

# NEWSLETTER

JULY, 1970



## Golf Course Superintendents Association OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

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

### Superintendent-Chairman Meeting and Golf Day



Arthur Washburn will host our July 13, 1970 meeting for the annual Superintendent-Chairman event, at the Cohasset Golf Club in Cohasset, Massachusetts.

Arthur is now in his second year as superintendent, having replaced Joe Oldfield, retired. Washburn was for four years a Staff Sergeant and Flight Engineer instructor in the U.S.A.F. His background of varied experiences instilled in him much needed patience to comply with unhappy golfers and dissatisfied employees which are around these days in large numbers.

Art also received golf course training at the Myopia Hunt Club and the United Shoe Country Club. He served as super at the Nabnasset Lake Country Club.

A buffet will be served from 5 to 7 P. M.

Don't miss this opportunity to invite your club Green Chairman or his co-chairman. Take along your family and they can soak the sun and fun of Nantasket Beach, if these gentlemen are not available.

**DIRECTIONS TO COHASSET** — 128 to Rt. 3 south. Follow Rt. 3 to Rt. 228 and go left. Go till you cross 3A and take your fifth right which is Lambert's Lane. Club is at end.

### NEXT MEETING

July 13, 1970 — Superintendent-Green Chairman.

August 17, 1970 — Superintendent-Wives — Chestnut Hill Country Club.

September 15, 1970 — Mt. Pleasant Country Club.

October 26, 1970 — Superintendent-Pro — Brae Burn Country Club.

November 2, 1970 — Dedham Polo and Country Club.

**POSITION — GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT**  
Ramapo, N. Y. Municipal Golf Course, to be opened this spring. 18 Holes, Civil Service, \$8,000 - \$12,000 per year, house and utilities.

Contact J. France, Tel. 914-357-5100.

Present Supt.: A. Johnston, Tel. 914-357-7147.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

For those of you, not only from our own New England association but from other sections as well, contemplating our London-Scotland-Ireland trip November 7-21, take it from an experienced and enriched traveler . . . "This will be something in your life never to be forgotten."

It was my distinct privilege and pleasure to accompany John Spodnik last fall in a full tour of the Scottish golfing grounds and the traditional English historical sites. Both John and I came to the conclusion that the experience was priceless.

Leon St. Pierre has been busy for several weeks now, huddling with travel bureaus and the like in order to line up the combination of an enjoyable and educational visit for course superintendents and their friends. I have looked over the flyer prepared and it appears even more promising than my trip, to take in the sights of St. Andrews and be exposed to the most hospitable people I ever have encountered.

First let me say that you will be in the hands of an expert at making people feel at home in our old friend, John Campbell of St. Andrews. While John and I were in the locale Mr. Campbell made such thorough arrangements for our introduction to this charming part of the world that we couldn't think of anything we didn't see.

Everything you've heard and read about St. Andrews is true and then some. I can still recall the scenic trip over the Forth Bridge along the North Sea and the pleasant dinner prepared at the Grange Inn for the group.

After that, and an introduction to Mr. Patrick Hogg of the St. Andrews public relations office, everything seemed to fall into place. The conversations with Campbell and others of the golf set, along with a genuine feeling of having been welcomed like visiting dignitaries made our stay a most memorable one.

Of course, I can't begin to tell you about other highlights of the adventure because it seemed to John and me that there just wasn't enough time in the day to fully realize the wonderful opportunity at hand.

We in the New England association are proud of our great strides forward in the promotional aspect of making our profession one of the mainstays in its field. Once you get to Scotland you will see proof of this in the interest people take in the important tasks which make up our job.

There is much more to the proposed November trip, much more than I can talk about here. However, since the Scotland tour comprises a major part of the venture, I can add my full endorsement of it and urge all who can to make it.

RICHARD BLAKE, President  
Golf Course Superintendents  
Association of N. E.

# Golf Course Superintendents Association

## THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER

Roger Barry proved to be the man who came to dinner and stayed long enough to collect first prize in another slam-bang super-press tournament last month at testy Pleasant Valley Country Club.

