



The Green Sheet

Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association

Volume 18 Issue 4

Founded ~ April 11, 1939

July 2011

July Meeting

Joint Meeting Hosted by Philadelphia AGCS

Applecross Country Club

Tuesday July 26, 2011

Registration..... 10:00 AM
 Speakers 10:30 AM
 Lunch 11:15 AM
 Golf..... 12:30 PM Shotgun
 BBQ Reception..... 5:00 PM

Superintendent Profile

A 1992 graduate of Penn State University, Doug Rae has worked his way from Assistant Superintendent to Superintendent over the years and even spent a year as a sales representative for Sports Aggregates. Although Doug has only been at Applecross Country Club for just over a year, he has a vast golf course background. He previously worked at Broad Run Golfers Club, French Creek Golf Club, where he oversaw the grow-in and start up, Downingtown Country Club and Hershey's Mill Golf Club. Doug is married to Toni and they have a five year old son, Ryan. Doug has been a member of Central Penn since 2008.

Golf Course Profile

Applecross Country Club is the only Nicklaus designed golf course in the Philadelphia region. The links-style layout at Applecross is unlike any other in the area, offering classic Nicklaus changes, yet it remains playable for golfers of all abilities.

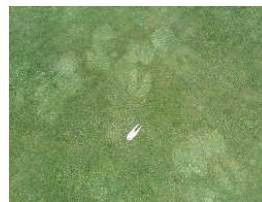
The 6,962 yard, Par72 golf course with a rating of 74 and a slope of 131, blends into a landscape that boasts breathtaking views of sparkling lakes and rolling countryside.

Currently, plans are in the works to create a 19th hole practice facility behind the clubhouse this season. The Assistant Superintendent is Travis Bates, who is a graduate of Rutgers's two-year program.

Mid-Atlantic USGA Update

Long Summer Days Equate To Intense Irrigation Management

By Keith Happ



(L) Skilled maintenance personnel scout the course daily during the 'Dog Days of Summer,' looking for hot spots and signs of wilt. This is classic foot printing; the turf is under wilt stress and collapses under traffic stress. Water management is vital for this turf to survive the day. (R) There is a distinct difference between irrigating the turf and cooling it with syringing techniques. During the heart of the summer, sound water management is essential to turf survival. Syringing to cool the turf can take only a minute or two, and depending on the weather, it may have to be repeated several times during the day.

They are referred to as *the dog days of summer* and the summer is well underway. The Mid-Atlantic Region is in the grip of high temperatures, accompanied by fluctuations in humidity. When this combination of weather factors occurs, irrigation management becomes the number one priority. Many superintendents and their crews are putting in long hours by cooling the turf and judiciously applying water only where and when it's necessary.

This month we have experienced radical and rapid changes in the humidity levels, and these changes are stressful on fine golf course turf. While low humidity is a comfortable condi-

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President's Message

Greetings all.

Can you believe that we are more than halfway through the year! Where does time go? WOW! And it seems like not that long ago we were crying the blues about "when is it going to stop raining!" Well, it has for me... again this year. I don't know how everyone else is doing, but I had just over a half inch of rain for the entire month of June. We are looking like August! On the bright side, it keeps the hours down on the rough units! Sorry equipment reps.

Thanks to Grant Huffman and the entire staffs at Heritage Hills Resort for allowing us to be their guests in June. I was disappointed in the turnout though. I thought it was a great deal to play a fantastic golf course, eat terrific food and have fun and socialize with your peers. But for whatever reason, I was wrong.

Our next event is the joint meeting with our friends from the Philadelphia Association for the Supers Cup at Applecross GC on July 26. We need to wrestle back the Cup from our foes from the east! Bring your best game and have no mercy on them!

Speaking of our Eastern Brothers, congratulations to John Gosselin and his staff for providing the PGA players with an outstanding golf course. While I did not attend, I watched on TV and the pros had nothing but rave reviews of the facility. Fantastic job John!

We are finalizing a Pig Roast for August. It will be held on a Saturday, so there shouldn't be a conflict with your work schedule. Keep it in mind on your calendars and more details will follow.

Until we meet again, hopefully at Applecross, (if not before) be safe, take care and be lucky with the rains that they are beneficial and not detrimental.

Faron Stoops

President

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Stephen J. Ludwig, CGCS

Mark Your Calendar....

