about everything. They were really not very welcome around the place. Well on this day one of the brothers happened to be on a hole where a head came on and it blasted him and his bag. We were told he literally started screaming, and threw his bag down, had a fit on the golf course because of some water. It might not seem all that funny,

but if you knew the guys you would think it was just great it happened to one of them. It was a mistake, but it found the right member.

5 THINGS PEOPLE MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT ME

1. I do not watch movies
2. I love sports and I am an avid Michigan State Spartan fan.
3. I have never had a golf lesson and do not carry a handicap (currently working on establishing one this year)
4. I took my wife to my senior year prom in high school
5. I played soccer from elementary school until junior year in high school then I decided to play football my senior year.

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FROM NATIONAL



SHANE CONROY

BY SHANE CONROY

With the GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting coming up in a couple short months, I thought this would be a good time to provide everyone with further information regarding the meeting's activities.

The Chapter Delegates Meeting takes place each fall at the Hilton Kansas City Airport, and at GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas. Representatives at the meeting include one voting member from GCSAA-affiliated chapters, the GCSAA Board of Directors, GCSAA board candidates, GCSAA department leaders, as well as select staff. The role of the delegate is to

represent the opinions of their chapter. This can be on a variety of matters, including key programs and initiatives affecting the industry, GCSAA and its members, or topics related to the individual chapter. Along with the Delegates Meeting, this also rings in the new election year. Each delegate has the opportunity to meet GCSAA board candidates, and discuss their campaign platforms in small group, and individual settings.

All affiliated chapters must comply with GCSAA's affiliation agreement, which Section IV.G states:

'A Chapter representative shall attend the annual Chapter Delegates meeting unless otherwise approved by the Chapter Relations Committee. If an affiliated chapter fails to send a representative, who is a member of the chapter, to the Chapter Delegates Meeting for two consecutive years, the chapter delegate's right to vote at the next annual meeting shall be suspended. A letter will be sent to all eligible voting members of the chapter, notifying them that their chapter lost its privilege to vote on behalf of its members at the annual meeting.' This has not been an issue with the MiGCSA, as the chapter has had regular representation at the meeting throughout the years.

Responsibilities of the chapter delegate are widespread and include the following:

- Meet with your predecessor to learn about the roles and responsibilities of the chapter delegate
- If you are a first-time delegate, it is important for you to participate in a chapter delegate webcast and/or orientation session to help acclimate yourself to your role as chapter delegate.
- Openly express your chapter members' viewpoints and ideas during the meeting discussions.
- Meet the GCSAA board candidates, and take that information back to your chapter.
- Participate actively on the delegates listserv throughout the year and share the views and concerns of your chapter's leaders and members with GCSAA board members or staff.

Along with attending the Chapter Delegates Meeting itself, the delegate is also responsible for voting in the election at GCSAA's Annual Meeting, held each year at the Golf Industry Show. GCSAA voting members will elect a new association president, vice president, secretary/treasurer and directors at the meeting, as well as vote on any proposed bylaw amendments.

All GCSAA Class A, B, AA, A-Retired and B-Retired in good standing are eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting. GCSAA Bylaws specify that any GCSAA voting member has the choice of casting a ballot in one of the following ways:

- Individually
- By proxy (vote cast by another individual member)
- With affiliated chapter (vote cast by chapter delegate as part of the chapter voting block)

Please make sure you check your voting status, and determine if you are voting individually, or with your affiliated chapter. If your voting status is set to individual, and you do not attend the Annual Meeting, please ensure you update your voting status to be part of your affiliated chapter. As always. If you have any questions on anything related with the association or industry, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Best of luck as the season continues; I look forward to seeing everyone soon.

Shane

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BRETT ROBERTS

Brett Roberts is a Turf and Ornamental Specialist at Helena Chemical Company, and previously worked as a golf course superintendent. He holds a B.S. in Crop and Soil Science from Michigan State University and a Masters of Professional Studies-Turfgrass Management from Penn State University. He is married and he and his wife Lindsay have two daughters (Skyler, 3, Avery, eight months).



People...Products...Knowledge...

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN THE GOLF BUSINESS?

I played the game from a young age and then had summer jobs at The Emerald in Mid-Michigan starting at age 15 partially because I liked the game of golf and because they treated me really well there and I could make a few bucks in the summer. That led to going to Michigan State University and getting involved in the turf program. My older brother (Brian) is also involved in the turfgrass industry and was already in the program at Michigan State, and he exposed me to working in the industry.

WHO WAS YOUR GREATEST INFLUENCE ON YOU IN YOUR PERSONAL LIFE?

My late grandfather, Grandpa Jim, and my dad Eldon have had great personal influence. My grandfather helped shape us as people and my dad has just been a great role model and father. **Who was your greatest influence professionally?** I've worked for some really good guys, probably too many to name. I don't want to leave anyone out but before going to Helena I worked at Edgewood Country Club for nine years, six years as super and three as an assistant to Jud Hudnut. As a Michigan State intern I worked for Paul Galligan at Grand Traverse Resort. I also worked with Steve Fiorillo at Eagle Eye and Hawk Hollow and with Jay Eccleton, the MiGCSA past president and the general manager at The Emerald. I'm probably leaving somebody out. I've



INDUSTRY PROFILE

had a lot of people who taught me a lot, including my brother, Brian, who is the general manager and superintendent at The Grande.

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE ARE THE BIGGEST ISSUES FACING SUPERINTENDENTS TODAY?

I think finding and keeping a good seasonal staff is the biggest issue, and there seems to be no way around it. It is the generic answer right now, but far and away it is the hardest part of the job.

WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS WHEN WORKING WITH THE MICHIGAN GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATIONS?

I can relate more to the superintendent side because I'm new to this job. The biggest thing for the association is to continue providing quality educational opportunities for the superintendents. They put on good functions, provide education and really promote good comradery among the members. It enables the members to use each other as resources, and to help each other excel in their respective positions.

