Volume 25, Number 7 • September/October 1995

#### Published by the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association

#### **President's Message**

Parting Notes . . . And Prophesies

he end of my term as president is fast-approaching. I will soon be turning over the reins to a new president and board of directors. As I look back on the past two years, I am proud to say that we've had many successes:

 Our membership continues to grow as we attract members from a wider reach than ever before and as new courses spring up in the Tri-State area. • Our monthly events are well attended. Our committees are functioning to their fullest. I won't list each committee's achievements, but I would like to thank all the board and committee members who have put their all into serving the Met membership over the past two years.

#### **Two Years Well Spent**

Being president was not only enjoyable, but also a great learning experience for me. And I'd like to thank the entire membership for this wonderful opportunity. Making my term all the more enjoyable, of course, was having a board and committee members who worked so diligently to achieve their goals.

This office commands a great deal of respect from allied associations and even club members. This is due, in large part, to the professionalism of the many presidents before me. Each of the past presidents has, in one (continued on page 2)

#### **Special Feature**

## The Ins and Outs of the New-and-Improved **GCSAA/Chapter Affiliation Agreement**

What It Means for You and the MetGCSA

nited We Stand, Divided We Fall." That old adage may well be the basic premise behind the new-andimproved GCSAA/Chapter Affiliation Agreement, which was unveiled at the Chapter Relations Meeting held September 9 and 10 in Lawrence, KS.

The culmination of two years of discussion and debate among GCSAA Chapter Relations Committee members, this proposed pact is designed expressly to strengthen the relationship between GCSAA and its affiliated chapters and, in long existed between GCSAA and local turn, allow better representation of the golf course superintendent and the profession. But just as important, the new agreement offers provisions for protecting and reducing the liability of the directors, officers, and members of the chapters, as well as the directors, officers, and members of GCSAA.

The committee credited with this formidable undertaking is composed of four board officers and 11 GCSAA member superintendents, representing a broad cross-section of GCSAA's affiliated chapters. "We have poor chapters and affluent chapters, East Coast chapters and West Coast chapters, and North and South regional chapters represented on the committee," notes GCSAA President Gary T. Grigg, CGCS.

In short, that means everyone's needs were considered-and representedwhen building the new affiliation standards.

What many superintendents don't know is that an affiliation agreement has chapters. It's just that, for the past dozen years or so, little has been done to enforce the agreement.

"We realized we needed to strengthen a relationship that had started to fall apart," says Bruce Williams, GCSAA vice president and Chapter Relations Committee chairperson. "But we also realized," he adds to explain the lengthy reexamination of existing standards, "that to enforce the old agreement without input from the chapters would not have been fair." (continued on page 3)

#### Also in This Issue

- (6) Met Celebrates End to Long, Hard Season at Burning Tree Meeting
- (7)Manager-Superintendent Meeting Planned for December . . . plus notto-be-missed educational and social events
- (7) And Now, a Thank-You to Our Sponsors

(9) Metropolis Wins

(9) Read All About It: MetGCSA Takes Met Area Team Championship . . . Again!

Parting Notes . . .

way or another, worked to bring the MetGCSA to greater heights. Though I will truly miss being your president, it is an honor to have my name added to this fine list.

#### **Crystal Ball Gazing**

As I leave the office of president, I would also like to leave those I've worked with and been close to over the past 11 years on the board with the following prophesies and, in some cases, "fond" memories:

✓ To Peter Bisconti: Wider fairways, fewer contours, shorter roughs, forward tees on wet days, and a perfect course setup ✓ To Bob Bruce: An automatic irrigation system

✓ To Steve Cadenelli: Having to wait for George C. Scott to play through at Devils Dork Country Club

 To John Carlone: A great attitude and perseverance to reach your goals
To Sal Celona: Enough water to fill the

reservoirs

✓ To Matt Ceplo: An extra set of golf clothes in the back seat

✓ To Bob DeMarco: At the next Woodstock

✓ To Bert Dickinson: An open floodgate from Westchester Country Club

✓ To Dennis & Cindy Flynn: The master bedroom at Quechee

✓ To Tony Grasso: Publishing a book called Freddyisms

To Ted & Nancy Horton: Overlooking the bay

✓ To Byron Johnson: As Fred would call it, "Byronizing"