August 13th Family Social -

Felicita Golf Resort
4:00 - 8:00 PM

"Pig Roast" Picnic

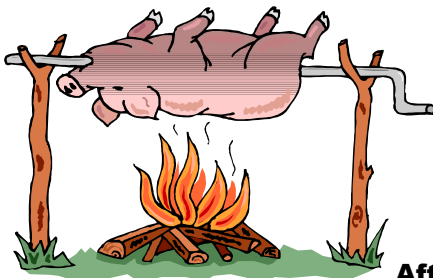
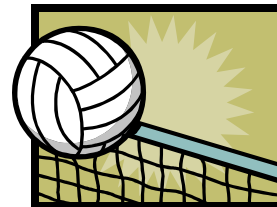
\$10.00/adults

Children under 16 - Free

Join Us for Food, Fun, Games

Sponsored by Fisher & Son, Inc.

After 8:00 - Casino Night at Hollywood Casino



Membership News

The following individuals have applied for membership into our association. If there are no written objections within the next seven days, they will be accepted into CPGCSA at the next meeting.

Vincent Anastasi.....Class AF
Sales Rep, Lawn and Golf Supply

Mike HueyClass AF
Territory Manager, Turf Equipment & Supply Co.

We would like to welcome the following individuals into our association.

Matthew N. KesslerClass AF
VP of Operations, Genesis Turfgrass Inc.

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the association, please have them contact Tim Hill at 717-336-3847.

Membership information is also available on the Central Penn website at:
www.epgcsa.org

David Rafferty Dedication, Leadership and Service Award

The Board of Directors is again seeking nominations for the 8th Rafferty Award. This award recognizes dedication, leadership and service to CPGCSA and its members.

The award will honor the memory of Dave Rafferty. Dave was a Past President of our association as well as the Northwest PA GCSA and the Allied GCS of Pennsylvania. He was a forerunner in educating our elected and regulatory officials to the benefits of golf turf to the environment.

Dave was a mentor to literally dozens of superintendents, assistant superintendents and other members. He worked tirelessly to assist anyone who sought his council. We realize no one will fill Dave's shoes but we are dedicating this award in his memory. We will recognize members who have selflessly given themselves to benefit our association and its membership.

This award is designed to honor current and former superintendents attaining a minimum of 14 years association membership. This is the number of years Dave was a CPGCSA member. All classes of membership shall be eligible to receive the award although superintendent or retired superintendent nominees will receive favored consideration. The award is dedicated to a superintendent who worked hard for our association. Other classes of membership will not be ignored but must show outstanding dedication, leadership and service.

The award will be presented at Central Penn Night. The location and date will be announced in an upcoming newsletter.

We have many deserving members. Please return nominations by August 31, 2011.

~~David Rafferty DSL Application on page 8~~

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2011 Annual Meeting and Elections

The September 29th meeting at Hanover Country Club will be the Annual Meeting with election of officers and directors for the 2012 meeting year. We are currently accepting nominations for positions on the Board of Directors.

If interested in running for a board position, please contact Donald G. Dodson at 410-527-3307 or ddodson392@aol.com.

July Meeting Speakers

The speakers for the July meeting at Applecross Country Club will be Dr. Mike Fidanza, professor of biology at PSU Berks, and Steve Randall, senior manager of chapter outreach for the GCSAA.

Dr. Mike will give a presentation on "Sustainable Water Issues for Golf Course Turf." He will share information on water use practices for maintaining high quality turfgrass in the Mid-Atlantic region, as well as discuss the future of water conservation for golf courses.

Steve will give members an update on the GCSAA.

USGAcontinued from Page 1

tion for golfers, it is much more stressful on turfgrass. The turf cools itself by releasing water (transpiration) to the atmosphere. During high temperatures and low humidity this cooling process uses a great deal of stored energy from the roots. Conversely, high humidity conditions place stress on both the golfers and the turf. When the air is saturated with moisture, the turf is not under the same level of stress. Simply put, the plant is not losing as much water to the atmosphere, and its cooling process is not as efficient.






There is a fine line between irrigating and cooling the turf; in other words, beneficially cooling the turf or over-watering the grass can be damaging. During high temperature conditions it is essential not to over-wet the soil for fear of damaging the turf and its roots. Water is an excellent conductor of heat. As a golfer, when you see the maintenance crew checking a putting surface or a hot spot in a fairway, allow them time to complete the inspection so they can maintain the playing quality of the golf course. A few moments for preventive care means a lot at this time of year.

There have been concerns about bacterial wilt damage on bentgrass. Samples have been submitted to laboratories and confirmation has been received. Unfortunately, labeled controls are not available for this problem. If you suspect this is a problem at your course, send a sample to a qualified laboratory for definitive diagnosis. If you have any questions, contact the [Mid-Atlantic regional offices](#).