Barry, exalted ruler of the Golf Writers Association of America, wore two hats for the well-organized affair . . . a production of golf chairman Julius Aksten and company. Roger, representing the Quincy Patriot Ledger, teamed with Ron Kirkman of the Needham Country Club and together they forged an all-conquering 71. Then, after brushing up on his prose and participles, Barry delivered the breakup banquet from boring rhetoric with a snappy main-speech offering.



L to R — Roger Barry, Sportswriter, Arthur Anderson, Ronald Kirkman, Supt. Needham Golf Club.

The winners, who collected the Arthur Anderson Trophy from Sir Arthur, himself, didn't have too many shots to waste in the tourney. There was a boatload of 72 shooters at their heels among the encouraging turnout of 40 teams.

Locked there were Bill Carter of Foxborough and Dick Trust of the Patriot Ledger, Tony Caranci of Ledgemont and Ed Duckworth of the Providence Journal. Al Auger of South Shore and Ralph Grasso of the Marlboro Enterprise and John Almonte of Worcester and Henry Landress of the Worcester Telegram.

More at 72 included defending champion Ted Murphy of Garrison and Kevin Walsh of the Boston Globe, Manny Francis of Belmont and Jack McCarthy of the Boston Herald, Bob St. Thomas of Hyannisport and Ernie Roberts of the Boston Globe, Wayne Ripley of Glen Ellen and John Lally of the Boston Record American and Guy Tedesco of New Seabury and Ray Fitzgerald of the Boston Globe.

Barry split his after-dinner praise down the middle — between the growing recognition and appreciation of the New England Golf Course Superintendents Association and his partner, Kirkman.

"You people have come a long way", Barry puffed up the prospectus of the super. "We of the golf writing society stand ready to help you in any way we can. And this opportunity to get together on an informal basis lends itself to a better relationship of superintendent and press."

## SOUND OFF!!!

(It's time to wind up the reader and let him rattle off his comments and complaints in another edition of Sound Off. The New England Newsletter welcomes one and all to take part in this monthly banter. Supers, Members, green chairmen, club presidents, equipment salesmen and anyone interested in golf are invited to take up the pen in defense of their opinions. Send one and all to Newsletter Mail Box, 24 Riverview Drive, Newbury, Mass. 01950. The Newsletter will be happy to print them and reserves the right to comment on them.)

\* \* \* \* \*

"I am a club member and pride myself on replacing divots, fixing ball marks, etc. Therefore, I feel I'm being discriminated against in a recent club rule which says everyone playing a round — other than a major tournament — must tee his ball on the par three holes from a strip of synthetic turf.

"This seems rather stupid to me. Our dues make for a considerable sum and I assume that much of it goes into the grooming of our course. Besides, I can't hit worth a dang off that blasted mat. Am I being out of line or are the synthetics here to stay?"

ROSS GOODYEAR  
Seashell, New Jersey

Your beef is becoming a popular one, Ross. The only answer is to play your course only when major tournaments are scheduled.

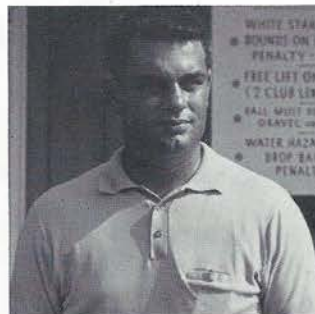
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"Another big event is scheduled by the Northeastern Section for July 21. This is a day for the supers and their ladies and as in the past all members of the New England Association are invited. The site is a natural . . . Stratton Mountain. And an interesting program has been organized to make the trip worthwhile"

CASEY ROWLEY  
Stratton Mountain C. C.

Sounds like fun, Casey. Should I bring my skis?

Of Kirkman, Barry was most grateful. "He carried me out there", Roger gave Ron a verbal pat on the back. "I thought I had seen most of the great putters of the world. But you people have one right here in Ron. I wonder how he'd do at his home course? The way he read the Pleasant Valley greens makes me believe he'd be a cinch to win at Needham."



Noel Fongellaz

The entire production at Pleasant Valley was admirable. Host superintendent Noel Fongellaz did an outstanding job in laying the groundwork for the tournament committee to stage the tournament. The association's thanks go to Noel and other PV officials who made the stay suitable a most pleasant one.

