President’s Message

Dear WVGCA Members

So here we are with another golf season upon us. The grass is growing faster than our crews can maintain it, and our equipment is using every bit of horsepower it has to do the job. It is spring, the time of year we spent the last 3 month wishing for. Another way to tell it is spring is the Masters. What a finish to an already awesome tournament. Sergio and Rose in a sudden death playoff with Sergio coming out on top.

The board has met in April to decide where our annual fundraiser will be held. The time and location will be announced in this newsletter. Amber will send out applications for the teams and Hole sponsors. We appreciate the support of all our vendors and teams that participate. All the proceeds go to the children and grandchildren of the members of the association. To date, we have granted every qualifying candidate a scholarship reward that has applied.

In closing, I would like to see as many members of the WVGCSA at the fundraiser. Its main purpose is to help with the cost associated with higher education.

Thank You,
Tony Coppa
Superintendent at Oglebay Resort
Billy Casper Golf
SERVICING WEST VIRGINIA....

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Follow these five simple steps to help prevent turf loss such as this, which was caused by untimely aeration and sand topdressing.

Five Strategies That Will Make 2017 Better Than 2016

By S. Addison Barden, agronomist, Northeast Region

Whether challenged by drought or record-breaking heat, the 2016 season was difficult for most golf courses in the Northeast Region. These five successful and affordable strategies were common denominators among facilities that maintained healthy turfgrass last summer:

1. Think like the tortoise, not the hare — Last year, summer heat and humidity arrived early and dwelled late into the season. Keep this in mind when preparing for early season golf events. Low heights of cut, frequent mowing and other aggressive practices early in the season may not appear to have adverse effects on turf, but they weaken it and can have long-term consequences.

2. Plan for the worst, hope for the best — It is impossible to predict adverse weather so it’s best to plan for it. Last summer, the northern half of the region experienced unprecedented drought conditions and many golf facilities did not have a drought-emergency plan. If you do not already have them, develop a drought-emergency plan and water budget this spring before it’s too late.

3. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure — Golf facilities that regularly perform cultural practices to promote plant health are well-prepared to handle adverse weather. Practices such as venting, light and frequent sand topdressing, and reduced mowing frequency can all help turf survive through difficult conditions. This season, promote plant health by prioritizing beneficial culture practices.

4. Provide scheduling flexibility — Whether planning day-to-day maintenance or putting green aeration, build some flexibility into the agronomic calendar so critical cultural practices can be performed during advantageous weather conditions. Delaying cultural practices until the weather is suitable may create a short-term inconvenience, but any inconvenience is much better than long-term negative effects or turf loss.

5. Communicate, communicate, communicate — Keep golfers and other decision-makers up to date with projects and course conditions to prevent surprises. Additionally, meet with the golf professional throughout the season to keep them informed of playing conditions, turf health and upcoming cultural practices. For additional information that can help golfers learn more about important agronomic practices, check out the USGA Green Section Fore the Golfer article series.

Northeast Region Agronomists:
- David A. Oatis, regional director – doatis@usga.org
- James E. Skorulski, agronomist – jskorulski@usga.org
- Elliott Dowling, agronomist – edowling@usga.org
- Addison Barden, agronomist – abarden@usga.org
- Paul Jacobs, agronomist – pjacobs@usga.org
- Adam Moeller, director, Green Section Education – amoeller@usga.org
A green in Maine exhibits unusual patterns of winter damage that extend beyond the typically damaged low-lying areas.

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Most golf facilities in the Northeast Region are enjoying good turf conditions and superintendents are busy with traditional spring programs. Winter snow and spring rains have also eased the drought that impacted much of New England and parts of upstate New York in 2016. Unfortunately, some golf facilities in the Northeast did not emerge from winter unscathed. That in itself is not surprising considering the wide variation in weather across the region, but what may be surprising is the unusual pattern of injury being observed this spring.

Courses in the Northeast most often observe cold-temperature injury on turf in low-lying, water-holding areas. Shaded areas where turf has been under ice cover or areas where hydrated grass plants are subjected to multiple freeze and thaw cycles are also especially vulnerable to winter damage. Surprisingly, these areas seemed to survive the past winter pretty well while more exposed areas were harder hit. Areas protected by covers, snow or ice were less affected by winter injury this year. Annual bluegrass was once again the turf species that sustained the most severe damage this winter, but what caused the damage?

Many of the damage patterns being observed this spring are not similar to those associated with desiccation injury, although high winds certainly were a factor during winter. It appears more likely that exposed annual bluegrass was damaged by single-digit and below-zero temperatures that occurred during late winter and early spring. Turf plants growing in shaded or snow-covered areas remained dormant and were better able to tolerate colder temperatures. What lessons can be learned from the winter of 2016-2017?

~Cold-temperature injury will always be difficult to manage due to the wide variability of winter weather conditions. Do not expect to be successful every winter because there are some weather conditions that simply cannot be managed or predicted.

Although crown-hydration injury and anoxia will remain the most common mechanisms associated with ~winter damage, they are not the only ones. Plants exposed to very cold temperatures can also succumb to winter injury. ~Despite the odd pattern of winter damage this year, it is important to continue promoting good turf growing conditions to reduce the risk of future winter injury. Important steps include providing good surface and internal drainage as well as full sun exposure. Good growing conditions lead to more vigorous and deeply rooted plants that are better able to tolerate variable weather conditions. Good growing conditions also encourage the growth of bentgrass, a more cold-tolerant turf species than annual bluegrass. ~Winter covers can help moderate the effects of temperature fluctuation and desiccation. Impermeable covers with insulation offer additional protection from crown hydration and exposure to very cold temperatures.
~No covering system is infallible, especially in open and windy locations. Unusually high winds in some areas also make it challenging to keep covers in place.