DO YOU HAVE A MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT IN YOUR CAREER?

When I was the golf course super at Edgewood Country Club I once meant to turn on irrigation heads on 11 green, but actually turned on 7. By the time I realized it all four members on the green were soaking wet.

WHAT IS YOUR BEST ADVICE TO DECISION MAKERS WHEN DOING BUSINESS?

I would say empower your golf course superintendent, the guy who is educated on everything, to make good sound decisions. When you are making decisions try and not only think short term, but how everything affects the big picture whether from a financial or scientific standpoint. Try to look at how all your decisions impact the short term, but also have long term effects. The golf course is a living entity and you need to look at how your decisions are going to impact things next year, and the year after that, not just the next day.

WHAT IS THE MOST REWARDING PART OF BEING IN AN INDUSTRY SUPPORT ROLE?

Making sound recommendations and seeing the golf course superintendent succeed with a program that I've written or a recommendation I've given on a single product or full program. **What is your best success story so far?** It might not really answer your question,

but I feel really fortunate to work in an industry with so many good people, a lot of friends and people I care about. That makes me feel successful. **What do you enjoy the most about your position?** I love the game of golf, the history of it, the classic architecture and modern design. I really love all levels of golf courses.

HOW OFTEN ARE YOU ON THE ROAD?

I primarily cover Eastern Michigan, but work with other reps because of relationships with different customers. I'm seeing guys five days a week. I'm on pace to probably drive 50,000 to 60,000 miles this year. Peak season is the most, but in the winter doing education and seminars where I also see my customers.

WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER THE BEST PRODUCT YOU OFFER AND WHY?

We distribute a premium line of nutritionals, wetting agents and herbicides. In addition to our proprietary products, we also sell all agency products as well.

WHY AND WHEN DID YOU CHOOSE YOUR PROFESSION?

The summer after graduating from high school my brother Brian was interning out West in the mountains of Wyoming. I moved out there for the summer, lived in the mountains, worked on a golf course and that is when the idea of doing it as a career clicked with me. That's when I thought this is what I want to do for a living. We had a lot of fun. I was 18, we were on our own and it was a fun summer.

IS THERE A TIME IN GOLF HISTORY YOU WOULD LIKE TO VISIT AND WHY?

The early 1900s when Donald Ross was in his heyday and other noteworthy designers of that time were designing all the golf courses that have turned into the most premium places ever and hosts of major tournaments and have the most history. I would have loved to see what went into the thought process at that time for golf courses that are still considered the best golf courses in the country.

HOW MANY CONFERENCES OR EDUCATIONAL EVENTS DO YOU ATTEND IN A YEAR?

I get to six to eight per season. With all the new products and new cultural programs it is important to invest the time and energy to keep on the cutting edge of what is going on in the industry.

WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE BEST EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY OR CONFERENCE THAT TURF CARE PROFESSIONALS CAN ATTEND?

It would be the MTF conference put on every year. The MSU turf team and the foundation do a great job every year setting up great talks and good speakers.

HOW DO YOU THINK THE INDUSTRY WILL BE DIFFERENT IN 10 YEARS?

I think golfer demands will continue to go up meaning the expectations will continue to increase. I think there will be more renovations at courses to invest in long term vitality. Golf courses are living entities. As they decline they get to a point where they need to reinvest for the long term health. I'm not saying major renovations either. Smaller ones are important, too.

ARE THERE ANY NEW PRODUCTS ON THE HORIZON?

There is always new stuff we are working on to improve the product line. Helena Chemical invests a lot of time in research and development and is continuing to improve our proprietary product line. As demand for quality turf goes up we try to match that with time and money put into research and development.

HOW MANY ROUNDS OF GOLF DO YOU PLAY IN A YEAR?

I play 10 to 12, but hoping that goes up when kids get older. The trend has not been good in recent years.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE GOLF COURSE TO PLAY?

I have been fortunate to play a lot of the great golf courses in Michigan, but where I have the most fun is The Grande playing with my brothers and my father. I have another brother, Jason. He doesn't work in golf. I have a lot of favorite courses. There are so many great ones in Michigan.

IF YOU HAD A DIFFERENT PROFESSION, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

It would be something outdoors – fisheries, wildlife, but scientific related in some way. I always enjoyed science. Enjoying the outdoors is what initially drew me to work in turf.

WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE GOLFER AND WHY?

They are all good guys, but I like Jordan Spieth, I root for him I guess. He is fun and exciting to watch, especially in the big moments. He seems to be able to flip a switch and do impressive things.



HAVE YOU EVER HAD A HOLE IN ONE?

This is a good story. We were playing in a group of 10 on a little course near Jackson (Silver Lake Golf Club in Brooklyn). I made a hole in one using a pink golf ball so my ball would look different on the green and fairway, and then I made the ace with all those friends there and the pink golf ball.

DO YOU HAVE ANY HOBBIES AWAY FROM GOLF?

I snowboard in the winter time. I grew up in a family of skiers and snowboarders. My wife and I will do that together, and we take a lot of trips out west where we like to vacation. Deer camp with my family is big and just spending time with my two kids. That's pretty much it. That's all I do.

5 THINGS PEOPLE MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT ME

1. My wife Lindsay and I met during our first day of college at MSU.
2. My youngest daughter, Avery, and I share the same birthday
3. Days after graduating high school I hopped on a greyhound bus to go spend the summer with my older brother who was in turf school at the time and working on his internship in the great state of Wyoming. It was a great summer of working every day, playing golf when time allowed, hiking, and the freedom of being 18 years old in a great new place. Life lessons learned included: I really liked turf, there are so many fun things to do in the great outdoors, and not to ever ride a greyhound bus for 48 hours straight again.
4. My parents have a family Christmas tree farm where I grew up. During the weekends in December people will come out and "choose and cut" their Christmas tree. My brothers and I will help work the tree farm on the weekends. It is really a lot of fun as people are generally in a great mood when they come out to pick out their Christmas tree for the holidays.
5. At a young age my neighbor and I designed our own golf course on the back 40 including different heights of cut, hole locations, select tree removals, and even a few bunkers. Unfortunately, I of the doglegs brought the house into play (without parental permission). I quickly broke a window which forced a redesign.



