



Turf Times



The newsletter from the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association

Bi-Monthly Update July/August Volume 28, No. 3

[1999]

President's Message

The golf season is rapidly moving along and that means an increase in N.M.T.M.A. business. There are three items that require your consideration now, to assure that they are completed in a timely manner. The goal is to complete the 2000 calendar and begin working on the 2001 calendar.

The first item is meeting sites and dates. If you are willing to host a monthly meeting

or one of the fund raisers, please contact any board member, and they will contact the chairperson of the proper committee. They will also help you make the arrangements for the meeting.

Please consider hosting a meeting or running for the board of directors. The

N.M.T.M.A. needs your participation.

The annual business meeting will be held in October. The election

of new board members will take place at this time. There will be a need for candidates to fill vacancies of the terms that expire as of this meeting. A nominating committee will be created in the near future and the information, concerning who to contact will be printed in the newsletter and will also be placed on the ballot. Remember you can also run from the floor, during the election.

The last item is the new affiliation agreement with the

G.C.S.A.A. The current agreement expires on December 31st of this year. There are three minor changes in the new agreement, however, none of them will adversely affect the N.M.T.M.A. The new agreement must be signed and returned to the G.C.S.A.A. by the end of the year.

Brian Holmes

Think Snow

Yes, that's what it says. For those of you who are turf grass sled heads, winter was too short. But it's not too early to register for the February 1st and 2nd meeting on Drummond Island next year. Space is limited to 60 riders. We have approximately 30 signed up.

Cost will be determined as we approach our limit of rid-

ers. To be included are speakers, some meals, room packages for one to four nights (in case of a long business trip), two day trail permit to Canada, trail guides, and lots of fun!

Snowmobile rentals are available. You do not have to be a golf course superintendent to attend this meeting. Anyone who loves to snowmobile is

welcome.

For more information about the Drummond Island/Canada Excursion, please call:

Craig Hoffman
906-493-5658

Dan Bissonette
231-535-2373



Oh what a day it was.....

The Second Annual N.M.T.M.A. Picnic was a huge success! Mother nature cooperated and gave us a nice hot sunny day, which made every trip down the giant water slide a real cooling treat.

There was a lot of smiling, laughing, and eating going on. Especially since Fred Miller made his (now famous) homemade Boy Scout cobbler and ice cream. With the higher attendance he had to make a double batch of both. Big thanks to Fred and those who helped turn the crank on the ice-cream maker.

As with all good picnics there were prizes given for some of those who came:

Bring'em Back Alive Award

Glen Rochester

Glen is the superintendent at Wawonowin C.C.. He and his family drove all the way down from Marquette.

Schwin Award

Mark Wildeman

Mark and his wife Melody, along with their four children, rode to the picnic on bicycles.

Martha Stewart Award

Lisa Horton

Scott Pulaski's fiancée, Lisa, brought the most attractive fruit display. We all admired it for awhile, then quickly gobbled it up.

Biggest Splash Award

Dan Hunt

Dan got the water slide shakin' every time he went down. Those of us waiting at the bottom could hear him coming from the top and were always worried he was going to somehow manage to shoot out of the thing along the way. He obviously never did and when he finally made it to the bottom, he really moved some water out of the way.

Best Farmer Tan

Karen O'dell

Karen has been spending way too much time on her golf course in the sun wearing a golf shirt, shorts and tall work boots.

Best Hosts

Larry Bowden and Kevin Henley

Thank you Larry for allowing us to use all the amenities at your resort. Thank you Kevin for all your help.

Quote of the Day

Dan Hunt

"I'm so sorry I didn't come to this last year. We're having a blast!"

So "THANKS" to all who came, tell your friends, and plan on making it out again next year. For those of you who weren't there, you won't know what you're missing till you try it.



**1999 MICHIGAN GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS
STATEWIDE CHAMPIONSHIP**

ON

AUGUST 26, 1999

10:00 am Shotgun

At

**Forest Akers West Golf Course
East Lansing, MI**

Format: 18 Hole Medal Play
Flight with handicaps
Low Gross and Low Net Prizes

Eligibility: All class A and B memberships from the following organizations are eligible
Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association
Mid-Michigan Turf Association
Western Michigan GCSA
Greater Detroit GCSA

Entries: \$60 Entry Fee
Checks payable to: Michigan Golf Championship
Deadline: August 16, 1999

For more information please contact any of the following people:

Carey Mitcheison	(810) 343-6352
Jay Delcamp	(248) 370-4145
Keith Paterson	(616) 363-6728
Kurt Thuemmel	(517) 332-6060
Jim Moore	(810) 743-6654

**Entry Form
1999 Michigan Golf Course Superintendents
Golf Championship**

Name	Phone	
Address		
Club		
Organization	Class	Handicap

If you wish to participate in the championship flight regardless of your handicap check here.

Mail entry forms to: Carey Mitchelson
125 Twin Lakes Dr.
Oakland, MI 48363

Make \$60 check payable to: Michigan Golf Championship

W.W.W.G.L.

