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COLLECTION

# Tee to Green

April 1978

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Vol. VIII, No. 3

## MEETING NOTICE:

Date: May 23, 1978: Annual Green Chairman—Supt. Meeting  
 Place: Westchester Country Club  
 Host: John Traynor  
 Golf: 12 noon on—Green Chairman—Supt.—Team Tournament  
 Lunch: Available in Golf House  
 Cocktails: 6 PM  
 Dinner: 7 PM  
 Program: Ernie Koch, of Stauffers Chemical Company—  
 "5 screen presentation of Agriculture Today"

**Directions:** Take 287 East to Exit 10 "Purchase, Route 120 Rye." Take ramp and bear right do not go under underpass. Go through the first traffic light, at the next blinker make a right into Westchester Country Club.

## COMING EVENTS:

May 9 Conn. GCSA Glastonbury Hills Country Club  
 May 23 MGCSA meeting  
 June 7 Rutgers Turfgrass Research Day. Plot tours start at 10 AM. Ryders Lane Turf Station Route 1 and Ryders Lane, New Brunswick  
 June MGCSA  
 July To be announced  
 August 14 Family Picnic, Woodway Beach Club  
 September 19 Sunningdale GC, MGCSA Invitational

**Membership:** The MGCSA would like to welcome the following members: Stephen Cadenelli, Supt. Country Club of New Canaan, Class A.  
 Stuart Sharples, Assistant Supt., Spook Rock GC, Class B.

**In Memoriam—**Vernon Burnham—Vernon was a member of MGCSA for many years. He only retired about 2 years ago. He was a life member at the time of his passing. He had retired to his home area in Vermont. His son still works at the Country Club of Darien where Vernon was Supt. for many years. May he rest in peace in the great green pasture in the Green Mountain State.

## MGCSA Research Funds Report:

It's Hyperodes Weevil time again and our first spray or granular will be put on about the time you receive this newsletter. We have only added one club since last time, that being

Greenwich. You will receive a special mailing which will have not only a request for support by individuals but also a statement which you may submit to your club. If your club has already contributed in 1978 please disregard the statement. Your Greenschairman will also receive a letter about the May meeting. Dr. Tashiro and Pat Vittum will give an update at that time. This is our annual Greens Chairman meeting so please be sure to put May 23rd down on your calendar and also contact your Green Chairman in this regard.

To date we have already had the following clubs give for the 1978 season.

The Apawamis Club  
 Blind Brook Club  
 Brae Burn Country Club  
 Century Country Club  
 Fenway Golf Club  
 Greenwich Country Club  
 Old Oaks Country Club  
 Piping Rock Club  
 Sleepy Hollow Country Club  
 Wee Burn Country Club  
 Winged Foot Golf Club  
 Wykagyl Country Club

## Individuals

John Corsi  
 Roger J. King  
 Anthony Grasso  
 John Hunt  
 Garry Crothers



President Ted Horton presenting a check from MGCSA to Dr. Tashiro and Patricia Vittum for Hyperodes Research. April meeting MGCSA, Shore Haven C.C., Norwalk, Connecticut.





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Garry Crothers  
Ted Horton

Co-Editor  
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*Not copyrighted. If there is good here, we want to share it with all chapters – unless author states otherwise.*

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#### MGCSA News:

We had a tremendous joint meeting with Conn. GCSA. Bob Phipps who is a member of both the Conn. and Metropolitan GCSA was our host. We had 123 for dinner and that certainly is the largest April turnout we have had in a long time. Thanks to Jack Mosher—everybody was served dinner with a complete guessing game as to how many were coming. The word was the greens were fast and there were many 3 putt greens, but the course was in excellent shape for early Spring. Bob Osterman made a special effort to thank the management for their great job. Conn. GCSA conducted a 50-50 split for Research. Metro Milorganite's Tony Grasso contributed his winnings of \$25.00 to The Hyperodes Research Fund. Also John Hunt contributed his split winning of \$15 to the same Hyperodes Research project. Let's keep the money coming everybody. We would like everybody to contribute if possible. Most Superintendents and other interested members, both Class B & C, have contributed at least \$15 in the past.