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ZACHARY REDMAN

Zach Redman is 21 year old and is currently enrolled at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City and working in a coordinated landscape management certificate program with Michigan State University. He is also in his third year as the Assistant Superintendent at Lochenheath Golf Club in Williamsburg for Superintendent Joe Ettawagshik.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN THE GOLF BUSINESS?

My parents were members at a local golf club in Lake City, Missaukee Golf Club, so I grew up around the course. My Dad was on the board and I played a lot there and loved the game. In high school I was taking classes at the tech center my junior and senior year and I was in the agro-science and natural resources program. A class advisor, Mark Johnson, discussed my options with me and he knew Brian Matchett from MSU classes in Traverse City. We talked about it and I thought I would it a try. I love golf and I love the outdoors.

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB IN GOLF AND WHAT WAS A KEY THING YOU LEARNED FROM IT?

I worked the summer in between my junior and senior year in high school at Missaukee Golf Course as a laborer. I worked for Bucky Harris, who is now retired. **What was your favorite part of that first job?** He had me cutting cups after two weeks and I took to that and did that almost every day. It was fun setting up the course, moving tee markers, moving hole locations and setting up the course different each day.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT YOUR CURRENT GOLF COURSE?

This is my third year here. I was an intern the first year after my first semester at college, then worked on the crew in my second year and just last fall I became the assistant to Joe Ettawagshik. **What are your current responsibilities?** I help manage the crew and run the crew, do all the fertilizer and chemical applications, help plan for what the crew is doing that day, and also have a big part in set up of water each day.

ON THE JOB, WHAT PIECE OF EQUIPMENT WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE IN YOUR ARSENAL FOR GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT?

Probably a Ventrac, and with all the attachments; they can mow, you can get stump grinders for them, they are really versatile and they go through rough terrain.

WHAT IS THE OLDEST PIECE OF EQUIPMENT STILL BEING UTILIZED IN YOUR FLEET? We have a John Deere Sand Pro that we still use on a regular basis. It's probably from the 1990s.



WHO ON YOUR CREW MAKES YOU LAUGH THE MOST AND WHY? Our guy that mows the rough, Greg. He's an older guy and he has a lot of great stories. He makes us laugh at any given moment.

IF YOU HAD A MULLIGAN ON A DIFFERENT CAREER CHOICE, WHAT WOULD IT BE? I would probably be a water fowl guide, somewhere guiding hunting trips.

IF YOU COULD CHANGE ANY GOLF HOLE ON YOUR COURSE WITHOUT REPERCUSSION, WHICH ONE WOULD IT BE? Hole No. 16. The way it is sloped it is hard to hold any water on it. It goes dry and you really have to keep an eye on it, and some days you are dragging hose to it all day. I would level it out some. I like the layout of the hole and the way it plays, but the management practice is not the easiest to maintain.

WHAT IS THE CULTURAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICE YOU COULD NOT DO WITHOUT? Aerification – letting the greens breathe. **How many crew members do you have on your maintenance staff?** We have 12 crew members. **What type of irrigation system do you have and approximately how many heads?** It's Toro, and there are 1,200 on the golf course and about 2,000 landscape heads.

WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS FROM THE MICHIGAN GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION? I've been a member two years and it is a great way to network and support each other. I really like the outings they do, and the tournaments. It is a great way to get together, keep up on the industry and have a good time, too.

HOW HAVE YOU GIVEN BACK TO YOUR PROFESSION? I try to teach others the little things about the job, always explain what I'm doing and how it helps the golf course. I pass on what I've learned. **What is the most difficult part of the job?** Managing my time and doing what I need to get done while also managing others and making sure they are staying busy and being productive. It's hard to manage others when

you need to get other things done. **What is the easiest part of your job?** I love being outside and just working in the industry. I love golf, being on a golf course is fun and it is why I do what I do.

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST ISSUES FACING ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS TODAY? It think it is competition for the next level – a superintendent's job. You have to know your stuff to get to that next level and get that opportunity.

WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN 10 YEARS? Hopefully I will have a superintendent job by then, and somewhere in Northern Michigan. I love it here, want to stay here. **How would you like to be remembered in the future?** I guess maybe as a guy who changed a course into something more than it was when he got there, and a guy who was a good leader and role model to others in the industry.

WHO HAS INFLUENCED YOU THE MOST ABOUT TURFGRASS MANAGEMENT? Hands down, Joe Ettawagshik, my current boss. He is a good guy. I have learned a lot. He has taught me a lot and I still have a long way to go. **What is the most valuable thing you have learned?** Attention to detail is most valuable. On and off the course, like life, it is the little things. On detail can make a thing go from okay to great.

HOW DO YOU RATE THE IMPORTANCE OF AN ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S ROLE? It is pretty important. If Joe has something else going on, I have to continue the project and keep thing going smoothly. That's important. **What is your opinion of the role of the mechanic?** I think it is very important that you work as a team with the mechanic, and make it a team effort to help him get whatever fixed. Me being younger than him I can't just walk in and tell him what to do. He has been here longer and he is older than me. I respect that and work with him.

WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST PET PEEVE CONCERNING GOLF COURSE ETIQUETTE? People who do not fix ball marks or divots. Isn't that every turf guy's pet peeve?