✓ To Patty Knaggs: A dart game with Peter's face as the target

✓ To Mike Maffei: A new set of clubs and time to work on your game

✓ To Dave Mahoney: Hiring a Sysop for MetByte

✓ To the Millett brothers: Swimming alone in the Fairview pool

✓ To Donna Millett: An invitation to Quechee

✓ To Tim Moore: No longer having to call the printer

✓ To Scott Niven & Larry Pakkala: Low gross at Quechee

✓ To Tim O'Neill: The GCSAA presidency

 To John O'Keefe: Watching your handicap rise over the next two years
To Dennis Petruzzelli: Golfers

✓ To Todd Polidor: Adjusted handicaps for the entire squad

✓ To Tim Powers: Playing Cypress Point so that I could go to the airport

✓ To Peter Rappoccio: A rules book to share with Dave Fleming during the preconference tour

 To Birdie Rappoccio: Driving Kim's car
To Dominic Richichi: Becoming owner and president of Booberoochi Country

Club

To Ernie Rizzio: Gone fishing
To Fred Scheyhing: Looking for Mr.

Rugman

✓ To Scott Schukraft: Throwing hats at moving trains

✓ To Jeff Scott: Riding down 684 immediately after your dog was sprayed by a skunk

✓ To Beth Seme: On your way to Rochester saying, "Heaven can't wait"

✓ To Joe Stahl: Wondering why you moved 300 miles from your territory

✓ To Scott Stark: Coping with "allergies" in your pond and "old-timers disease" at the same time

✓ To Steve & Annette Sweet: Living happily ever after

✓ To Ed Walsh: Looking over my shoulders during exams

✓ To Jeff Wentworth: Searching for the elusive engagement ring

✓ To Pandora Wojick: Having Greg as Tee to Green editor

✓ To Kim Alonzi: Insisting that Joan is a heavy blond

✓ To Bob Alonzi: Winged Foot hosting the PGA in August

✓ To Rob & Chris Alonzi: Becoming future legends

✓ To Judy Alonzi: A big kiss at the San Francisco Airport and a scaled down summer personality

And to all those who have put up with me . . . thanks. JOE ALONZI, CGCS President

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TEE TO GREEN is published eight times a year by the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association 49 Knolwood Road, Elmsford, NY 10523-2819 914-347-4653, FAX: 914-347-3437 Copyright © 1995

#### Special Feature (cont. from pg. 1)

## The Ins and Outs of the New-and-Improved GCSAA/Chapter Affiliation Agreement

New Agreement Standards at a Glance At the two-day Chapter Relations Meeting, 95 chapter representativeswith Country Club of Darien Superintendent Tim O'Neill representing the MetGCSA—were given the opportunity to discuss and amend the proposed chapter affiliation agreement. Here's a rundown on the new agreement standards-some of which will be up for GCSAA membership vote at the Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL, in February:

Dual Membership: Any superintendent or assistant joining a local chapter after July 1, 1997 must also join the GCSAA. Likewise, anyone joining GCSAA would also have to join a local chapter. Existing members would be exempt from the dual membership requirement.

To ease the expense burden for golf courses that employ multiple assistants, GCSAA will take the vote away from assistant superintendents and then reduce their dues.

Says Westchester Country Club Superintendent and MetGCSA President Joe Alonzi about this clause of the agreement, "At first, I was concerned about how the dual membership reguirement would affect our membership. But then I learned that it was amended so that only members who joined after July '97 would be affected. I also think that changing the classification and voting status of assistants-and then lowering their dues-is an excellent idea."

Rationale: This would boost membership numbers in both the national and local associations and allow GCSAA to better serve and promote the image of superintendents across the country.