The evenings program highlighted both Dr. Tashiro and Pat Vittum who have been working on the Hyperodes Research for the past 2 years and will again be doing it this year. Dr. Tashiro reviewed some of the past research with the hyperodes weevil and brought us up to the present in regard to some of the points in regard to the life cycle. It was thought at first that severe winters might reduce populations but this hasn't been the case in the last two winters. They seem to do most of their hibernating in the rough and in particular under pine trees. Here populations were very high. It appears that the first spray still should be timed with the flowering of Dogwoods with Dursban doing the best job either liquid or granular do about the same. As to the 2nd generation it appears that there is a staggered development which makes it very difficult to pin point the 2nd spray. It probably should be done in the later

part of June or early July or approximately 60 days from the time you spray the first time.

Pat Vittum then discussed the work she is doing in the field in regard to finding more than one species and also in their reproduction of eggs. She showed some excellent slides taken with the electronic microscope camera. With magnification about 500 times the detail is just amazing. These pictures enable Pat to determine differences in the hyperodes weevils and to in fact see if there is definitely more than two species. Dr. Tashiro also noted that one of the things that makes it difficult to time the second spray is that the hyperodes weevil doesn't always lay their eggs in a given period. It could stretch over 2 weeks and this is what causes the wide range of development we see in the summer and even in the fall. Maybe we ought to reach the President of the Hyperodes weevil nation and ask them to declare a National Holiday and then they could all lay their eggs then. It certainly isn't a simple problem to solve but we are fortunate in having two great people working on the research for us. Dr. H. Tashiro is one of the leading entomologist in the United States and Pat will soon be getting her masters and probably within two years have her Doctorate.

Garry Crothers



At our April meeting at Shore Haven C.C., Norwalk, Connecticut: left to right, Kelly Moser, golf professional, Robert Phipps, superintendent, Robert Osterman, President CGCSA, Ted Horton, President MGCSA, Dr. Tashiro and Patricia Vittum.

#### SMILE

A smile costs nothing, but it gives much. It enriches those who receive, without making poorer those who give. It takes but a moment but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever. None is so rich or mighty that he can get along without it, and none is so poor but he can be made rich by it. A smile creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in business and is the countersign of friendship. It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad and it is nature's best antidote for trouble. Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen, for it is something that is of no value to anyone until it is given away. Some people are too tired to give you a smile—give them one of yours, as none needs a smile as he who has no more to give.

(Author Unknown)

## JOB OPENING

Golf Course Superintendent  
The Apawamis Club, available September 1 or sooner.  
Private club—18 holes—Manual irrigation.

Please send complete resumes to:

Mr. Ralph H. Hubbard Jr.  
c/o Green Chairman  
The Apawamis Club  
Club Road  
Rye, New York 10580

Please do not call club.

Please refer to code ethics when applying for job.

Deadline for applications—June 1st

## JOB OPPORTUNITY

**TITLE:** Greenskeeper  
**LOCATION:** Saxon Woods Golf Course, Scarsdale,  
New York  
**STARTING SALARY:** \$14,010  
**FRINGE BENEFITS:** Civil Service, Retirement Plan, Health  
Insurance, Dental Insurance, Liberal  
Leave Policy.

**DUTIES:** Under general supervision of the Golf Course  
Manager, this position involves responsibility for keeping  
the golf course in a playable condition at all times. Super-  
vision is exercised over a number of subordinate personnel  
assigned to the maintenance of the course.