WHAT ARE YOUR OPINIONS OF GREEN SPEED AND THE GAME OF GOLF TODAY? I think green speed is focused on too much to be honest. I would rather have a green roll true rather than inconsistent and super-fast. It should be playable to all types and levels of players. I want greens that are in good shape, healthy and consistent rather than the fastest greens in the state.

IF YOU COULD CHANGE ANYTHING ABOUT GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT, WHAT WOULD IT BE? The hours it takes to maintain a piece of property. I don't know how to change it – maybe more money and more laborers. But it is the hours you have to put into it.

DESCRIBE YOUR RECYCLING PROGRAM? "We have a very good one that Joe has created. The people from the kitchen now have one one box or bag of recycling or compost instead of everything being all trash or garbage. It was a program Joe started and it works."

AWAY FROM GOLF, WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SPORT? If it wasn't golf it would probably be football. I love the Spartans.
What type of hobbies do you have away from golf? I do a lot of hunting, water fowl hunting, and fishing. I golf as much as I can my index right now is probably a 10.

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE GOLF COURSE? I just recently played True North in Harbor Springs and I really like that. It would be that one or here at Lochenheath. I think this is a great golf course. **Do you have a bucket list course?** The Old Course at St. Andrews I guess. **What is the favorite club in your bag?** A 7-wood is it. Not many people carry one any more, but that is one that always stays in my bag.

WHO IS THE GREATEST INFLUENCE IN YOUR PERSONAL LIFE? My dad, Rob is always pushing me to be the best I can be, and supporting me in my decisions. He is a good guy, a driver at UPS for almost 30 years. I get my work ethic from him. I don't stop until the job is done. That's very important in this industry.

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE FOOD OR RESTAURANT?

I have family in Alabama and any time we are near the south I have to go to a Waffle House. They have this All-Star Breakfast with a little bit of everything.

WHAT VEHICLE WOULD YOU DRIVE IF YOU HAD A MONEY TREE GROWING IN YOUR YARD? I'm an outdoors guy, a truck guy. I would have a Chevy Duramax or something.

WHAT IS YOUR DREAM SCRAMBLE TEAM? My Mom, Dad and my cousin Travis would be a great team. Travis is a good player, and Mom is really good. Her hitting from the forward tees gives us an advantage in a scramble.



5 THINGS PEOPLE MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT ME

1. My left front tooth is fake. (Fell face first from a basketball hoop when I was younger).
2. I golf left handed but do everything else right handed.
3. I am a 3x state 4-H archery champion.
4. I used to race BMX. #2 in the state in 2008.
5. I am a avid waterfowl hunter.



TO THINK, FOR SOME IT'S ONLY A GAME.

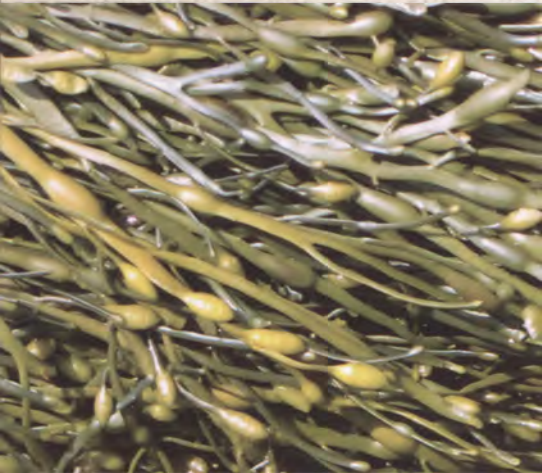
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2017 NORTHERN FUNDRAISER RESULTS

With 205 tee times for members, friends and families taking part in the 2017 Northern Fundraiser at Arcadia Bluffs on Sunday and Monday the fundraising year is off to a great start. A spectacular day with just enough weather to remind you that you were on the lake shore welcomed the players on Monday.

A very special thank you to our 2017 Premier Fundraiser Sponsors BASF, Bayer, F.I.P. Irrigation Services, Jacobsen, Matt LaFontaine Automotive, Site One Golf, Spartan Distributors, Syngenta, Target, and Tri-Turf. Also a thank you to Turf Fuel for the hot dogs on tee #7 & #15 and for taking the team photo on #15 tee. There were 10 proximity prizes for the day, four closest to the pins and

six long drives thank to our Premier Sponsors; the winners will each get \$25 in Gift Certificates to Arcadia Bluffs. And thank you to our other hole sponsors Control Dynamics, The MSU Turf Team, Parjana and J.W. Turf.

Thank you to MiGCSA members Paul Emling, Vice President of Operations, Jim Bluck, CGCS, Director of Agronomy, Trevor Nash, Superintendent, Ryan Williams, Superintendent, Bryan Kiel Assistant Superintendent Pat Sullivan, Equipment Technician and the entire staff at Arcadia Bluffs including PGA Golf Professionals Zack Chapin, Josh Dickson & COO Bill Shriver. F&B Director Donna LaLond, Director of Lodge Operations, Ketty Zamora.

10 tee was the place to be at Arcadia Bluffs on Monday June 5 during the MiGCSA Northern Fundraiser. Golfers approaching the tee were invited to choose between a free golf ball or a beer compliments of the MSU Turf Team representing the MTF. MSU representatives on hand included Nancy Dykema, Kevin Frank, Aaron Hathaway, and Thom Nikolai. And the final tally was 43 golf balls and 105 beers (57% Oberon, 23% Miller Lite, 11% Labatt Blue Light, and 9% Labatt Blue). The MSU Turf Team thanks you for your support.



2017 Northern Fundraiser Results, Continued from Page 35

Closest to the pins:

#2 – Matt Young
 #6 – Kyle White
 #13 – Greg Pattinson
 #17 – Garrett Rebone

Long Drives:

#3 – Cooper Tarter
 #7 – Cam Copley
 #11 – Andy Gilroy
 #16 – Doug "Big Daddy" Hoeh
 #18 – Bill O'Connell

Putting Contest:

Mitch Wisniewski & Paul Galligan both made it!