Annual bluegrass was once again the least-dependable grass on exposed sites.

Hopefully recent periods of warm temperatures have helped initiate growth in damaged and reseeded areas. As usual, keep damaged areas moist to encourage turf recovery and seed germination. Severely damaged putting surfaces will benefit if temporary greens can be utilized until recovery advances.

The May 15 deadline for the Course Consulting Service discount is quickly approaching and we encourage you to download the CCS Visit Application or call one of our agronomists; we will be happy to help schedule a visit. We wish you a productive spring and good fortune in the season ahead.
Let us try out for the part.
We can provide all the supplies you need to keep your course looking its best. And with our knowledgeable staff, we can help you make an ace.
32nd Annual Scholarship & Research Fundraiser Golf Tournament

Canaan Valley Resort - Davis, West Virginia
Tuesday, June 13th, 2017

Registration 10:00 am | Shotgun Start 12:00 pm
Format: 4 person scramble with no minimum Handicap

*Special Club rate of $600 per 4 person team (This must include 4 members from one Club or Resort, such as Superintendent, Owners, Managers, Assistants, Golf Pros, Spray Tech or Mechanics, etc.)

*$700 per team ($600 for club teams) includes: Closest to the Hole, Putting Contest & 50/50 Contest, Box Lunch & 4 beverage Tickets provided for on the course. Cash bar and hors d’oeuvres following golf.

See Entry Form and Sponsor Form at the end of the newsletter
Used Parts for Lexco 300 & 500 Mowers
Contact Gale Taylor
Worthington Golf Club
304-428-4297
The West Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association
Presents the 32nd Annual Scholarship & Research Fundraiser Golf Tournament

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Entry Form

$700 per team ($600 for club teams) includes: Closest to the Hole, Putting Contest & 50/50 Contest, Box Lunch & 4 beverage Tickets provided for on the course. Cash bar and hors d’oeuvres following golf.

Total Enclosed $____________

Golf Team Name__________________________________________

Player # 1 _____________________________________________ Shirt Size _________
Player # 2 _____________________________________________ Shirt Size _________
Player # 3 _____________________________________________ Shirt Size _________
Player #4 _____________________________________________ Shirt Size _________

ENTRIES ARE LIMITED TO THE FIRST 36 TEAMS. PAYMENTS MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THIS REGISTRATION FORM.

*PLEASE RETURN BY MAY 31st*

Make checks payable to “WVGCSA/ William C. Campbell” and return to:
Tony Coppa | Oglebay Resort | 465 Lodge Drive | Wheeling, WV 26003
Call Tony Coppa for Questions at (304)280-0034
To Pay by Visa or MasterCard contact Amber Breed at 304-391-5000

Call 304-866-4121 to reserve your hotel room at rate of $89 per night
The West Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association

Presents the 32nd Annual Scholarship & Research Fundraiser Golf Tournament on June 13th at

Canaan Valley Resort
Davis, West Virginia

The Annual Fundraiser has been a huge success thanks to your support. Due to overwhelming response in the past, this year we have again added a variety of sponsor levels.

Sponsor Level Dollar Amounts and What is Included

Gold Sponsor-$1000
4 Person team entry, Name on Major Sponsor Sign, Tee Sponsor Sign, & a Commemorative plaque

Silver Sponsor-$850
4 Person Team Entry, Name on lunch Sponsor Sign, & Tee Sponsor Sign

Bronze Sponsor-$750
4 Person Team Entry & Tee Sponsor Sign

Gold Sponsor wishing to add more than one team will receive a discounted price of $600 for each additional team!

Sponsorship will help to provide Lunch, Beverage Cart, and Hors ‘D oeuvres at the final reception. Your continued support is crucial to the success of the fundraiser.

All Corporate Sponsors must be received by May 29, 2017. We would like to thank you in advance for your continued support. Feel free to contact me at (304)280-0034.

Thank You, Tony Coppa
Fundraiser Chairman
TEE SPONSOR FORM

The West Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association will be holding their 32nd Annual William C. Campbell Scholarship and Research Fundraiser Golf Tournament on Tuesday, June 13th, 2017 at Canaan Valley Resort.

The Annual Fundraiser has been a huge success thanks to your support. We will once again be offering hole sponsorships for you to consider. Each hole sponsor will have their sign clearly displayed on a tee, as well as displayed on the Sponsor Board during the event. With your continued support, we can make this year’s event our most productive ever as well as great fun for all involved.

If you would like to change the verbiage on last year’s tee sign or if you are a new sponsor please include your verbiage below. Please, no more than 4 words allowed per line.

Line #1

Line #2

Line #3

Line #4

Contact Person

Phone Number

Address

Company

(If different from above)

Number of Holes sponsored _____ @ $100.00 for 1st sign & $50.00 for additional tee signs $___________

Total Sponsor

Make checks payable to: WVGCSA / William C. Campbell

Return to: Tony Coppa
Oglebay Resort
465 Lodge Drive
Wheeling, WV 26003

If paying by Visa or MasterCard, please call Amber Breed at 304-391-5000