



Turf Times



The newsletter from the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association

BI-Monthly Update November/December Volume 31, No. 5 [2002]



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President's Message

The leaves have fallen, snow mold chemicals have been applied and the irrigation has been blown out for the winter. The staff has been laid off for a break after a long golf season of their undying dedication. The Christmas holiday is upon us for all to reflect on the joyous occasions that life has to offer and catch up on lost time with our families. Warm and fuzzy thoughts, sugar plum fairies dancing in your head... Hold on a minute. I can't allow myself to go out of office on that note. It just wouldn't be right. Throw a log on the fire, relax and sit a while. Listen up because here's the news!

It has been brought to my attention by a few people belonging to this association that my President's messages may have been unprofessional, and crossed the line lately. You are correct in that assessment. I also believe that not voicing your opinions or not attending meetings on a semi-regular basis as being unprofessional and, therefore, proved a point that these types of written inspirations may be warranted to motivate dialog. Can you as a member look in to the mirror and say you are being a professional? If apathy were not a problem within any association, a fire would not have to be lit under the behind of the membership. At least, respect is to be given to those who attend meetings or gave feedback on these serious matters. It was my intention to utilize this media to bring into light issues that pertain to our association in a humorous way.

That gets us to the next issue facing our association on the national level with the GCSAA. An increase of annual dues is being voted on in Atlanta this February. This increase will keep the GCSAA operation at a breakeven status without having to rely on our investment earnings. The short story, money is needed to sustain the programs and services for 22,000 members or we will lose them.

Also being voted on in Atlanta will be a proposed amendment to the articles of incorporation. That would mean a change in the address in the article of incorporation to be amended. Translation of this language is that the GCSAA would like approval to "search" for a possible new location of our headquarters from Lawrence, Kansas. Early criteria for cities that have been analyzed for site location are Atlanta, Dallas, Jacksonville, Phoenix and Orlando. The amendment would let the GCSAA board of directors become more flexible in negotiations for relocation.

Other items of concern for your input are proposed changes in membership classifications for compliance to PDI and fiscal reporting procedures. On a local level, this would mean a proposed bylaws change in 2004 to keep our membership classification within the GCSAA compliance affiliation guidelines.

Confused yet? Find out more details by visiting your GCSAA Website or contact me. I'll save you the headache or create more migraines than you may already have. Guess what? This is why membership opinions are needed to represent your vote. At this time the NMTMA board is in support of these proposed changes but value your opinion as a voting member. We will cast your vote as you see fit. Remember, the only constant in life is that things change. Speaking of which, congratulations to our new board members Joe Breightner and Steve Princinsky. Pretty soon the only requirements to serve on the NMTMA board will be to have a Polish heritage and a first name Jim or Steve. Coincidence or conspiracy? Hoffman, Breightner and Hunt, your days are numbered.

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The election of officers took place at the last Grayling board meeting with Doug Kendziorski re-elected Secretary and Dan Hunt as Treasurer. Craig Hoffman will serve as the Vice President with Steve Hammon taking the helm in the Captains chair. This board will no doubt lead the NMTMA in the right direction with the decisions we are being faced with now and in the future.

A huge thank you is in order for all whom have been supportive through my tenure on the NMTMA board over the past years:

Jodie - thanks for listening to me and rewriting some of my PM's (should've let you edit more often)

Kay - we would be lost without you

C.C. - we've come a long way, sheesh, good show, that's the time! Remember it's mostly science but there is a little bit of art involved.

Mikey - Cinnamon rolls and poolside meetings should be in the bylaws.

Duefer - Smile, the reign of terror is over.

Senator - Think snow ...Ski-doo rules!!!

Dan H. - All your sarcastic remarks from the hip. Now lighten up the purse strings and the last executive order is "buy the board a round on the NMTMA."

NMTMA Board of Directors past and present - Thanks for carrying me for all these years, you can put me down now. I must be getting pretty heavy.

The experience has been nothing less than great. I would encourage those who think they need to sit on the sideline and watch, to get in the game and stick somebody! Now the filibuster is finally over...

Green Side Up
Daniel J. Bissonette

What's Happening??