Skins:

Eagle 3 on #3 - Sieggreen
 Birdie 2 on #13 - Rob Pylar, Andy Gilroy,
 Terry Poley, Nick Johnson

Poker Game:

Sieggreen with four of a kind Aces

Winning Scramble Teams:**1st place**

59 - Team Bucks Run

2nd place (scorecard playoff, 3 teams at 60)

60 - Sieggreen

3rd place

60 – Higgs



MiGCSA
 Michigan Golf Course Superintendents Association
 2017 Northern Fundraiser

*The winning team from Bucks Run Jon Conklin,
 Jeff Sweet, Kyle White, Aaron White.*

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2017 MDARD INSPECTION & FINES



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August 9, 2017

Dear Michigan Golf Course Representatives,

Since our last communication in May 2015, the Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division (PPPMD) again takes the opportunity to familiarize golf course personnel with regulatory requirements for the commercial use of pesticides in and around golf courses in Michigan, and to provide an update of our inspection activities. Please note that a "pesticide" includes any substance or mixture of substances intended to control pests and that Regulation 637, Rule 4 states that a pesticide shall be used in a manner that is consistent with its label.

As of June 2017, PPPMD:

- Has completed 270 compliance inspections at golf courses.
- Found 158 (59%) non-compliance issues, for which a Stop Prohibited Conduct Orders (SPCO) were issued. In many cases, the SPCO is followed up with a warning letter and/or a Notice of Intent with an administrative fine.
- Issued 124 warning letters.
- Issued 51 administrative fines exceeding \$25,000.

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451, Part 83, Section 8314, Pesticide Control, states, "A person shall not apply a pesticide for a commercial purpose or in the course of his or her employment unless that person is either a certified or registered applicator".

There are a few exceptions, including persons who are not holding themselves out as being in the business of applying pesticides and are also using a general-use ready-to-use pesticide (a pesticide that is applied directly from its original container consistent with label directions, such as an aerosol insecticide or rodenticide bait pack that does not require mixing or loading prior to application). It should be noted that "ready-to-use" pesticides do not include pesticides applied through a granular spreader.

In the course of his or her employment, all golf course employees who use pesticides must meet all the following requirements:

Applicators must pass Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) examinations to become certified or registered. All commercial applicators take a Core exam, which covers general issues such as laws, labeling, and personal protective equipment. In addition, persons obtaining a certification credential will take one or more category-specific examinations that tests their knowledge of pests, methods of application, calibration and other issues that are specific to that type of application. There are categories for turf, ornamental, and aquatic pest management applications that are applicable to golf course operations. Other categories include structural pest control, mosquito pest control, and right-of-way pest control.

MDARD has also partnered with Metro Institute to provide more choices for pesticide applicator exam locations. Metro Institute offers computer-based testing that can be scheduled at a date and time that fits your schedule. For more information on this testing option, visit our website at www.michigan.gov/mdardpestcert and select "Examination Process."

To prepare for the exams, study manuals are available from Michigan State University Cooperative Extension (MSUE) and can be obtained through a local MSUE office or ordered through the MSUE website www.michigan.gov/pestexam, and then clicking on the link titled "Where to Obtain Study Materials." Once you have studied the

manuals and are prepared to take the certification exams, you can register for an exam session using the above link.

In addition to the certification requirement, Regulation 636, Rule 15, outlines recordkeeping requirements for the use of pesticides on golf courses. The recordkeeping requirement for each pesticide application includes:

- (a) The name and EPA registration number of the pesticide applied.
- (b) Concentration of the pesticide applied.
- (c) The amount of pesticide end use dilution applied.
- (d) The target pest, purpose, or crop site.
- (e) The date the pesticide was applied.
- (f) The address or location of pesticide application.
- (g) The method and the rate of application.

The notification and posting requirements for pesticide applications on golf courses are contained in Regulation 637, Rule 11(3) and state:

All broadcast, foliar, or space pesticide applications that are made to public or private golf courses by a commercial applicator shall be in compliance with all of the following provisions:

- (a) Applicators shall notify users of, or visitors to, the golf course in accordance with all of the following requirements:
 - (i) Notification of pesticide application shall be provided on a poster or placard that is constructed of all-weather material.
 - (ii) The poster or placard shall contain a general statement that from time to time pesticides are in use in the management of turf and ornamental pests.
 - (iii) The poster or placard shall state that questions or concerns that arise in relation to the pesticide application shall be directed to the golf course superintendent or his or her designated representative.
 - (iv) The poster or placard shall state that, upon request, the superintendent or his or her representative will supply the information specified in subdivision (b) of this subrule.

- (v) The poster or placard shall be displayed prominently in the pro shop, locker rooms, or registration area.

- (b) At the time of broadcast, foliar, or space pesticide application to golf course property, the applicator shall post, on the first and tenth tees, in a conspicuous place, a sign that states all of the following information:

- (i) The date and time of application.
- (ii) The common name of the pesticide applied.
- (iii) The areas treated.
- (iv) The label reentry precautions.
- (v) The name of a person who may be contacted for further information.

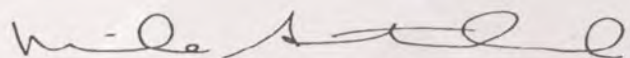
- (c) Posting requirements shall remain in effect until specific label reentry requirements have been fulfilled.

You should also be aware that if you mix and load pesticides, other than in hand-held equipment, for over 10 days in a calendar year, you will be required to conduct the mixing and loading operation on a mix and load pad that complies with the requirements in Regulation 637, Rule 6.

Please be advised that violations of Act 451, Part 83 Pesticide Control, or rules promulgated thereunder are misdemeanor offenses and are subject to administrative fines of up to \$1,000 per count or court administered fines of up to \$5,000 per count upon conviction in a court of law.

