



Turf Times



The newsletter from the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association

BI-Monthly Update May/June Volume 29, No. 2 {2000}

President's Message

Well, It's 2:30 a.m. and I just can't fall back to sleep. I'm not sure if it was the dream about the "mother load" of morel mushrooms I stumbled on in the woods and couldn't find a bag large enough to carry them all, or the fact that this is the only time I've had to compose this NMTMA message.

Another life lesson learned today. Our baseball team suffered its second loss in two starts this year. The toughest part is, it was by one run each game and only one bad inning. We were winning by four runs before the walk-a-thon began. I watched the demise of the well oiled machine turn into something that resembled a piston without any lubrication (flashback to Drummond!) The

players started to attack each other verbally, the digging of holes in the outfield became larger with every pitch thrown and small mistakes were intensified by the chaos. Even the assistant coach wanted to forfeit the game. At one point, my son Jeremy said, "I don't care."

Now you're probably saying to yourselves, "Dan you have been hit in the head with a golfball too many times, what does this have to do with the NMTMA?"

The point is, is that baseball is a game whereby players have to perform individually in order to contribute to the team. If one or two players are not making a contribution, it can lead to a poor inning or game. If an individual doesn't care about at least

trying to win, then why play the game?

Our association is only as strong as our weakest player. So, I issue you a challenge this season. Get out of the hole in the outfield and attend two meetings this year. If you "don't care" about the associations offerings, maybe it's time to take yourself out of the game and let somebody else have a chance.

Well, Maybe I'll go find a bag for the morelzzzzzzzzzzzz



Green side up,

Daniel J. Bissonette
Walloon Lake Country Club

Editor's Note.....

Everyone should have received their 2000 NMTMA Directory. If you have not please contact myself or Kay Patrick and let us know so that we can ensure that you receive one. If you notice any corrections that need to be made please let me know and I will be sure to post

them in the next issue of the Turf Times.

Correction: 2000 Directory

Tom Reed Sr.
Res: (231) 943-4030

Reminder:

The cost to post a job referral is now \$50.00 for members and \$150.00 for non-members. This fee helps cover the cost of mailing out the job referrals. If you would like to post a job referral, please contact Kay Patrick at (517) 327-5474.

Bruce J. Wolfrom

**White Pine National G.C.
Spruce, Mich.
Northern Michigan TMA**

White Pine National owns 400 acres of land, with the golf course occupying 100 acres. The remaining 300 acres is a wildlife habitat. To Wolfrom, being environmentally sensitive and fiscally responsible go hand in hand. In fact, his goal in the area of resource conservation, though not yet fully achieved, is to have zero output from the facility. Furthermore, after doing his own research, he worked with a friend to create a low pressure irrigation system with low water usage, minimal maintenance, high efficiency, minimal environmental impact, and very low electrical use. Since the system's inception six years ago, several other Michigan courses have installed similar systems.

Youth and families also rank highly among Wolfrom's priorities. He has instituted a "Kids Play Free" junior program, allowing families to spend time together enjoying the natural beauty of a northern Michigan wildlife sanctuary while teaching their children respect for nature and the game of golf. Wolfrom also participates in various environmental communication efforts, ranging from informational scorecards to brochures. Wolfrom received regional ESA's in 1993 and 1994.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT !!!

I want to take a minute to thank the Board of Directors, voting delegate Karen O'Dell, and all the members of Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association for your support during the elections at this year's national GCSAA conference and annual meeting.

It meant a great deal to me and I will not forget about you and hope I can represent you well. There are many changes being proposed with regards to our future and you need to review them and express your opinion to our chapter representative by September 7th.

It looks as though I will be running this year for Secretary/Treasurer and I look forward to your continued support. Thank you again and have a great 2000 season and hope to see you at a meeting soon.

Sincerely,

*Jon D. Maddern, CGCS
Elk Ridge Golf Club*

What Supts. Look for in Assistants

Golf course superintendents hiring first and second assistant superintendents were recently asked for their top five hiring criteria when considering candidates.

Hiring Criteria	%
Work experience	98.6%
Education	91.1
Communication skills	87.2
Appearance	73.1
References	72.1
Pesticide license	33.9
Golfing Ability	26.2
Grade point average	5.4
Extracurricular activities	5.4
Honors/recognition	3.0

In addition to general golf course maintenance experience, superintendents value most assistants who possess technical work experience with crew supervision (58.4%), pesticide application (20.3%), followed by irrigation installation and repair (12%).

The most important skill superintendents consider necessary for an assistant superintendent's job is supervisory skills (34%). Verbal skills were considered next most important (29.2%), then basic mechanical skills (18.8%), written (4.5%) and computer off skills (4.1%).

Over 80 percent of superintendents require candidates to hold a certificate, associate's or bachelor's degree.

Classifieds

USED EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

*100 Gallon Broyhill pull behind sprayer #3012, 15' spray boom width, eight horse power engine.

*Toro Sand Pro eight horse power engine. \$1000.00

Contact Doug Gapinski
Interlochen Golf Club
Interlochen, MI
Phone # (231) 275-5688
Fax # (231) 275-6401

FOR SALE

The following pieces of equipment were used to build one course and are in good condition. Anyone interested in seeing them or any questions please contact Jon Maddern at Elk Ridge Golf Club, 517-785-2275 ext 225.

1989 Glenmac Harley Rock Picker; Model A Hi-Lift; asking \$15,000.00

1989 Glenmac Harley 12ft. Rock Rake; asking \$10,000.00

2000 Meeting Schedule

- ◆ June 20, 2000 - MTF Fund-raiser - Shanty Creek Resort, Cedar River Golf Course
- ◆ July 16, 2000 - NMTMA Annual Picnic - Beaver Creek Resort
- ◆ July 18, 2000 - GAM/NMTMA Meeting & Golf Treetops, Rick Smith Signature
- ◆ August 8, 2000 The Loon Golf Course
- ◆ August 23, 2000 - Michigan State University, Field Day
- ◆ September 12, 2000 -NMTMA Fund-raiser, Emerald Vale Golf Course
- ◆ October 2, 2000 Tuck Tate Chapter Championship, Traverse City Golf & C.C.

Who wants to win \$250.00?

In an effort to install a little creativity and addition to our Turf Times, we are awarding \$250.00 and a plaque to the member of the NMTMA who submits an article to be judged and published in the Turf Times. Once the article is submitted, it will be reviewed by a committee to be put into the final judging, done by the members at the annual board meeting. There are no subject restrictions. Pictures may accompany your article. Please submit all articles to:

Scott Pulaski
4787 Winnie Hill Rd. OR e-mail:scottp@freeway.net
Gaylord MI 49735 Fax: (517) 983-2908
(517) 732-6711 Ext. 2809

Quotable

"To answer the question, 'What is good maintenance worth?' we consistently find that better playing conditions mean higher fees and increased desire to play in any given market. Courses that spend more on maintenance are those that command higher green fees."

-Larry Hirsh, Golf Property Analysts

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

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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



Dr. James B. Beard
International Sports Turf
Box 10065
College Station, TX 77842

NMTMA Executive Committee

Dan Bissonette	President
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Dan Hunt	Treasurer
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