Supervises the mowing, top dressing, and care of golf greens  
and trees;

Exercises the proper control of weeds, insects and fungi  
pests;

Supervises the proper watering of greens, the maintenance  
of sand traps and the mixing of compost;

Directs and supervises the proper care of lawns, shrubbery,  
trees, roads, paths, and parking spaces and other de-

veloped or undeveloped areas pertaining to golf course  
property;

Directs the maintenance and minor repairs to all buildings,  
Directs the maintenance and minor repairs to all mowers  
and golf course mechanical equipment;

Establishes work schedules of subordinate personnel.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Three years of full-time paid experience  
in general maintenance work on public or private golf  
courses, one year of which shall have been directed to the  
care and upkeep of golf greens and completion of a standard  
grade school education; or, a satisfactory equivalent com-  
bination of training and experience.

**SUBMIT RESUME TO:** James E. Arles,

Deputy Commissioner  
Department of Parks, Recreation  
and Conservation  
County Office Building  
148 Martine Avenue  
White Plains, N.Y. 10601

Closing Date: As soon as possible



Robert Phipps, left, host superintendent and Robert Osterman,  
right, President CGCSA at our April meeting at the Shore Haven  
Country Club, Norwalk, Connecticut.

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## TRAINING ASSISTANTS DEMANDS SKILL

Developing an assistant is one of the challenging jobs an administrator can have. When the trainee takes over a top-level position he probably will adhere to the good business practices learned on the job.

Developing an assistant is hard work, requiring careful attention to details and explanations while yielding an enormous amount of confidence in and responsibility to the trainee. Here are a few items that may help in attempting to develop an assistant.

**GIVE HIM THE FACTS:** Only by being informed about his responsibilities and authorities can an assistant get a clear picture of what he is to do and how he should do it. A job description should be developed to give a trainee some guidelines. Personally introduce the assistant to those with whom he will be working.

**SMOOTH HIS PATH:** Request employees who work with your assistant to cooperate with him. Inform everyone of the duties he will be performing—then impress upon him the importance of earning the respect and confidence of these employees.

**SHARE KNOWLEDGE:** You must keep the assistant informed of your plans, your progress and your reasons for making each move. If you expect him to do a good job, you must share your knowledge with your assistant. Warn him of problem areas and see that he learns the ins and outs of working with the people working for you. Neglecting to provide background information keeps the assistant in the dark and prevents him from performing to the best of his ability as well

as makes him look bad in the eyes of those with whom he must work.


**Add responsibility gradually:** Let the assistant get a feel for his job. Then gradually give him additional small doses of responsibility. By working in this fashion he will gradually absorb additional knowledge and pick up those qualities that make a manager competent.

**HOLD A LOOSE REIN:** An assistant who is constantly being checked on gets the feeling that he is not trusted and this retards his growth as a manager. Let loose and give your assistant a free rein, let him make decisions and learn by his mistakes. You don't want a trainee to lose his initiative; but keeping him under your finger can snuff out any spark of flame of initiative.

**GIVE HIM AUTHORITY:** Give your assistant a task and tell him to get the job done and to come to you only if he sees problems or something is out of line. Encourage him to bring one or more suggested solutions to any problem he may bring you. Instead of giving him answers to problems, guide him to making the correct decisions.

**REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE IN CONTROL:** Delegate responsibility and authority but remember that you are in control. Check regularly on assignments given to your assistant. Avoid checking details; emphasize the overall job. Everyone does a job differently. If your assistant produces results but does it in a different manner than you, don't nag him about his methods.

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## PROFESSIONALISM IS APPLIED KNOWLEDGE

A profession is an occupation requiring extensive training, education and experience. One engaged in such an activity as a means of livelihood is a professional. But there are degrees of professionalism just as there are ranks of professions.

Some occupations—teaching, medicine, law—are assigned a high rank on the professional scale. Some professions and professionals earn greater respect because of their assumed competence or expertise as well as years of organized strength and public relations programs. Their professional character, spirit or methods are diametrically opposed to the amateurs.

