



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, 1958

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ENGLAND

The Annual Meeting of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England went as scheduled. Sixty-five members and guests enjoyed a fine luncheon at the Waltham Field Station.

Door prizes were won by members: Norman Barnes, Phil Cassidy, Al Allen, and Mike O'Grady with the usual "cheers".

This was a business meeting and the afternoon went all too quickly. Reports and election of officers was followed by discussion of the National Turf Conference in Washington February 2-7. National and local policy as well as the number of positions open in Parks and Metropolitan areas.

It seems worthy of note that we record the opinion that it seems unlikely there is a more dedicated professional group in that most of our time and efforts are spent in promoting advances in turf culture and not in personal gain. No doubt we reap many benefits and personal satisfactions from the effort spent in our educational interests.

The following slate of officers was elected for 1958:

<i>President</i>	Manuel Francis
<i>1st Vice Pres.</i>	Albert Allen
<i>2nd Vice Pres.</i>	N. J. Sperandio
<i>3rd Vice Pres.</i>	Paul O'Leary
<i>Secretary</i>	William Ash
<i>Treasurer</i>	Arthur Cody
<i>Trustee - 3years</i>	Theodore Swanson
<i>Educational Committee</i>	
<i>Chairman</i>	Raymond Brigham
<i>Golf Committee</i>	
<i>Chairman</i>	Milton Brown
<i>Auditing Committee</i>	
	Howard Farrant
	John O'Connor

Following is a quote from Vol. 1 - No. 4 of the Northeastern Turf letter published by the United States Golf Association Greens Section, A. M. Radko, Northeastern Director. We feel that the following article in this issue may have been overlooked by those who are often asked, "What harm can be done by Winter play?"

"WINTER PLAY ON GREENS"

"In the Northeast the question of the feasibility of playing on regular greens during the winter months often "pops up."

When greens are frozen solid it is safe to play them. However, traffic over frozen grass bruises the blades, and footprints show thereafter for some time. *Usually* the grass outgrows this injury.

When the soils beneath greens are completely thawed it is also supposed to be safe to play them, although the lubricating action of the moisture tends to cement soil particles and undoubtedly adds to compaction troubles during the next season.

Where the real trouble occurs is when the top inch is thawed and the soil beneath is frozen. Playing at that time usually causes severe compaction to set into the upper soil layer. The turf becomes a mass of footprints, and the greens become very bumpy. Injury of this nature is difficult to overcome and the damage may well take many years to rectify. Unfortunately, the condition that brings about this type of injury can occur at any time. The greens may be safe to play at one time of the day but enough thawing may take place during the day to make conditions right for severe injury. Temporary greens for winter play insure better greens during the regular golfing season."

Our February meeting will be held the *second Monday* of the month, February 10.

The meeting is being held one week late so as not to interfere with the National Turf Conference the first week in February.

The February meeting will be a "Dealer Meeting" when you will be able to obtain the very latest information on prices, materials and probable trends for the coming season.

This will also be an opportunity to compare notes on the National Turf Conference.

REMEMBER:

Washington—February 2-7, 1958
Waltham Field Station—
February 10, 1958
Luncheon at 12:30 noon.

PHILIP I. CASSIDY,
Business Manager