Mid-summer is the time to examine the mowing equipment and sharpen all cutting components if necessary. Bedknives should be dressed, and reel blades reels may need to be sharpened. Many operations have spin-grinding equipment that allows for very efficient and rapid sharpening of all reel mowers. Using sharp mowers is an important Best Management Practice (BMP), so don't let dull mowers lead to weak, disease-prone turf. Poor cut quality can cause shredded leaf tips, which can lead to complaints about playing quality. Take the time to sharpen and adjust the tools of the trade. The effort will be well worth the while.

Always remember that the agronomists of the Mid-Atlantic Region are part of your agronomic support team. If you have a question or concern, especially now, give us a call or send an e-mail. Stan Zontek, (szontek@usga.org) or Darin Bevard (dbevard@usga.org) at 610-558-9066 or Keith Happ at (khapp@usga.org) at 412-341-5922.


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Directions to Applecross Country Club

From PA Turnpike:

- Take the PA Turnpike West to Exit 326 toward US-202/Valley Forge
- Take 202 South toward West Chester
- Merge onto Rte 30W toward Downingtown/Coatesville
- Take the Rte 322W Exit
- Follow Rte 322W past the Brandywine Shopping Center on right and continue until Bollinger Rd
- Turn left at Bollinger Rd and follow it to Applecross Blvd.
- Turn right onto Applecross Blvd. and follow signs for the Welcome Center on the left.

From the Lehigh Valley Area:

- Take I-476S toward Philadelphia and South/East-West Turnpike
- Merge onto I-276 W/Pennsylvania Turnpike via Exit 20 toward Norristown/Harrisburg
- Merge onto I-76 E via Exit 326 toward I-476/Philadelphia/US-202/Valley Forge
- Merge onto US-202 S via Exit 328A toward West Chester
- Merge onto US-30 W toward Downingtown/Coatesville
- Merge onto Horseshoe Pike/US-322 W
- Turn left at Bollinger Rd and follow it to Applecross Blvd.
- Turn Right onto Applecross Blvd. and follow signs for the Welcome Center on the left.

From Exton/Downingtown:

- Take Rte 100 South to 113 West
- Take 113 West to 30 Bypass
- Take 30 Bypass to Rte 322
- Take Rte 322 to Bollinger Rd

From West Chester/Chadds Ford

- Take 202 North to 100 North
- Take 100 North to 30 Bypass
- 30 Bypass to Rte 322
- Rte 322 to Bollinger Rd

Applecross Country Club
160 Bollinger Rd.
Downingtown, PA 19335

Golf Results

What a beautiful day at Heritage Hills Golf Course! We had a good number of players who played this tournament. Many thanks to Grant Huffman and his staff for their hard work preparing the golf course for this tournament (they got hammered with rain on the previous day). The greens were magnificent, they had a nice pace to it, rolled very well and true (of course, I was putting well that day). Again, thank you Grant for having us at Heritage Hills.

The tournament format was the best ball of twosome - gross and net. Here are the winners:

1st Place Gross: 72

Chris Martin and Andy Zook

2nd Place Net: 74

Bill Brooks and Pete Ramsey
(they won the tiebreaker on #18th Hole)

1st Place Net: 60

Matt Turner and Chad Oxenreider

2nd Place Net: 65

Thom Mahute and Brad Helcoski

Closest to the Pin:

Brad Helcoski

Longest Drive:

Brad Helcoski

The next tournament is a joint meeting hosted by Phila AGCS at Applecross Country Club. This format will be better ball with partner in "Ryder's Cup" match play. If you don't have a partner, we will pair you up with someone. So, be sure to sign up because we can use all of your help winning the trophy back to Central Penn. It has been a while and it is time to reclaim the title. See you on July 26th at Applecross CC and bring your "A" game.

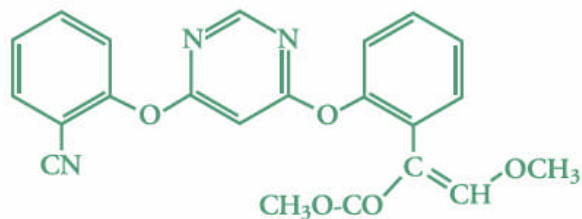
KAGCS Scholarship Fund Tournament

The Keystone Association of Golf Course Superintendents is holding their 14th Annual Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament on Monday, September 26, 2001. This year's tournament is being held at Bucknell Golf Club. Central Penn GCSAA sends a team each year to support the Keystone Association. If you would like to play on the Central Team this year, please contact Wanda. If we receive an overwhelming response, we will do a raffle to pick the team.

Registration begins at 12:00 Noon
1:00 PM Shotgun
Dinner & Prizes following tournament
4 - Man Scramble

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Is Variety Really The Spice Of Life?