For additional information please visit our website at www.michigan.gov/mdardpest or contact MDARD at 1-800-292-3939.

Sincerely,



Michael Stoliecki, Pesticide Section Manager
Pesticide & Plant Pest Management Div.



All of the modules were created with help from the DEQ, MDARD and DNR and are reviewed on a yearly basis to keep them compliant with new laws and regulations.

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A MESSAGE FROM

Each year the MTF is much like many of you managing courses in Michigan. We find ourselves both looking forward to the remaining summer and what needs to be done...and reflecting on what has been accomplished so far. The midseason is always a chance to gauge if expectations are being met ...and if there is enough gas in the tank ...to take on the unexpected items that always find their way to the To-Do list. For the MTF, many of our objectives at this point are on schedule and we hope to continue that theme. The Foundation has a primary goal to fund research and provide the necessary items for that make that research possible. The income generated by various events, contributions, donations, dues and other sources are all part of the MTF Budget process and planning properly requires a great deal of effort from all those involved. On our list of revenue generating elements are four key occasions that we focus on. Respectfully, the Annual Conference, TeeTimes4Research, LaFontaine Golf Benefit and Field Day are all the coordinated and organized chairs who have worked diligently to make sure they all run smoothly. As we prepare for Field Day we are midway through those key dates. Each of these events are conducted by different members of the Board of Directors and their time is much appreciated.

Amy Fouty our current Vice President and past Conference Chair has steered our new Conference Chair, Curt Boak, all summer long as they prepare for our event at the Kellogg Center once again. Curt has been assembling all items needed. And as a schedule reminder, this year's conference will be held the first week in January- Wednesday – Friday (January 3 – 5). Dr. Kevin Frank has worked tirelessly at procuring a list of speakers and the lineup is one that we are very proud of.

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Our TeeTimes4Turf chair, Rob Pylar, did a massive amount of work to ensure it success and he should be congratulated for all his efforts. In that same vein, a thank you to Julie Schwehofer for all her continued help with the online auction. She has been our resource for many improvements and we certainly appreciate all the input she has provided.

As we turn the corner for the summer, the LaFontaine Golf Benefit launched a new date and was held June 22. Wonderful weather, a great turnout and terrific host made the day a huge success. Once again thank you to all the Tee and Corporate Sponsors who continue to show support of the MTF in general and specifically, the LaFontaine Endowment. Thank you to the Osburn Family for hosting the event at the Coyote Preserve and a special thank you to Superintendent E.J. Martin for providing great conditions for all the participants. All proceeds from this event go to the LaFontaine Endowment which one of our 3 Endowments that fund research for our Turf Team at MSU.

As of this writing, we are preparing for our annual Field Day at the Hancock Turf Research Center. Field Day chair and MTF Secretary, Lee Collins has also been working with Dr. Frank on this year's event and all indications are that we will once again have over 300 people in



attendance. The MTF works with all industries related to Turf and Field Day provides the one day that our Turf Team and all those involved at the Hancock Center can interact with so many interested industry partners. Field Day and most of the ongoing research at the HTC requires coordination by Mark Collins, Manager of the Hancock Center, and his staff. Mark plays a vital role with the MSU Turf Team as they balance all the plots and research projects while maintaining equipment and staffing. Many of the products and equipment used at the HTRC are donated by our various industry partners and the MTF and MSU are certainly fortunate that the State of Michigan has the backing of so many professional allies.

For certain items that are out of the typical maintenance or research norm, the MTF will often co-sponsor or fully fund requests made by the Turf Team. Each item requested is reviewed and the Board of Directors and we work diligently to research the most economical and plausible use of the funding that is derived from our efforts. Once approved, Mark Collins sets up the delivery, upkeep and operation of those pieces of equipment or products. Mark is involved with all daily decisions at the HTRC and an update of our most recent Founders Society expenditure and a short review of ongoing items are provided by Mark in this issue as well.

As stated earlier, midseason is a time to gauge where we are...and where we are going. The Board of Directors welcome any comments from our membership on how we may improve our efforts and what items may be of importance to each of you who exercise turf for their livelihood. The Board also encourages any of you who may feel a certain amount of pride in their relationship with MSU or want to give back to the industry to consider running for a Board position or becoming involved in one of our committees. The MTF has relied on many exceptional captains over the years to provide leadership, innovation and a belief that helping our MSU Turf Team is important for our industry and those involved in it.

Finally, a much deserved thank you to all the professors on the Turf Team and the staff at the Hancock Turf Research Center. We sometimes take for granted the amount of resources we have here in the state of Michigan and it is easy to become cavalier about how good we have it. As Adam Ikamas is quick to point out in his travels for the MIGCSA, there is no other area in this country that can match combined efforts of the allied golf associations we have in our home state. It is best exemplified by the conditions of our courses, the collective efforts of all associations, constant input from our researchers and a bond between all that this is a great industry and we should be proud of it.

Carey Mitchelson

President – Michigan Turfgrass Foundation



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Linda and Dan Billette (Bloomfield Hills C.C.) addresses attendees at the 2017 Wee One Fundraiser, held May 22nd at Birmingham Country Club.



Winners of the Two Best Ball net team competition were:

1st place – Micah Wise, Phil Gutowski, Mike McClure, Joe Ettawageshik

2nd Place – Dan Dingman, Tom Healy, Jim Reinhart, Al Tochet

3rd Place – Rob Pylar, Jeff Fisetto, Nick Johnson, Sal Sulolli

Closest-to-the Pin prizes were won by:

Phil Gutowski - Hole #3

Jeff Frentz - Hole #11

Longest Drive prizes were won by:

Kris Kalil - Hole #1

Jeff Frentz - Hole #14

2017 WEE ONE FUNDRAISER

The 8th annual Michigan fundraiser for the Wee One Foundation was held on Monday, May 22nd at Birmingham Country Club. The Wee One Foundation is a benevolence organization that assists families of golf course maintenance professionals who have suffered a catastrophic illness and need financial assistance. A sold out field of 92 golfers participated in the event.