🕲 Consistency of Bylaws and Membership Classifications: Chapters' bylaws should not contradict GCSAA bylaws. For most, including the Met, that means adjusting superintendent and assistant superintendent classifications to parallel GCSAA's Class A, B, and C classifications. In short, A's should be superintendents with three or more years' experience, B's would be superintendents with less than three years'

experience, and C's would be assistants.

The most obvious change for the Met is that our commercial members-as well as any superintendent with less than three years on the job-would have to be reclassified.

Rationale: Providing consistency in requirements for Class A, B, and C members of both chapters and GCSAA would be beneficial with regard to employment notices that identify specific requirements tied to membership status.

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"[This agreement] will smooth the way for better communications with GCSAA and other chapters and allow us to share—and benefit from—each others' knowledge and experience."

- Tim O'Neill, MetGCSA Chapter Delegate

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0 Classification of Chapter Officers and Directors: All officers of local chapters must be GCSAA Class A and B members, and the majority-51 percent-of board members should be GCSAA Class A and B members. Rationale: This is designed to encourage the pursuit of common goals and interests of GCSAA and its chapters and to better represent the interests of superintendents.

Incorporation: Chapters must incorporate in the state where their principle business is located. Rationale: The chapter corporation status serves to protect directors, officers, and members from being sued directly and held responsible for paying penalties and damages resulting from any legal actions.

Annual Reporting: This requires that local chapters submit an annual report outlining chapter activities for the year, current bylaws, current officers, a current membership roster, a certificate of good standing from the state where the chapter is incorporated, a certificate of insurance, a summary of the annual

financial statements, and the chapter's annual tax returns.

The report would be due within 30 days following a chapter's Annual Meeting and would, of course, be kept strictly confidential.

Rationale: GCSAA's annual report and financial information are available to chapters, so the Chapter Relations Committee feels that GCSAA should have access to similar information from affiliated chapters.

Chapter Representation: Chapters must send a representative to the Annual Chapter Relations Meeting and a representative to vote at the Annual Meeting.

Rationale: Chapters should be kept abreast of-and given the opportunity to discuss-GCSAA affairs. They should also be present at Annual Meetings to represent voting members who have cast their votes with the chapter.

D Insurance: All chapters must obtain a minimum of \$1 million for both general liability and directors and officers (D&O) insurance.

Rationale: The insurance will protect the financial interests of Chapter directors and officers, members, and GCSAA.

Dax-exempt Status: Chapters will be required to seek and retain taxexempt status from the IRS. Those, unlike the Met, who do not have taxexempt status would be given two years to attain it.

Rationale: This would reduce a chapter's tax liability and would allow all chapters to participate in cooperative programs requiring tax-exempt status.

**Privileges of Achieving Affiliated Status** 

"I see that we can only profit from the new affiliation agreement," says MetGCSA Chapter Delegate Tim O'Neill. "We're already incorporated, insured, and have attained tax-exempt status. And though our bylaws will need to be modified, the changes are minor and are certainly doable by July '97. (continued on page 4)

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#### Special Feature (cont. from pg. 3)

## The Ins and Outs of the New-and-Improved GCSAA/Chapter Affiliation Agreement

"The national is headed for bigger and better things," he continues, "and the chapters—*our* chapter—is part of that growth. This new agreement will help us establish a mutually beneficial relationship, not only with GCSAA but also with chapters across the country. It will smooth the way for better communications with GCSAA and other chapters and allow us to share—and benefit from—each others' knowledge and experience."

Some of the many other privileges of affiliation:

• Bimonthly Newsletter: Chapter leaders, officers, and other interested association personnel will receive Chapter Network News, a new publication produced by GCSAA's Chapter Relations Department. Published six times a year, the newsletter is designed to keep affiliated chapters up to date on GCSAA programs and activities.

• Chapter Recognition Program: The Chapter Relations Department is developing a chapter awards program that will recognize affiliated chapters for their achievements in several categories, including fund-raising, meeting and event management, government relations, membership recruitment, and publications.