Every professional does not have to have a Ph.D. or have spent most of his life as a lawyer or doctor to earn the respect and esteem that comes with knowing his job. It was not too long ago that very few universities offered professional training for golf course superintendents. Today, there are numerous institutions offering some sort of training for those interested in pursuing a career as a golf course superintendent.

A professional is not someone with a hundred hours of classroom instruction. While knowledge learned anywhere is valuable—it is not the goal and it does not make a professional. The goal is application of that knowledge.

A professional takes as much as he can squeeze from his job and in the same shake he returns—through his experience, ethics and teachings—a dividend to that profession. The test of a professional is his attitude—his desire to tackle his job with enthusiasm and a willingness to open his mind to all the stimuli that influence him in his work.

A superintendent with a good attitude—a professional viewpoint of his job—will not do just what has to be done. He will approach problems with thought. He will seek others' thoughts. He will use his reasoning, training and learning to elicit solutions that will not only rid him of his immediate problem, but that will have a long-range effect.

A professional is one who is aware of what the job is all about and of how to go about it with the best results and least expenditure of energy. Golf course superintendency is a profession—it requires extensive knowledge of a wide range of subjects. A professional superintendent is one who does his job—on or off the course—and acquires knowledge and then applies that knowledge to his work.

—“Forefront”

## TAX REFORM LEGISLATION

President Carter's proposed tax reform legislation has gone to Congress. It is currently being considered by the House Ways and Means Committee. Public hearings are now being conducted.

As the proposal now stands the new tax law would:

1. Eliminate the deductions claimed by businesses for CLUB DUES, CLUB FEES (including golf and other athletic fees), ENTERTAINMENT, theater, sporting tickets, yacht, hunting lodges and first class air fare.

2. Limit the deduction for the cost of business related meals to 50%. Congressional spokesmen tell us that a compromise may be made to kill the 50% restriction on deductions for food

and beverages, in order to retain the provision disallowing tax deductions on club fees, dues, entertainment and other related items. Think of what this would do to your membership and club spending. Lets face it in Michigan, many clubs are almost completely supported by corporation or company supported employees for business reasons. Many clubs will fail without this loss of revenue and in most clubs, there are a golf superintendent, a club manager and a golf professional. This legislation is important to everyone of us, directly or indirectly and help is needed NOW from members of our Association. We urge everyone of you to fight this legislation by writing to your U.S. Senator and your U.S. Representative, in your own words, voicing your opposition to this bill:

Name of your representative  
House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

This action request comes from the Club Managers Association of America, was also voiced by P.G.A. National Vice-President Joe Black at San Antonio and the G.C.S.A.A. Do it NOW, tomorrow might be too late.

**Credit: Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association**

## A SHORTWAY TO ESTIMATE YOUR SAND TRAPS NEEDS

- Sand eight 96 lbs per cubic foot
- One ton of sand 22 cubic feet
- One ton of sand will cover 66 square feet at depth of 4 inches  
Or 44 square feet at depth of 6 inches
- Average sand trap will use 5-8 tons of trap sand at 4 inches to 6 inches depth
- Formula to determine amount of sand required  
length x width x depth divided by 2000 lbs.

**Credit: The Gateway Green**



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**By Charles Brome**

Not long ago—starting in mid-February, to be a little more precise—some 500 long, skinny packages were shipped from USGA Headquarters in Far Hills, New Jersey, to superintendents at golf courses all over the country. The contents of those packages (and of the hundreds more the USGA Green Section expects to dispatch during 1978) may eventually do as much to make America's golfers happy as anything since the invention of grass.

Each package contains a "Stimpmeter"—a device which will enable a superintendent not only to measure the speeds of his putting greens with a high degree of accuracy, but also to establish reliable numerical values for each speed.

Isn't that exciting?

You're right. At first glance, the news that your course superintendent can now write down numbers which represent green speeds ranks right up there with the discovery of a dramatic new system for coiling dental floss.