Women vie for the "worst" title

There is a large part of the golfing public that is being overlooked. We discovered it quite by accident. The discovery came to light after several casual conversations with women that I knew. I innocently invited a friend to play golf. Her response was, "You don't want to play golf with me. I'm a terrible golfer." I retorted with, "We'll get along great because I am the world's worst woman golfer!" An argument immediately ensued as to who actually was the poorest player. There seemed only one solution, we'd have to play golf and find out.

That conversation took place during the winter months of 1998. Over the next few months I had mentioned the conversation to others I encountered. Their response was always the same. "You can't be the world's worst woman golfer, because I'm the world's worst woman golfer." The die was cast. It was inevitable. I had to bring these women together and prove that we couldn't all be the world's

worst women's golfers. What I learned was this, there are a number of potential golfers out in the world who shy away from the game because they feel intimidated by what they think of as "real" golfers.

The first step White Pine National took was to form the "World's Worst Women Golfer's League." Every week these ladies would come and receive a handout that talked to them in very basic terms about the game, the rules and terminology. It also answered questions that they brought up the previous week. The enthusiasm was infectious. Someone was on the practice tee each week 1/2 hour before the first tee time to give pointers, look at swings, offer encouragement and answer questions. Everyone made up their own foursomes so that people could play with folks they were comfortable with. Tee markers were moved forward (sometimes well into the fairway) on long par 5's so that the ladies could

achieve a sense of accomplishment. Prizes were awarded for most improved, attendance and other non-threatening areas. No one had to commit to a season, just a week at a time.

There was one rule that was consistently enforced. "If you hit the ball 10 times and are not in the hole, pick it up. You've had enough exercise for that hole." Rules and etiquette questions were answered and everyone learned to play the game, one by one.

Where are we now? For the 1999 golf season, we've expanded our format to "Part 1" and "Part 2". Part 1 players get more time on the range as they tee off later than Part 2 players. Part 1 is open to new players who have never played the game before and players who lack confidence and want to learn the sport and improve their game. Instruction is available each week. Before each tee time, someone travels the course while the players are on the course and answers questions, looks at swings, makes suggestions, and most important, encourages new players.

Part 2 players are players from the area who are looking for some friendly competition and players who began in the WWWGL last season and have improved to the point of being ready to compete at a nine hole level. Next year..... Part 3 (18 holes)?

This format was so well received that this year we've added a parent/child league. Parents or grandparents play nine holes with their children or grandchildren. They establish a level of competition they feel comfortable with. The league plays early evenings mid week, when we normally have our "extra special junior rates" and kids play free when with a parent or grandparent. All the youngsters need to contribute financially is a nominal weekly league fee that will be used for prizes and a banquet at the end of the season. Families get good interaction, parents get a break on their wallet, young people learn the game, and golf gets a new generation of players.

Article submitted by:

Donna Wolfrom

White Pine National Golf Club

MTF Founders Society Golf Outing

By John Kirtland, Founders Society Chairperson

The Founders Society is a subsidiary group of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation. Formed sixteen years ago, one hundred members banded together with the goal of establishing a fund to aid research at MSU's Hancock Turfgrass Research Center. Each person contributed \$1,000, and it was decided that only the interest on the total sum could be used. This money would purchase equipment and supplies used by multiple research projects.

The Founders Society has been responsible for the acquisition of

numerous pieces of equipment for the Hancock Center over the years. The most recent allotment outfitted the Founder Society Room at the Center. The Society continuously recruits new members. Donors can choose their level of contribution and also have the option of extending their donation over a five year period. There are currently 250 members with a goal of adding 35 new members this year. One of the perks for members, aside from the gratification of helping MSU turf research, is a yearly golf outing free of charge for the members and their guests

at Links of Pinewood. Owner Ernie Fuller generously donates the entire day. The outing includes golf, cart, continental breakfast and an exquisite lunch. It is geared toward recruiting new members, uniting current members and a short business report.

This year's Founders Society Golf Outing is scheduled for Wednesday, September 15th. Please join us for an enjoyable day! Call Kay Patrick at 517-321-1660 for further information.

Players rave about course, format

Gaylord — The format and course at the DLJ direct Par-3 Shootout at Treetops drew raves from the participating PGA pros.

The course, Gaylord and the format were respectively lauded as each pro echoed support for the fledgling tournament.

"I like the golf course," said PGA legend Jack Nicklaus. "It's pretty. It's fun. It's a unique format. But it sort of negates the advantage I have with my power," he continued, chuckling.

"The par 3 gives everybody a chance," two time U.S. Open champion Lee Janzen said. "I don't think it gives anybody an advantage."

"I really enjoyed it a lot. It was fairly nerve-racking, too. At the beginning, I thought it was going to be a fairly relaxing two days and everybody would get their fair share of birdies."

It didn't turn out that way, as no one carded a bird until Janzen sank a birdie putt on No. 8 in the opening round and three of the four were 1-under par on the following hole.

Janzen won the tournament, but just barely. His skin on No. 2 Tuesday gave him just enough money to withstand a final round onslaught by Phil Mickelson.