- ◆ 2003 NMTMA Mini-Conference: This year the NMTMA Mini-Conference will be April 2, 2003.
- ◆ MTF Fundraiser: Tuesday June 10, 2003 on the Wolverine Golf Course at Grand Traverse Resort
- ◆ NMTMA Fundraiser: Monday September 8, 2003 on the Arthur Hills Golf Course at Boyne Highlands.
- ◆ We need your suggestions for NMTMA Mini-Conference topics coming up in April. Please contact Doug Kendziorski, Craig Hoffman or Steve Princinsky with any ideas.
- ◆ The NMTMA is always looking for future sites to hold events. If you are interested in holding an event in the future please contact Mike Normand.
- ◆ Be sure to check out the NMTMA website for up to date information. A survey will soon be posted in regards to an upcoming GCSAA vote. Your input is important.
- ◆ Remember to update your NMTMA information thru the NMTMA website at nmtma.org. This information will be used for the 2003 directory. Any questions contact Kay Patrick.
- ◆ Contact Craig Hoffman if you are interested in participating in the annual snowmobile outing. No information was available at the time of print for this issue.

NMTMA 2002 Chapter Championship

This years NMTMA Tuck Tate Chapter Championship was held at the Kingsley Club in Kingsley, Michigan. Golf course manager Dan Lucas and his staff had this newly rated top 100 golf course in excellent condition. The event was played in classic northern Michigan weather; sun, rain, clouds and a cool north wind tested all of the player's abilities.

There was a tie for first place. Both Joe Brightner and Kevin VanHorn had a score of 74. Joe won the score card playoff for the first place trophy. Kevin also won the low net trophy, showing up to the event as a TEN handicap...???...??? Come on Kevin, 10 handicap players don't shoot 74, especially at the Kingsley Club. Next year you will be playing as a 2, no questions asked. Other low NMTMA member scores were; Kevin Frank 76, Steve Hammon 79, John Holberton Jr. 80 and Gary Pulsipher with an 82. Second place low net was Brian Conklin and John Holberton Sr. with a score of 69.

There were three skins available which went to Kevin Frank, Kevin VanHorn and Joe Brightner. Also available were five \$25.00 gas cards for four closest to the pins and one long drive event.

After golf, members enjoyed a wonderful catered meal overlooking the front nine. The annual meeting was held under the tent during dinner. Newly elected to the board of directors were Joe Brightner and Steve Princinsky while Craig Hoffman and Scott Pulaski were re-elected to the board. Leaving this year from the NMTMA board was Kimberly Olson from Turfgrass Incorporated. Thanks for all of your time and effort on the board Kimberly.

We would like to thank our chapter championship sponsors for the beer and soda they provided on many of the tees; J. Mollema and Sons, TriTurf Inc. and Turfgrass Inc. Also, a special thank you goes out to Boylan Sales for providing extra carts for the tournament.

Thanks to everyone who attended this year's Tuck Tate Chapter Championship and thanks to those of you who made it to one or more of our NMTMA events this season, have an enjoyable winter.

Steve Hammon, Jim Bluck and Mike Normand
Your Program and Golf Committee

Check out the photos of the event on the web at nmtma.org

Your 2002-2003 Board of Directors

President: Steve Hammon
Vice President: Craig Hoffman
Treasurer: Dan Hunt
Secretary: Doug Kendziorski

Board Members:	Steve Sump	Scott Pulaski	Steve Princinsky
	Mike Normand	Joe Brightner	
	Jim Bluck	Jim VanAntwerp	

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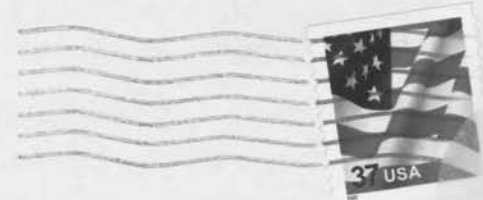
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...and we encourage you to support them

Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association

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6900 E. Kelenski Dr.
Cedar, MI 49621



NMTMA Executive Committee

Dan Bissonette	President
Steve Hammon	Vice President
Dan Hunt	Treasurer
Tom Reed, Sr.	Executive Secretary
Doug Kendziorski	Recording Secretary

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