— Gerry Finn

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## Maine Golf Course Superintendents Association

Editor — Norman Pease, Supt., Purpoodock Club, Cape Elizabeth, Maine

### JUNE MEETING

Maine and New Hampshire superintendents had their annual joint meeting on June 2nd at the Sanford Country Club in Sanford, Maine. Everyone had a very enjoyable time and host super "Choc" Dorian is to be thanked for all arrangements he made to make the meeting at his club possible.

Dick Sheff of the Alfco Rokeby Chemical Co. gave a very informative and interesting talk on the chemical Stopz. Pictures certainly tell a story and Dick's fit in very nicely with his talk.

I understand that Ken Turner had a series of slides to show on snow mold, but on the second of June nobody seemed interested in that particular disease. Ken, consider yourself booked for a fall showing of those and any other interesting slides you may have.

The annual tournament for the putting cup was won by Maine. The cup will now reside in Maine for a year. It will make a short journey into New Hampshire next year to be shown at the tournament and then promptly return to Maine.

Lloyd Ruby is improving his golf game. After shooting a 169 (not an error) for 18 at Willowdale in May he came back with a sensational 81 for 9 at Sanford. Maybe he is like some ball players and prefers the warm weather.

### TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Maine	39.7	New Hampshire	40.0
1st low gross	Alan Bouchard	Maine	
2nd low gross	Bob Hale	N. H.	
1st low net	Lucien Bourque	Maine	
2nd low net (tie)	Bob Flanagan	N. H.	
	"Choc" Dorian	Maine	
	Ralph Bishop	Maine	
	Roger Lowell	Maine	

A handy item to have in any maintenance shop is a couple of tubes of 5 minute Epoxy. Broken throttle linkage, a hole in an engine block, pin holes in irrigation pipe are some items that have been fixed with it.

There are still a few who have not paid their annual dues. Please get them in. Those who have not picked up their membership cards should have them in the mail. If you have not received yours please let the secretary know and it will be mailed.

### JULY MEETING

July 7th is the day the Maine superintendents will travel to the Bridgton Highlands C. C. in Bridgton for the monthly meeting. Edward Larrabee is the host superintendent. The July 4th tournaments will be history so it should be a good day for everyone to get away from their own course and visit for a day with other supers. By visiting with your fellow supers you may be surprised to find that other people also have problems.

Date	July 7
Club	Bridgton Highlands C. C.
Place	Bridgton
Time	11:00 A. M.

### AUGUST MEETING

Just a reminder to you superintendents in the northern part of the state. August 4th the MGCSA will meet at the Penobscot Valley C. C. Set this date aside now for a meeting in your area. Call a friend and get him to go with you.

### We Hate To Have To

Nature has managed over time to develop on this planet earth a beautiful and quite possibly unique environment for the existence of something not known to exist anywhere else in the universe — life, with man its most obstreperous manifestation. When man discovered that he could greatly improve on nature's environment for his personal comfort and convenience, his bent for inventiveness became his identifying characteristic. Among a myriad other things he invented economics, meant to deal with designs for his further welfare. Of course nature had invented recycling at a somewhat earlier date with the same general if more ultimate aim. Upon recognition of nature's plan man piously phrased the process with ceremonial pomp as "ashes to ashes and dust to dust" and proceeded to bury it with his dead.

Men and ostriches tend to bury the wrong things. Our smog-infested air, our filthy streams and our littered land are as they are for reasons of economics. We invented economics with laborious thought. It often works, especially if we continue to think. But we hate to have to. It is so much easier to accept a formulated pattern and to pattern the formula until dire necessity spurs us to a new one. We already sense what the new one must be. We know that necessity is upon us now. Let our concerted efforts then be to thaw our own and our fellow men's frozen thought patterns before they take us all where we would not choose to go.

Reprinted from *Resources Review*, October, 1969



## New Hampshire Golf Course Superintendents Association, Inc.

Editor — John J. Barry, Supt. Abenaki Country Club, Rye, N. H.

### MEETING NOTES

As you may well already know the NHGCSA held our annual tournament with the Maine Association on June 2 at the Sanford Country Club in Sanford, Maine.