"I'd love to come back," Janzen. "That's the best part of winning the thing, is coming back and playing it again."

Mickelson, one of the few left-handers on the Tour, said the tournament is a nice change of pace and allows the golfers to work on areas they normally can't concentrate on in most PGA Tour events.

"It gives us a lot of chances to really work on our approach shots, which we don't have a chance to do on a regular

golf course until after you drive." Mickelson said.

Nicklaus thought the par-3 format would result in several aces in the course of the tourney, but no one came closer than Janzen's two feet, eight inches from the cup on the final hole Monday.

"I thought we might see one, maybe even two, hole-in-ones in this tournament," Nicklaus said.

"Myself and all the players really enjoy playing around here," Mickelson said. "the people have been very receptive and supportive when players come up here, and consequently we want to return, which hasn't been the case in every city."

By James Cook / Sports Editor
Gaylord Herald Times

Final Results

Lee Janzen	\$260,000
Phil Mickelson	\$230,000

The NMTMA appreciates the support from the following businesses...

•IRRIGATION•

Theilen Turf Irrigation, Inc.
Golf Course Installations
(517) 773-3409

Century Rain Aid
Legacy Golf
(800) 347-4272

Valley Turf Inc.
Your Reel Support in Northern Michigan
(616) 369-3482 • (800) 688-3605

•SOD, SOIL, & CONSTRUCTION•

Beck Sod Farm
George or Lois Beck
(800) 968-2325 / Fax (517) 864-3055

Huggett Sod Farm, Inc.
Top Quality Sod/Bent, Trees & Peat
(517) 635-7482 / Fax (517) 635-7484

Bunting Sand & Gravel Products Inc.
Robert Rexteiner
(517) 345-2373

Tri Turf Soils, Inc.
Precision Made Soils for all Uses
(616) 943-7806 / (888) 616-7806

•CONTRACT SERVICES•

Commercial/ Environmental Turf Services
Distributing Soil Reliever & Terra Topper
(800) 231-5296 / (248) 858-7700

Turf Services, Inc.
Matt Heiss
(616) 842-4975

•FERTILIZER, CHEMICAL & SEED•

Benham Turf Partners
Leading the Industry in Turf & Ornamental Mgt.
(800) 482-6520

Tri-Turf
A Warehouse on Wheels
(616) 943-8343 / (800) 636-7039

CHIPCO 26 GT
Bob Dugan
(734) 782-0323

Turfgrass Inc.
We Serve You Better
(800) 521-8873

The Scotts Company
John Skafje
(248) 698-2358

Lebanon-Composite P.L.N. Fertilizer
The Best Agronomics/ Value Available
Randy (248) 673-7146

Sweeny Seed Company
It Pays to Plant the Best
(800) 344-2482 / (517) 773-5391

Turf Chemicals, Inc.
Fertilizers For Better Turf
517-725-7145 Fax 517-723-7410

United Horticultural Supply
Finest Product Available Today
(887) 802-2970 / (517) 274-8188

Green Growth Supply Co., Inc.
Providing A Balance for All Seasons
(800) 315-5777 Fax (800) 501-9902

•FERTILIZER, CHEMICAL & SEED•

Rhino Seeds & landscape Supply
Kathleen Hilbert
(800) 482-3130 / (877) 744-6657

•EQUIPMENT, SERVICE & SUPPLIES•

D & C Distributors, Inc.
Your One Stop Shop
(800) 888-7779 / Fax (248) 446-1654

Turf Services, Inc.
Matt Heiss
(616) 842-4975

Weingartz Golf & Turf
Don Alexander
(888) 453-8873 / (616) 696-2913

Valley Turf Inc.
Your Reel Support in Northern Michigan
(616) 369-3482 • (800) 688-3605

•GOLF CART SALES & SERVICE•

Tire Wholesalers Company-North
Dan Cress - Tires & Tubes
(616) 775-6666 • Fax (616) 775-8810

Boylan Sales Inc.
Yamaha Golf Cars
(616) 685-6828 • (810) 742-3700

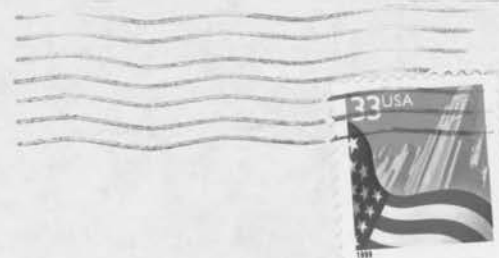
E-Z-Go Golf Cars
John Roddy
(800) 336-1016 / (616) 938-1118

•ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN & CONSULTING•

C. J. Colein & Associates, Inc.
Carol Colein
(248) 656-6805

...and we encourage you to support them

Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association
P.O. Box 80086
Lansing, Michigan 48908



NMTMA Executive Committee

Brian Holmes	President
Dan Bissonette	Vice President
Dan Hunt	Treasurer
Tom Reed	Executive Secretary
Karen O'Dell	Recording Secretary

Dr. James B. Beard
International Sports Turf
6900 E. Kelenski Dr.
Cedar, MI 49621



43621X3633 02