By Darin S. Bevard, senior agronomist, Mid-Atlantic Region

July 8, 2011

Travels in the region have generally yielded turfgrass that is in good condition, but they are beginning to show signs of stress. There are some notable exceptions, especially in southern portions of Virginia where some areas have been inundated with rain from heavy thunderstorms on an almost daily basis in the last week. In conjunction with high temperatures, putting greens are beginning to show decline with this challenging weather combination. Heavy rain, high temperatures and cool-season turfgrass do not go well together.

Various Pythium root diseases, take-all patch and bacterial wilt have all been reported as the cause of decline. If your golf course is in one of these areas that has received too much rain, remember that conservative maintenance practices are needed. As some possibilities:

- Height of cut may need to be increased and mowing frequency decreased.
- Fungicide intervals may need to be shortened, which will impact the budget.
- The greens may need to be vented with small solid or coring tines to improve air exchange with the soil and promote drying.

In short, some or all of these measures will be needed at your golf course to preserve the health of the grass. Softer, slower greens should be expected and accepted until weather patterns change. The alternative could be significant turfgrass decline. Remember, slow grass is better than no grass.

Ironically, other portions of the Mid-Atlantic Region have been on the dry side in the last month. With water under the control of the superintendent, firm and fast conditions are being provided and generally are well accepted by the golfers, in spite of a few brown spots here and there. In many of these areas, a thunderstorm will be welcomed to give maintenance staffs a break from hand watering.

One does not have to go far to experience a completely different set of management conditions on golf courses because of the weather. Be careful when comparing golf courses. Off-color turf is not necessarily a sign of lax management. It may be a sign that the course you are playing that day has not received rain in many days. On the other hand, soft greens may not be a result of overwatering; the course you are playing that day may have received significant rain when others did not.

Second generation annual bluegrass weevil adults are now very common. If good control of first generation was not achieved, damage can quickly develop in the centers of fairways as well as the edges. Even if you have creeping bentgrass fairways, do not rest easily. Damage from annual bluegrass weevil in creeping bentgrass has increased in the past couple of years. Be prepared to apply an insecticide to control adult populations if they are noted on your golf course.

The dog days of summer are upon us. The longest, hottest days coupled with the warmest, shortest nights provide the most challenging conditions for maintaining cool-season grasses. Conservative maintenance practices should be employed, especially on putting greens. This does not mean that well-paced greens cannot be maintained. It does mean that on some of these long, hot days the greens may not be as fast as they were in May and June.

The Mid-Atlantic Region agronomists are part of your agronomic support team. If you have a question or concern, give us a call or send an e-mail. You can reach Stan Zontek (szontek@usga.org) and Darin Bevard (dbevard@usga.org) at 610/ 558-9066 or Keith Happ (khapp@usga.org) at 412/ 341-5922.

For Your Information

If you have any information that you would like included in the August newsletter, please e-mail information to Wanda
at
cpgcsa@hotmail.com

or mail to
1594 Cumberland Street #250, Lebanon, PA 17042

by July 31, 2011

Central Pennsylvania GCSA David Rafferty DSL Award Nomination Form

I nominate the following individual for CPGCSA's 2012 David Rafferty Dedication, Service and Leadership Award for his/her outstanding contribution to the advancement of the profession of the golf course superintendent.

Nominee Information (please type or print):

Nominee: _____

Club/Company/Association: _____

Street: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

CPGCSA Membership Class: _____

Nominator Information (please type or print):

Nominator: _____

Club/Company/Association: _____

Street: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

CPGCSA Membership Class: _____ Date submitted: _____

Signature: _____

Please provide information regarding the nominee's contributions to the advancement of the golf course superintendent's profession and the nominee's involvement in activities within the Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendent Association and/or other associations with local, state, regional or national influence plus community service.

Attach additional sheets if necessary. Use a different form for each nomination. Additional forms may be photo copied or requested from CPGCSA from the address listed below.

All nominations must be received by August 31, 2011.
Mail completed forms to: CPGCSA, 1594 Cumberland Street #250, Lebanon, PA 17042
or email to: cpgcsa@hotmail.com

Platinum



Gold Spon-



Silver Spon-



Bronze Spon-



Support-



Blue Ridge Peat Farms

2011 CPGCSA Meeting Schedule

July 26	Applecross Country Club Joint Meeting - hosted by Phila AGCS
August 13	Family Social "Pig Roast" at Felicita Golf Resort
September 29	Hanover Country Club Annual Meeting/Golf Championship
October 20	Carlisle Country Club Super/Pro/GM/AF Tournament



The Green Sheet

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Inside This Issue

July 2011 Meeting Information