Linda Billette, wife of Bloomfield Hills Country Club superintendent Dan Billette, stood before a gathering of nearly 120 superintendents and industry professionals at Birmingham Country Club and did something that she used to do without much effort - she spoke. With a tongue that was rebuilt from part of her abdomen just two months earlier, Mrs. Billette addressed the attendees of the Michigan 2017 Wee One fundraiser.

"I never imagined that I would be in this situation right now, at 53 years of age. I was healthy, I ate right, but it just goes to show you that we're not in control of what happens to us," said Mrs. Billette. After years of trying to figure out why she was having difficulty talking and swallowing, doctors finally discovered the cause - a cancerous mass at the base of her tongue - adenocystic carcinoma of the salivary gland and tongue, Stage 4. She had a 10-hour surgery to remove her tongue and to reconstruct the base of her mouth in March. With skyrocketing medical bills, the Billettes were nominated for assistance from the Wee One Foundation. "I was just like you for many years, playing in this tournament, enjoying every minute of it but never, ever did I dream that I might be one of the beneficiaries of it," said Dan Billette. "Wee One came to us this year with our situation and it was really inspiring."

Mrs. Billette faces months of therapy and radiation treatment but her resolve is undaunted. "We're not looking back, we're moving forward. That's the attitude that I'm trying to take on this journey that I'm on. In light of all that, we are so grateful to the Wee One for donating to us."

The success of this year's event, which raised nearly \$25,000 for the foundation, is largely due to the generosity and support of the sponsoring companies shown at right.

Thanks to Superintendent Dan Dingman, Assistant Superintendent Mike Montney, Operations Manager Joe Basso, Golf Pro Joe Herbstreith, Golf Services Scott Coleman, Catering Director Michelle Ray, Chef Rich King and Logistics Manager Gordon Lacy for their assistance in hosting the event.

Lastly, thanks to the team of volunteers who work behind the scenes to make the event a success: Steve Cook, Bonnie Van Poppelen and Andy Gianino of Oakland Hills CC, Scott Rettmann of Walnut Creek CC, Jeff Fisette of St. Clair Golf Club, and Mike Plague of Great Lakes Turf, LLC.

The Wee One Foundation, which was started in 2004, has gifted over \$1,000,000. Though a milestone, more importantly, the Foundation has helped over 80 families in 27 different States and continues to do so through support generated from events, private giving, and industry partnerships.



Past President (2016) Justin Bickel & Board Member Doug Ware representing the MiGCSA.

*** Keep an eye out for the save the date email announcing The 2018 Wee One Fundraiser being held May 18th, 2018 at Meadowbrook C.C. To learn more about the Wee One Foundation, visit weeone.org today.



A tribute to Wayne Otto, CCES

www.WeeOne.org

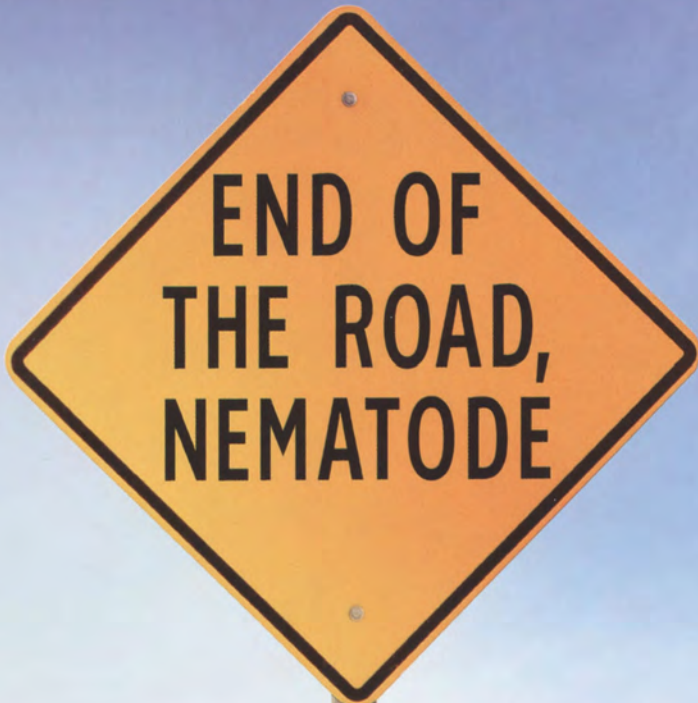
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NEMATODES: ARE THEY BECOMING MORE OF A PROBLEM ON GOLF GREENS IN MICHIGAN?

By: Fred Warner
Michigan State University
fwnemalb@msu.edu

The Problem

Evidence collected over the past 20 -25 years suggests plant-parasitic nematode numbers are on the rise on golf greens in Michigan. The only survey completed for nematodes on turf in Michigan was in 1993 when 16 golf courses/country clubs participated and 109 samples collected including some from home lawns and commercial turf. Plant-parasitic nematodes were detected in 106 of the 109 samples processed and 12 kinds (genera) were found. Very few of the samples (7.3%) had nematode counts at extremely damaging levels (high or severe risk ratings).

If we jump forward to 2013, when the Diagnostic Lab at MSU received close to 70 turf samples collected from golf course greens in our region, 73% of those samples had nematode counts at high or severe levels. Therefore, although this information is somewhat anecdotal and there are one or two caveats that apply, it does appear obvious that nematodes numbers are on the rise.