But give the idea a little while to sink in. And, while it's sinking, consider this observation by Alexander Radko, National Director of the Green Section. "When viewing the factors that affect play, in tournament competition or in a friendly knockabout," he says, "one element stands out above all the others—the variability of speeds between one green and the next, or even on different areas of the same green." Variations in green speeds, he declares, can do more to negate a player's true skill than can ragged fairways or unkempt bunkers.

NOTE, PLEASE, that Radko is making no judgments about the relative virtues of fast vs. slow greens. "We have no desire at all to attempt to standardize green speeds," he says. "Whether the greens at a particular club are slow, medium, or fast is up to the membership, not the USGA."

It is the **uniformity** of greens, whatever their pace may be, that is significant. In other words, if you stroke a level putt with sufficient force to roll it 12 feet on one green, the same stroke and the same force should also give you a 12-foot roll on each of the other greens. Reading a putt correctly and then stroking it the way you want to is challenge enough in itself—you can do without the added element of surprise that comes from inconsistent green speeds.

With this thought in mind, the information your course superintendent can determine with his Stimpmeter seems a bit more intriguing. Because it is distance, not direction, that presents the greater problem on most of your putts, right?

Most superintendents are well aware of this, and they do their best to establish uniform speeds on all their greens. Until the Stimpmeter came along, though, this goal was difficult, if not impossible to reach. A superintendent has any number of techniques for adjusting green speeds, to be sure. By applying or withholding water, for example, or by varying the height, method, or frequency of cut, he can achieve just about any speed he wants to on any given green. But—since until now he has had no reliable means of measuring that speed—his efforts

to duplicate it on the remaining 17 greens have been largely guesswork.

The Stimpmeter removes the guesswork: the superintendent can use it to measure the speed of one green and, by adjusting the remaining greens to the same measurement, achieve uniform speeds throughout the course. "The Stimpmeter is your speedometer," Radko tells superintendents. "With it, you can set your green speed at any level your membership desires."

THE DEVICE is named for its originator, Edward S. Stimpson, who devised an instrument for measuring green speeds in the mid-1930s. The model now being distributed by the USGA, a slightly modified version of Stimpson's original, is an extruded aluminum bar 36 inches long and 1 3/4 inches wide. It has a V-shaped groove along its length and a notch near one end.

The principle is simplicity itself. The superintendent places a ball in the notch and rests the other end of the Stimpmeter on the green. He raises the notched end slowly until the ball rolls out of the notch, down the groove, and onto the green. Since the ball is always released from the notch at the same angle of elevation, it will reach the green with the same velocity each time. The distance it rolls will indicate the speed of the green.

The first shipments of Stimpmeters are going to superintendents at clubs that subscribe to the Green Section's Turfgrass Advisory Service. Instruments will also be made available, at cost, to the remaining 4,000 USGA member clubs. After the device has been in widespread use for a time and the resulting data can be analyzed, Radko considers the possibilities for improved playing conditions to be "virtually endless."

One immediate result should be improved hole locations. A hole cut at or near the bottom of a slope, for example, might present a fair challenge when green speed is a slow 4' 6," but be an unfair position on a green measuring a fast 8' 6."

**GREEN SPEED COMPARISON TABLE**

*Based on tests of some 1,500 greens in 36 states during the 1976 and 1977 playing seasons, Green Section agronomists have found these to be green speeds commonly considered appropriate for regular membership play.*

