



# THE NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents Association OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

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

October 1989

## NEXT MEETING

Thursday, November 2, 1989  
Mt. Pleasant G.C., Lowell, MA

- 9:00 am Director's meeting
- 10:00 am Regular meeting & Educational Session
- 11:15 Lunch
- 11:45 Golf after lunch

Host Superintendent—Jack Hassett

Reservations required by Oct. 30th  
(508) 458-7300



Jack attended the winter school at Univ. of Mass., and has an associate degree in business administration.

Jack was the supt. at Manderley on the Green, Ontario, Canada for 5 years. He was born in Lowell, MA and still resides there with his wife Monique and 12 year old daughter, Julia. In his spare time Jack enjoys golf and skiing.

Directions—From 495 & 128, take Rte. 3 north to exit 32 (North Chelmsford-Westford). Enter rotary-take first right which is Westford Rd. (Lowell). Follow for 8/10 mile passing Ford & Hyundai Dealerships and take a right at 'Y' onto Westford St. Follow for 1/2 mile, take your 6th right onto Staples St., club is at end of street.

## -POSITION OPENING-

Superintendent  
Pleasant Country Club  
Sutton, MA 01527

Privately owned 18-hole golf course. PGA Toursite since 1965. Reese Jones designing additional 9 holes.

Contact: Mr. Ted Mingolla, (508) 865-4441

## Everything, Everybody Making it Work for Roy



perintendent?

The search stops when you reach the Twin Hills Country Club where Roy Mackintosh has been the man in charge (of everything) for the past 13 years. They don't come any better, perhaps because they don't work any harder.

So, how does he do it—manage a top-shelf operation that thrives on the inside and sparkles on the outside? The Twin Hills clubhouse turns on an average gross revenue of three quarters of a million dollars a year and its ledger says that rare is the day when a loss is recorded. The club's golf course condition report is stuck in place—one of the best groomed layouts in New England.

Obviously, Roy can't be in two places at once, making sure there's enough roast beef in the fridge to feed a member-guest four-ball field and checking the holding power of the ninth green to insure players can hit to its flag without fear of their golf balls leaving club property.

"I can't do everything myself, no one can," Mackintosh explained one day last month after quality control had given his course a triple-A rating. "The key to this job is delegating authority and responsibility. And you can't do that unless you have outstanding people in the key posi-

tions. I have them, do I ever. Of course, I also have good members.

This is Roy's second tour of duty at Twin Hills. He went right from a starting-off point at the Wilbraham Country Club where he served one year as superintendent to a Twin Hills course that was just putting the finishing touches on its construction stage. The year was 1965, a time when the position of "pro-greenkeeper" still existed and Roy's dad, Alan Mackintosh, filled it at Wilbraham. Maybe that bloodline was the basis for Roy being able to transfer his expertise from the golf course to the clubhouse and beyond.

"I learned a lot watching my dad handle both jobs at Wilbraham," Roy noted. "I also developed some good work habits there. But, you know, I always liked what I was doing. In fact, even today some of my happiest moments come when I climb on a tractor and help with some project on the course."

Roy's grasp of the superintendent's profession came quickly and returned Twin Hills' members a course that gave them bragging rights throughout Western Massachusetts when the conversation found its way to playing conditions. Eventually, a well-groomed golf course became a tradition at Twin Hills and, naturally, word spread that all Mackintosh need do is snap his fingers and everything came up green.

Such glowing reputation made him the logical choice to complete construction and assume superintendent's duties

*Continued on page 2*



**WORKING FOR ROY** *Cont. from p. 1*

at an ambitious resort undertaking in the Berkshires called, "Greylock Glen". So, off Roy went when the Glen called in May of 1974. About a year and a-half later, Labor Day of 1975, he had the course completed and ready to open. Ah, but...

But Greylock Glen was slowly turning into a financial bust. When it was hot rumor that pay-checks would be slow coming, if they came at all, Roy packed his bags and hopes again. The road he took was a familiar one, back to Twin Hills which had been bought by its members who wanted their original superintendent to return and try his hand at running the whole show.

Needless to say, it's been good show at Twin Hills ever since.

Roy told that he gradually worked his way into all the responsibilities going with the general manager's post. Once he was familiar with the specs attached to each phase of the operation, Mackintosh leaned on had-picked department heads to streamline it.

"There are five key positions here and each is filled by a top-notch person," Roy revealed. "Starting with our food and beverage manager, Larry Perrault, the lineup is packed with efficiency. Our members appreciate the arrangement, too. It's become customary for the club to pick up the tab when any of the staff needs to take educational refresher courses or attend seminars to sharpen their expertise. It works real well."

The word on the street is that Twin Hills is a nice place to work, mostly because of Mackintosh's strong sense of loyalty to his employees and sensitivity to their needs. For example, the club pays for three-fourths of a medical plan for full-time employees, a three-week vacation program is included in the perks and a retirement plan has recently been instituted.