There are possibly five reasons nematode problems may be on the rise in turf in MI. 1) There are more sand-based greens. Coarse-textured soils, in general, favor nematodes. 2) More greens are dominated by *Poa annua*, which seems preferred by nematodes over creeping

bentgrass. 3) As greens get older (mature), they become more susceptible to nematodes. 4) The movement away from carbamate and organophosphate insecticides as these products would have provided some nematode control. 5) A trend toward warmer winters, which would allow for better survival of nematodes.

So, what does this mean for golf course superintendents or turf managers? Probably, more headaches. Feeding by plant-parasitic nematodes does not result in the production of characteristic secondary (above ground) symptoms. For this reason, nematode problems often go undiagnosed. Superintendents often say they spend two or three years treating for yellow patch or some other disease caused by fungi before the lack of control draws them to another explanation. Often learning a problem is due to nematodes, leads to a very frustrating conclusion. Nematodes are difficult to manage because until recently, there have not been many good products available for nematode control.

Bayer has a new product labeled for use on turf called Indemnify. The active ingredient, fluopyram, is in the SDHI class of fungicides. Succinate dehydrogenase plays a very important role in animals and inhibition of this enzyme can lead to death. The use of fluopyram (like ILevo on soybean) has resulted in nematode control on agricultural crops and results so far on turf (research conducted in Florida and New England) appear favorable. Syngenta also has a new nematicide for use of turf called Divanem. Its active ingredient is abamectin.

There are other products labeled for use on turf in Michigan such as Nimitz (a contact nematicide) and Nortica (a biological). Some superintendents from western PA, who send their nematode samples to MSU, have had good success using Nortica.

This message and research is provided in part by the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation.

The mission of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation is to support the research, teaching, and extension programs at Michigan State University.

If you are not an MTF member and would like to support this world class turf research please consider becoming a supporting Member.



Anticipation is sales reps will promote the sale and use of these products for nematode control on golf greens in Michigan. However, we need to address a critical question. Are nematodes present at damaging levels on many greens? Nematode types and numbers are best determined in a laboratory by a trained Nematologist because plant-parasitic nematodes are all microscopic. This proposal will help MTF golf members determine if nematodes are present in sufficient numbers to be damaging to putting surfaces.

Objective

The goal is to collect samples from 100 golf greens (2 from 50 separate courses) in Michigan for nematode analyses. The survey will be limited to members of the MTF & MIGCSA to include representation from the entire state. Diagnostic work for the survey is being paid for by the MTF as a member benefit.

Methodology

For collection, one pint of soil is adequate. If greens exhibit symptoms of some kind, sample from the margins of those areas. However, if no symptoms are evident, collect samples at random. Multiple soil cores are preferred. However, the plugs from new cups are adequate. Please be sure to note the sampling plan on the submittal form as well as the dominant grass species inhabiting the green.

Evidence suggests nematode problems are more common on older than new greens, so please note the ages of the greens (if known) with the samples. Results should be available within 14 days of submission, often sooner. Recommendations for control, if necessary, will accompany the nematode data.

To participate in this sampling contact MTF at miturfgrass@gmail.com or 517-392-5003



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ASSOCIATION UPDATE



ADAM IKAMAS, CGCS

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

I remember back at MSU I was told I needed to have a career plan, goals and objectives to get to my version of success. Of course, at that time I was sure that I would be hosting major championships every year at a "top 100" club with a huge budget or something to that effect. Then that plan changed as I completed an internship and headed up to Shanty Creek as an Assistant Superintendent for Steve Shane on the Cedar River Course. I had the good fortune of being hired just two year later at Crystal Mountain where I really enjoyed being the Superintendent for those 36 holes for 7 years, met and married my wife in 2011 and left Crystal to take on this new Association that was really in a tough spot with not much to prove it would work. I had no idea that would happen back in 2002 but so far so good!

I would imagine many of you reading this have a similar experience as to what you planned for and what life changed for you. Maybe not, maybe you hit every mark and are doing exactly what you thought you would be doing, if so well done!

The MiGCSA is the same way. Back in 2008 and well before that there were many ideas of what the statewide chapter could be. Where we can go and how high we can fly. In many ways, we have surpassed some of those goals and in others

we have yet to achieve them. Some goals just no longer make sense and have been replaced by new ones. But to accommodate for this with the chapter, and personally, I feel that you need

to be flexible. Much like that perfect plan you put together in the winter months or even for the current month, week, day or even the next hour adaptability is key. Superintendents are masters of ingenuity it is why so many are often successful in other areas of the golf operation or outside the golf business altogether.

The MiGCSA is not perfect, we make mistakes all the time. It happens to us all. The key is to continue to be progressive and adaptive. So, know this when you have an idea or a suggestion we love to hear them. Help us guide your association into new and exciting territory. How can we better serve you, how can we better provide value through programs and services that enhance and promote our profession? So, do me a solid and when you read this send me a quick email at adamikamas@migcsa.org with an idea, copy our President Mark Ostrander on it as well, mostrand2@yahoo.com. Will we use every idea? No, probably not. Will we consider every one, absolutely. If we don't use it and you want it to happen anyway get on a committee and help make it happen. Remember you are us, you are the MiGCSA, not the Board, not the Committees and certainly not me. It is you, you are part of it, you make it matter. What is your plan, how can you accomplish it? It all starts with an action no matter how small.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam Ikamas". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Adam Ikamas, CGCS

MiGCSA Executive Director

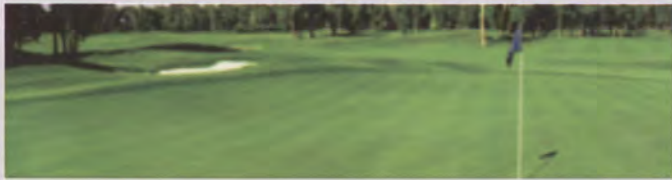
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will bring you closer to
your goals than a mile
of intention."*

Dr. Steve Maraboli

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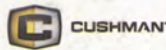
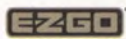
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