Maine, spearheaded by A. Bouchard, was able to win the Super-Cup. Final score, N. H. 40.4 — Maine 39.7. N. H. lost by .7 of a point. This now evens the score: 1 to 1. To use an old quote, "Wait until next year." We would like to extend our thanks to host superintendent, Choc Doiron, his club, and to the Maine Golf Course Superintendents' Association for the courtesy which was extended to our members. It was a great day, a lot of fun and a fine Golf Course.

### NEW MEMBERS

The NHGCSA voted in two new members at the last meeting, and we would like to welcome:

Paul F. Hogancamp  
5A Indian Ridge Rd.  
Yarmouth, Maine  
Inactive

Paul is a Sales Representative for E. I. Dupont de Nemours Co.  
Dennis W. Friel  
21 Winter St.  
Woburn, Mass.  
Associate

Dennis is the Superintendent at Green Meadows Country Club in Hudson, N. H.

Three new applications were received and read at the June meeting. These applicants will be voted on at the July meeting:

Winfred B. Davis  
Newport, N. H.  
Assistant Superintendent  
John H. Cain Golf Club  
Unity Rd., Newport, N. H.

Bernard A. Godfrey  
Eastford, Vt.  
Grounds Foreman  
Dartmouth College  
Hanover, N. H.  
Associate

Robert E. Wirta  
Box 332, Contoocook, N. H.  
Superintendent  
Grandliden-on-Sunnapee  
Sunnapee, N. H.  
Associate

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday, July 1 at the Abenaki Country Club in Rye Beach, N. H. This is to be the first annual NHGCSA championship. Since this is an 18-hole tournament a slight revision in our regular format was advisable. It is as follows:

### SCHEDULE

9:30 — 10:30	Coffee
10:30 to approx. 2:30	Golf
2:30 or so	Buffet

### WATER MANAGEMENT

By Bill Knoop, Turf Specialist, Univ. of N. H.

Now is the time of year when our thoughts turn from the problems of preparing a golf course for play to thoughts of how to keep the turf in the best possible condition for this summer's play. The spring rains are behind us and we must get the "rust out of our pipes" and irrigate our turf.

In considering water management there are a number of factors to evaluate. The variety of grass is important as is the soil type. The physical irrigation facility must be considered. When these factors are put together water can be an effective management tool.

Different grasses have different normal rootzone depths. Poa Annua is normally shallow rooted. Bentgrass is somewhat deeper rooted and bluegrass is normally much deeper rooted than the others. Because soil dries from the surface down the shallow-rooted grasses require more water than the deeper rooted ones. This can change. If bluegrass is watered too much it won't develop a deep root system and may require as much irrigation as bentgrass. Under these wet conditions which do not encourage deep root growth Poa Annua can thrive. Bentgrass and bluegrass are weak under high moisture levels and Poa Annua can easily out-compete them. Encourage the deep rooting of both bentgrass and bluegrass by heavy waterings at infrequent intervals. Irrigate till the water has penetrated at least 6 inches into the soil. Water when the first signs of wilt are apparent.

There are several things to consider when deciding the best time of day to irrigate. The best time for you may not be the best for anyone else. Avoid watering during the day as much as possible. A moist warm turf is ideal for disease development. A great deal of water is lost by evaporation during the hot daylight hours.

Early morning watering has the advantage of washing off any dew that is on the grass leaf. This dew has been accused of being a transport system for turf diseases.

The golfer, too, has some thoughts on the right time to water. Usually he wants a hard fairway for a long roll and a wet green to hold his shot. Once he is on the green it need not be too wet nor too dry. It all depends on how well he can putt.

Irrigation if used properly can be a very useful management tool. You can train your grasses to develop deep root systems. You can aid in reducing or even controlling Poa Annua. You can lessen the chance of a disease invasion. Yes, and if you're lucky, you can keep the golfer happy.

## THE TOURNAMENT EXPLOSION

"I would like to take this opportunity to invite all wives and lady friends of our New England Association to the group's annual ladies' day, Aug. 3 at the Chestnut Hill Country Club.

"We are making plans to have a well-rounded program for the girls including golf, pool party, buffet, etc. I hope everyone will attend."

MRS. DEAN ROBERTSON  
Chestnut Hill Country Club

Thanks for the invitation. I'll be there with Mickey Wright.