• Public Relations Campaign: GCSAA has planned a multifaceted campaign that will combine new and existing public relations tools, which will be distributed among the affiliated chapters.

• Cooperative Membership Recruitment Program: Beginning July 1, 1996, GCSAA will launch a GCSAA/chapter recruitment drive, designed to aid affiliated chapters in recruiting new members.

• Promotional Materials and Logo Use: Affiliated chapters can promote their affiliation with GCSAA by using the association's affiliated chapter logo.

• *Planning Assistance:* Beginning next spring, GCSAA will offer strategic planning sessions to a chapter or chapters within a given region. A GCSAA staff representative would be available to lead the planning process.

• Chapter Insurance: GCSAA is offering a reasonable D&O and general liability insurance package that will cost chapters only \$700 annually. (In California, general liability is more costly, however, so their total will be \$850.) "If this policy is, as I suspect, comparable to ours, then we stand to save several thousand dollars," says Joe Alonzi. "This, in itself, would make affiliation worthwhile."

• Leadership Handbook: The GCSAA Chapter Relations Department has developed a prototype of a leadership book, which it distributed to volunteer chapter leaders for review at the September meeting.

Designed to assist chapter delegates, the book offers information about GCSAA headquarters, present and planned chapter-related programs, chapter board and officer position descriptions, and tips on running effective meetings and managing successful committees.

• Chapter Cooperative Research Program: This program would make avail-

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able matching funds for chapter-based research projects and encourage multiple-chapter research initiatives.

#### More Than Just a Magazine

"We have to remember that GCSAA offers members more than just a glossy publication, Golf Course Management," says Tim O'Neill, who points to the many other benefits of membership, including a certification program, research and scholarship program, regional educational seminars, and our national conference and golf tournament.

In addition, Tim notes that GCSAA represents our industry with the EPA and has successfully addressed various environmental issues and concerns across the nation. Fully committed to communicating the positive effects of golf courses on the environment, GCSAA has recently initiated an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Schools, which will teach children the environmental benefits of golf courses.

The organization has also built important relationships with other leading golf organizations, including the PGA, USGA, and CMA and is currently hard at work promoting the image of the profession of golf course superintendent. "In fact," says Tim, "GCSAA has renewed its commitment with ESPN to televise 30 episodes of the highly successful show 'Par for the Course.' It will make tapes of the program available to local chapters and superintendents interested in showing them at their clubs."

"GCSAA is, no doubt, a great resource and support system for local associations," says Joe Alonzi. "So as long as we can still keep our autonomy, I believe closer affiliation with this association and others across America could only be positive."

If you have any questions about the new GCSAA/Chapter Affiliation Agreement, feel free to contact your MetGCSA Chapter Delegate, Tim O'Neill, at 203-656-0600 or Don Bretthauer, who heads the GCSAA Chapter Relations Department and programs, at 800-472-7878 or 913-832-4418 (direct line).



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#### Spotlight

### MetGCSA Wraps Up Long, Hard Season at Burning Tree

ctober 10 marked the MetGCSA's final golf meeting—the Superintendent/Green Chairman Tournament—and the official end to an uncompromisingly dry, hot season.

Held at Burning Tree Country Club in Greenwich, CT, this annual event was hosted by third-year Superintendent Bill Perlee.

"What a year to be hosting my firstever golf meeting," laments Bill. "The irrigation pond, down five feet, is lower than anyone has seen it in the 33-year history of the club!"

Bill had to stop watering fairways August 21—a day he says he'll probably never forget. Walking around the pond in his fashionable, winter wool socks and hiking boots and calculating the oneinch drop from the day before, Bill admits, "This place is normally a swamp, but with two of my three years here being extremely dry, you'd hardly know it."

When Bill took the job at Burning Tree in February '93, he walked in on the early stages of a five-year master plan that included complete bunker renovation, some tee renovations, and widespread drainage repair.