As for the boss, he pitches in wherever and whenever he can. During the golf

season, Roy averages a 60-hour work week and cuts back to 40 when members hang up their clubs for the winter.

Along the way, Roy has enjoyed a happy and rewarding personal life with wife, Fran, daughter, Deneen and sons, Scott and Greg.

Running the show at Twin Hills, then, has been a most successful run for Roy Mackintosh who admits that being a success at what he does backbones his urge to give members the very best he can deliver. "Getting recognition that we're one of the best operated country clubs really means something," Roy added. "It motivates me and my staff. We want to be the best."

Nice approach, huh?

**GERRY FINN**

## GCSANE

### Turfgrass Research Committee First Annual

Golf Course Superintendents Assoc. of  
New England

### Research Tournament

Special Thanks to  
Dedham Polo & C.C. and Superintendent  
Robert Mucciarone

Research Committee Chairman:  
**Paul Miller**

Golf: **Dave Barber & Dennis Friel**

Hole Sponsorship: **Kevin Lyons**

Communications: **Kip Tyler**

Raffle: **Jim Beane & Paul Jamrog**

#### Raffle Contributors

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Heritage Hills-Charles Dickow,  
New England Golf-Dennis Friel

#### Country Clubs That Contributed Green Fees & Carts for One Foursome

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Worcester C.C.  
The Orchards C.C.  
Blue Hill C.C.  
The International C.C.

#### Golf Carts donated by:

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## Photo Gallery



Blue Hill C.C.



Whitinsville G.C.





## The Super Speaks Out

Welcome to **The Super Speaks Out**—a monthly feature which offers the golf course superintendent a forum to express his or her views on topics and issues relating to their profession.

**This month's continuing question:** *Another season of getting and keeping the golf course at the best possible ready for members is winding down, so how did this grooming year compare to last year when weather conditions played havoc with most superintendents?*

**Bob Connolly, Winchester Country Club:** "No question This year we're talking 'basic summer', last year we were talking 'wholesale disaster'.

"Let's face it. The way the heat and humidity peaked at the end of July a year ago was unreal and those of us who could do nothing but take it while those grasses were cooking to death, especially on courses that had bad drainage to begin with, are in a much better frame of mind because of the more normal conditions this summer.

"At Winchester, our recovery program was implemented just as soon as we could asses the damage. We got hit hard, like a lot of other clubs. However, we went right into an aerating and seeding program that showed results as early as the start of last fall.

"This year, we've just tried to pick up on that recovery mode and the feeling is that we're really gaining on our 1988 setbacks. However, I'm convinced that the development of more durable and better grasses should be the top priority of everyone connected with the job of growing turf and retaining its most valuable properties.

"Then, too, the extent of certain things we do to improve and preserve the condition of certain golf course grasses has crossed all the old boundaries. I remember when you areated greens only. Now, the process has swung over to tees and

fairways. It's not there, yet, but the golf course is getting to be one big green.

"Regardless, comparing working conditions with this and last summer runs into the old comparing apples and oranges routine. Last year was a nightmare, this year the superintendent didn't have to worry about waking up screaming. Naturally, I prefer it this way."



**Joe Rybka, Thorny Lea Golf Club:** "Every time I think of last year I go back to that little spell some superintendent tried to make popular, that brown grass doesn't look so bad, after all.

"Oh, the difference in the two summers. Last year the combination of all that water sitting there cooking and the fact that we had a low cut on our fairways just about wiped us out. We wound up with heat diseases, bare fairways and brown grass. We really didn't have much to get an appreciable amount back then but we've been working on it and showing good results this summer.

"The reasons for this, of course, is that this summer has given us at Thorny Lea a good year for growing grass. We're on a fungicide program that seems to be working and we're pushing bent grass in hopes that it will push out some of the poa annua.

"Abut the cut? We still have golfers who want the fairways as low as we can get them without inviting damage, so I'm giving them what they want. So far, we've been able to do it. But, again, this has been a good weather condition summer for us. This summer, I can live with it."



**Mark Taylor, Haverhill Golf and Country Club:** "For me, the worst thing about last summer was having to look at my grass and watch it die, all the while knowing there wasn't anything I could do about it.

"The standing water and incessant heat that followed really did a job on our course. Our fairways cooked and cooked until they were well done. The dominant color was brown and there were some real

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"If you think it's hard to meet new people, try picking up the wrong golf ball."

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dark days around here before we put ourselves on a rebound.

"Aerate and seed. That's how we tackled the affected areas and we went to work on them right away. In fact, quite a bit came back last fall. This spring, we hit the same areas with the same intensive combination of aerating and seeding and it looks like we have them back where they belong.

"The weather conditions this summer have been a complete reversal of what we had to deal with last year. I rate them 'good'. The rainfall has almost turned out to be a push-button process. It seems like it rained every 10 days or so and everything fit into a good growing pattern.