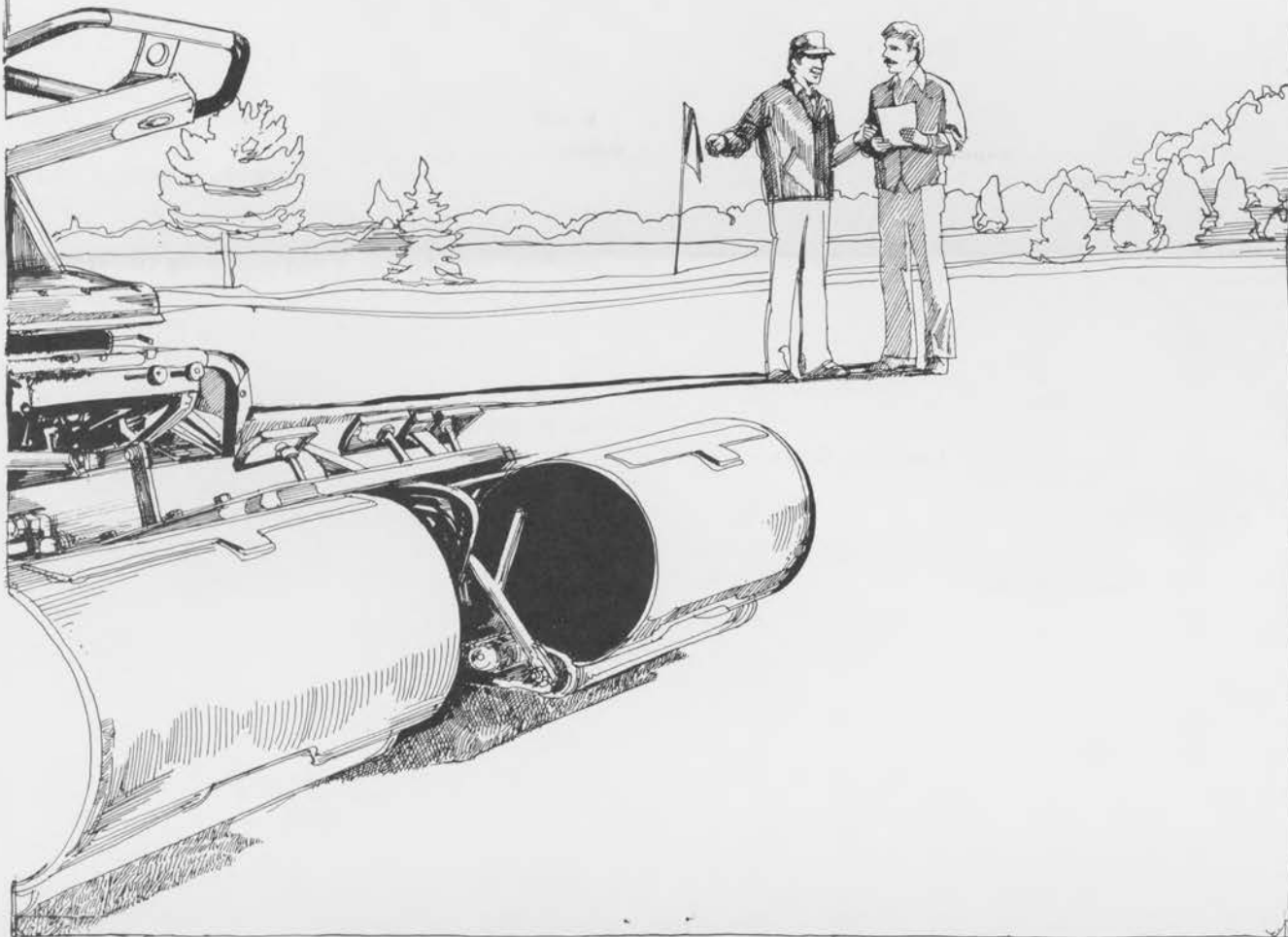
<b>Fast</b>	<b>8' 6"</b>
<b>Medium-fast</b>	<b>7' 6"</b>
<b>Medium</b>	<b>6' 6"</b>
<b>Medium-slow</b>	<b>5' 6"</b>
<b>Slow</b>	<b>4' 6"</b>

*NOTES: These speeds should in no way be construed to be USGA specifications, but are simply for purposes of general information.*

**Credit: Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association**



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