"We're currently laying the groundwork to enlarge the entire tee complex of the 18th hole," says Bill. Guiding this project is Golf Course Architect Stephen Kay, who has also been instrumental in the design of other new tees and bunkers on this Hal Purdy-designed course.

In Bill's second year, he initiated what he terms a "large-scale tree thinning and pruning project." Not an easy sell to the powers-that-be at Burning Tree, this undertaking has proved worthwhile. "We removed 45 trees from around the #2 green alone," says Bill. "This has allowed better air circulation and an extra four hours of sunlight per day."

With this work, and the installation of two new drain lines, the green has improved dramatically.

Drainage is one of Burning Tree's greatest challenges. Some of the most "intriguing" wet spots on the course are near the 4th and 5th holes, where "Unstable Soil: Do Not Enter" signs warn golf ball seekers to stay away.

The disobedient have apparently paid a high and embarrassing price. Says Bill, "This season alone, we've had to rescue three people who sunk waist-deep in the muck trying to retrieve their ball."

The master improvement plan will wrap up with a pond restoration project. "At the same time, we'll also be looking at upgrading our irrigation system," says Bill, who currently has a well digger probing for a water source that won't run dry during future droughts.

Bill says he couldn't be happier at Burning Tree. "My goal was to secure a job at a club committed to providing quality playing conditions for its members," he says. "The planned capital improvements are proof of that—and they lend themselves to a great educational experience."

#### **Career Track**

Bill's golf course career began at Nissequoge Golf Club in Long Island, where he worked as a night water man from 1984 to 1987 while pursuing a four-year degree at the nearby SUNY Empire State College.

He graduated with a B.S. in Computer Science and a minor in Journalism in 1987, but rather than pursue a position in a high-tech company or on the news desk of a major paper, he accepted a job at Sleepy Hollow Country Club. Working as an assistant from 1988 to 1992, Bill gained valuable experience prepping a golf course for PGA and USGA events, not the least of which was the PGA Senior Golfers Commemorative Tournament.

"I've always been attracted to golf," says Bill to explain his rather unlikely career turn. Raised in Northport, NY, he practically grew up on the Town of Huntington's Crab Meadow Golf Course. Today, he boasts an 11.1 USGA Index—and two holes-in-one. The first was on Hole #10 at Sleepy Hollow. But, alas, Bill was playing solo, so there was no one, as Bill puts it, "to hear my screams." His second win, however, did *not* go unnoticed at the Met's Bedford Golf & Tennis meeting this past May on the 184-yard Hole #12.

#### Love on the Links

Golf is so much a part of Bill's life, that it was on the links—Augusta National, no less—that he proposed to his wife of five years, Lorah. "I popped the question at Amen Corner, between the 12th and 13th holes," muses Bill.

Lorah, who has a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology (Forensic Science) is the celebrity of the family. She's appeared on CNN, "Good Morning America," and "Court TV," offering expert advice regarding DNA technology.

Lorah was also front-page news in NewsDay, when she helped officials crack a major Long Island murder case.

Bill and Lorah live in Wilton, CT, with their dog, Maid, who Bill named after one of his favorite golf courses, Maidstone, on the east end of Long Island. Maid is a border collie that a board member bought for Bill expressly to control Burning Tree's geese. "That was after he had read an article by Fairview Superintendent Richie Marcks on his success with border collies," says Bill.

Bill and Lorah are now also sharing their quarters with a brand-new addition to the Perlee family: Sarah Catherine, who was born September 29. Congratulations and best wishes!

SCOTT C. APGAR Metro Milorganite, Inc.

#### **Notable Notes**

Congratulations to Bill and Lorah Perlee on the birth of their daughter, Sarah Catherine, on September 29!

## Manager-Superintendent Meeting Planned for December

ased on the success of last year's meeting on Manager-Superintendent Relationships, the Metropolitan Club Manager's Association will, once again, be inviting MetGCSA superintendents to participate in their December Education Meeting.