"The weather has been a bonus, too, because I can remember forecasts of drought for this summer when we didn't get much snow last winter. I'm satisfied with the way things worked out—our recovery program and the weather we got to make it a success."

GERRY FINN

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## —NEW MEMBERS—

Welcome & Congratulations to

Dean Loomis, Associate  
South Shore C.C.

Chris Bowen, Associate  
Saddle Hill C.C.

Jeffrey Nealy, Assistant  
Plymouth C.C.

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## —PROPOSED NEW MEMBERS—

Eric B. Lamont, Assistant  
Brae Burn C.C.

Michael Videtta, Regular  
Norwood, C.C.

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Thanks to all the clubs and distributors that contributed to the 1989 Turf Research Fund. We had an excellent response for our inaugural year.

Special thanks to the Dedham Country & Polo Club and host superintendent, Bob Mucciarone. The Dedham Club, Country Club Enterprises and Sawtelle Brothers donated the golf cars. A round of applause for Steve Butler, Larchmont Engineering who won the set of irons and he auctioned them off and donated the proceeds to the research fund.

## Research Tournament Results

### Dedham Country & Polo Club

- |         |                                |
|---------|--------------------------------|
| 1st Net | Country Club Enterprises, Inc. |
| 2nd Net | Blue Hill C.C.                 |
| 3rd Net | Larchmont Eng. Inc.            |
| 4th Net | Turf Specialty, Inc.           |
| 5th Net | Concord C.C.                   |
| 6th Net | The International              |
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Long Drive Jim Cutter

Nearest Pin #5 Jim McCormick

Nearest Pin #2 Brain Cleary

Nearest Pin #17 Jack Hassett

## Tournament Results

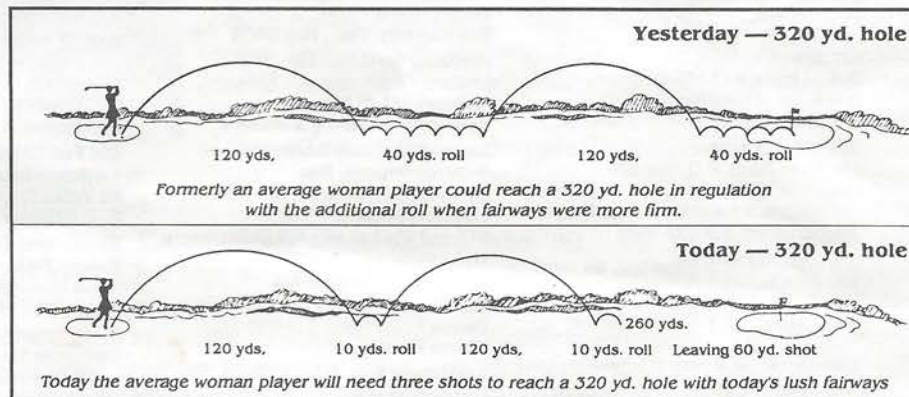
### Larry Gannon G.C.

#### Superintendent Superintendent Championship

1st gross	Jack Hassett-Mt. Pleasant (Lowell)	3rd Net	Dick French-Longmeadow G.C. (Lowell)
Paul Jamrog-The Orchards		Greg Misodoulakis-Bellevue G.C.	
1st Net Champions	Al Singer-Cedar Glen G.C.	Commercial Division Championship was won by	Paul Skaffas-Tom Irwin Co.
Paul Brooks-Sagamore Springs G.C.		Mike Cornicelli-C&J Equipment Co.	
2nd Net	Steve Chiavaroli-Tatnuck C.C.	Closest to Pin	Jack Hassett
Dick Duggan-Concord C.C.		Longest Drive	Jack Hassett

News From: AMERICAN SOCIETY OF GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTS

## It's Time To Move Forward!



Women are making their presence felt in golf, and now golf courses must be adapted to their game, according to the American Society of Golf Course Architects.

With one in four golfers a woman, and 41% of all new golfers women, the Society's members are designing forward tees on most of their new and remodeled courses.

Alice Dye, the only woman member of the Society, points out that research shows the average woman golfer drives the ball about 130 yards. She says that the low handicap woman golfer is most comfortable playing a course that is approximately 5,440 yards long, while the average woman golfer would find a 4,800 yard course most enjoyable.

The ASGCA architects note that today's lush, watered courses have reduced the roll of the ball. On firm fairways, 33% roll previously was expected and designed into the hole. The two illustrations above show that the average woman golfer could reach a 320-yard hole in regulation with 40 yards of roll, but cannot when the roll is reduced to 10 yards.

Those interested in how forward tees can enhance the playability of a golf course may obtain further information and illustrations by sending a \$5 check to the American Society of Golf Course Architects, 221 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60601.

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