\* \* \* \* \*

"This is not like me at all, but I have a complaint which doesn't seem that unusual not to write you about it.

"My playing group is just sick and tired of having to hit our shots around the sprinklers that dot our fairways. It happens every Tuesday morning and doesn't seem fair that the ladies of our club have to put up with such an inconvenience when the men have more comfortable playing conditions over the week end.

"I have spoken to our superintendent about this and he says that Tuesday mornings are the only logical time, among others, that he can utilize to irrigate our course. I'm not complaining about his answer at all. In fact, he was very courteous when questioned.

"What I would like to know is if there is some solution to his problem which, in effect, turns out to be our problem. I know you have advised other golfers on similar complaints. I hope you have an answer I can use at the next meeting of our ladies' association."

MRS. CORA CROSBY  
Moosup, Conn.

The answer is simple. Get the girls together and storm the next club budget meeting. What you need is an automatic irrigation system where all the watering is done at night.

\* \* \* \* \*

"It's getting to be ridiculous around my course. It seems that my green chairman has taken it upon himself to set up a checking system on the work habits of my help. And to be frank, I don't like it.

This particular snoop has been seen throwing a stop watch on tractor drivers to see how long they wait until a foursome gets out of working range. The other day he confronted me with a bunch of figures which would lead people to believe the club is being cheated by the hourly rate the help receives.

"I have told my chairman that this is about the lowest thing I've ever heard of. Besides taking up my valuable time with his too frequent reports, he gives indication that I'm not supervising my help properly. Shouldn't our president be advised of the situation?"

JOHN CARANCELLO  
(Club withheld)

This is a first for us, John. If your green chairman has all that time to check on others, why don't you put him to work?

*(That puts the finishing touch on another session with our treasured readers who somehow come through with enough gems to make this space one of our most popular features. Remember to sign all letters. Names will be withheld upon request.)*

O.K., men, today's vital question is aimed straight down the middle. How many tournaments at your course, pray tell?

In a quick hop, skip and jump through the membership of the GCSA your roving reporter emerged from the friendly flak with a cross-section tally resulting in the tournament schedule of "The Typical Country Club."

At Typical there is played exactly 60 different tournaments from the middle of April through the end of September. But this doesn't mean there are only 60 playing dates. No, sir. Many of these fall into the two, three and four-day category.

Is the superintendent at Typical incensed over the number? Does he wish to make formal complaint? Is he thinking of retiring to the peace and quiet of an industrial landscaping job?

No, not on your country club loyalty oath, he isn't. But what he would like members to note is the fact that he is expected to provide them and often their guests with tip-top, roll-'em-all-in playing conditions for approximately 75 days of the playing year.

"That's a little bit too much to expect", the Typical super told us after a parade of blind-bogey tournament players stilled his green mowers for the better part of a Wednesday afternoon. "I'm not knocking our membership for wanting to play tournaments. However, the breakdown of participation is such that some of the members get to see the course only when I fall behind in my work."

This sort of puts Typical's super on the spot. "I usually prime myself for the club's big tournament . . . that's the member-guest fourball", he complained. "And usually I give the members a pretty nice setting for four days. But I can't tune myself in for every single event. And that's when I get the most static."

What seems to be the tournament when Typical's super takes to eating fire?

"That's an easy one", he revealed. I'm all against those dadblasted shotgun things. They're the ones where the whole field spreads out on the golf course and doesn't give my workers a chance to breathe, let alone do their chores. Most of the time when I hear that shotgun, I ring the dinner bell. Might as well spend the rest of the day getting the equipment in shape."

Tournaments, then, are getting to be touchy moments of appraisal for the superintendent. Granted, they are a necessity. However, the member should realize they should not be used as a launching pad to fire rockets at the super. Three-putt greens or an occasional shock of elephant grass around the fringe shouldn't make for an immediate blast at the man who is trying to produce perfect conditions for every day of the golf season.

The superintendent tolerates the tournament explosion. The club member should tolerate the consequences it breeds.

— Gerry Finn

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\*Tom Irwin Co.  
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Karandrew Turf Farms, Inc.  
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\* Contributors to the Lawrence S. Dickinson Scholarship Fund

# NEWSLETTER

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**FIRST CLASS**