This year's topic is "Turfgrass Management for Managers," with GCSAA

#### **Meeting Reminder!**

#### MetGCSA Annual Meeting

Tuesday, November 14 Wee Burn Country Club Darien, CT Host Superintendent: Rick Schock

#### **Educational Events**

#### NYSTA Turf and Grounds Exposition

Tuesday – Friday, November 7 – 10 Rochester Riverside Convention Center Rochester, NY

This four-day annual educational conference and trade show (there will be 320 booths this year!) is cosponsored by NYSTA and Cornell University.

For further information, call NYSTA at 800-873-8873 or 518-783-1229.

Rhode Island Turfgrass Show & Conference Wednesday – Thursday, November 29 – 30 The New Rhode Island Convention Center Providence, RI

Presented by the Rhode Island Turfgrass Foundation, this first annual turfgrass show and conference will feature more than 160 booths with the latest in equipment and turf care products.

Among the many educational sessions are Bentgrass Selection for Improved Pest Resistance, 1995 Pest Problems: A Review of What

## A Thank You Long Overdue

e'd like to extend a very special—and long overdue—thank you to the generous sponsors of our Summer Social, which was held August 22 at Fairview Country Club in Greenwich, CT.

Listed alphabetically, they are:

- Currie Landscaping, Inc.
- Emerald Isle, Ltd.
- ✓ Irra-Tech, Inc.
- James Carriere & Sons, Inc.
- Lesco, Inc.

**Notable Notes** 

- Loft's Int'l Golf Development Div.
- Metro Milorganite, Inc.
- Rhone-Poulenc/Chipco
- ✓ Tee and Green Sod, Inc.

President Gary Grigg, CGCS, the invited guest speaker.

The meeting will be held at Ridgeway Country Club in White Plains, NY, on Thursday, December 14 at 11:30 a.m. You will be receiving a personal invitation from your manager, so be sure to mark your calendar and plan to attend.

#### **Social Event**

#### **MetGCSA Christmas Party**

Saturday, December 2 Metropolis Country Club, White Plains, NY Host Superintendent: Tony Grasso Plan to join the Met's annual holiday festivities.

Hurt Us, and a Panel Discussion titled "Are We Managing Our Greens to Death?" Panel participants include Met members Scott Niven of The Stanwich Club and Melvin Lucas of Links Counsellor.

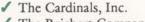
For further information, call the RI Turfgrass Foundation at 401-847-7666.

#### GCSAA Seminar: Environmental Considerations in Golf Course Management

Monday – Tuesday, December 4 – 5 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Westchester Marriott, Tarrytown, NY Cosponsored by the MetGCSA, this seminar emphasizes the responsible use of pesticides and the enhancement of environmental quality on the golf course. Covered are regulatory requirements protecting water resources and wetlands, how to

handle media/public concerns, and much more. Watch for a mailing. For further information or to register, contact GCSAA at 800-472-7878.



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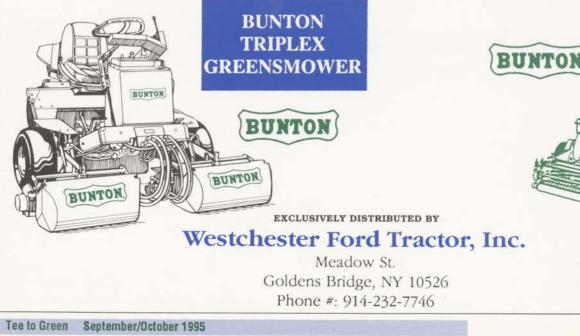


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## **Metropolis Wins**

etropolis was an outstanding test of golf for Met members as they competed for championships in all classes. Tony Grasso had the golf course in superb condition, despite the drought. His excellent use of water had the course green and full, yet very firm. He must have known what he was doing because the low round for a Class A member was an 80—by Tony.

A special thank you to General Manager Max Sanz for his extra efforts in setting up the meeting. The entire day flowed beautifully.

In the Championship Flight, Mike Medonis needed every bit of his lead from his 69 at Salem. Matt Ceplo made up seven shots with a hard-fought 81 to tie for the lead. Mike prevailed as champion on a match of cards.

Qualifying for the 11th Annual Met Area Team Championship were:

#### **Gross Team**

Mike Medonis, Bonnie Briar CC Matt Ceplo, Rockland CC Earl Millett, Ridgeway CC Mark Millett, Old Oaks CC

#### Net Team

Will Heintz, Hampshire CC Mark Fuller, Connecticut GC Mike Miner, Montammy GC Tim O'Neill, CC of Darien

In the event for the day, we ran a Two-Man Best Ball. The winners were:

#### Low Gross Winners

- 73 Earl Millett, Ridgeway CC Mark Millett, Old Oaks CC
- 73 Ron Shapiro, Bruedan Corp. Mike Gesmundo, Bruedan Corp.
- 74 Ernie Steinhofer, Nevele Hotel & CC 61 Billy Buchanan, Buchanan Assocs.

#### **Longest Drive**

Tom Watroba, Quaker Ridge GC

DAVE MAHONEY Siwanoy Country Club

#### Low Net Winners

- 59 Sam Murphy, Deepdale GC Rick Raymond, Sands Point GC
- 60 Joe Stahl, Metro Milorganite Bill Middleton, Emerald Isle
- 51 John Hawthorne, Hawthorne Bros. Charlie Siemers, Hawthorne Bros.

#### **Closest to the Pin**

Mike Gesmundo, Bruedan Corp.

### Met Retains Cup in Met Area Team Championship

hrough pouring rain, 10 Met area associations played in the 11th Annual Met Area Team Championship at Huntsville Golf Club in Shavertown, PA.

In a rain-shortened event, the Met retained hold of the Team Championship. A special congratulations to the following players who made our winning score possible: Matt Ceplo, *Rockland CC*; Dennis Flynn, *Brae Burn CC*; Will Heintz, *Hampshire CC*; Dave Mahoney, *Siwanoy CC*; Earl Millett, *Ridgeway CC*; Mark Millett, *Old Oaks CC*; Mike Miner, *Montammy GC*; Tim O'Neill,

#### CC of Darien.

Bob Mogel of Central Penn was the Low Gross Champ, with a 3-over-par score for the nine holes played.

No one failed to see the irony of the situation: The entire field—from upstate New York to the Mid-Atlantic region—came off one of the worst droughts in recent history, only to come together and play in a downpour.

Our host superintendent, Scott Schukraft, had not watered fairways for eight weeks due to the drought. Despite the severe conditions, the course was in outstanding shape. Because play was halted after nine holes, the Tournament Committee decided to count everyone's play relative to par for their first nine holes. Net players used half their handicap to come up with a net score. Oddly enough, the scores for the team totals couldn't have been closer. The MetGCSA and Philadelphia tied with a 41.5 total. The Northeast GCSA was right behind at 43.

We were fortunate to have our Legal and Rules Historian Tony Grasso on hand to advise the committee of Ryder Cup Rules. Because the Met was the defending champ, our group retained the cup in the tie.

There being no disagreement with Mr. Grasso, we awarded ourselves First Place. Thanks, Tony.

Special thanks to Scott Schukraft and to Club Owner Richard Maslow for allowing play to continue for so long.

The only disappointment of the day was not getting a chance to play the entire course—a wonderful Rees Jones design carved out of the hills of Northeast Pennsylvania. But we all knew how badly we needed the rain.

Now, a look at how the competing teams stacked up:

41.5	MetGCSA
41.5	Philadelphia GCSA
43	Northeast GCSA
44	Pocono Turfgrass Association
45	Central Pennsylvania GCSA
48	Long Island GCSA
50	New Jersey GCSA
	Connecticut GCSA
	Mid-Atlantic GCSA
*****	
	Hudson Valley GCSA
Mart	war's Mat Area Team Champion

Next year's Met Area Team Championship will be held at Maryland Golf & Country Club, hosted by superintendent Don Dittrich.

DAVE MAHONEY Siwanoy Country Club

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