

The GREEN Breeze



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Volume 3

Inside This Issue

Presidents Note

Page 1

Our Host For the Next Chapter Monthly Meeting

Page 2

GCGCSA Scholarship Tournament

Page 3

When it Rains, it Pours

Page 5

Rounds 4 Research

June auction raises more than

\$112,500 for turfgrass studies

Page 7

From the President

I want to start off by thanking Bob Weaver and Coldstream C.C. for hosting a wonderful event at the Scholarship and Research Tournament. While the weather wasn't perfect the course and facilities sure were!! I want to thank all the sponsors as well, especially the Gold Sponsors of Century Equipment, Reynolds Golf & Turf, Residex Turfgrass, and Cincinnati Country Club. These scholarships wouldn't be possible if not for the kindness of our vendors and host clubs, members, etc. We should all be proud of this event!

While I am sure most of us experienced saturated conditions the last few weeks with the recent tropical storm the calendar says summer and it's our busy season to say the least. Even though it's difficult with our hectic careers, please take time and attend our meetings during these months. With Devou in July and the Superintendents Championship



Dan Walter
President, GCGCSA

in August, we have great golf weather to enjoy.

With the All Star game in Cincinnati we have a lot of buzz about town, what a better way to enjoy your fellow colleagues and friends then at Devou for a great day of golf and comradery.

This will be our annual vendor appreciation meeting, we encourage all vendors to bring a guest free of charge to this meeting. A simple thanks for supporting the association.

I hope you all have a great summer season and we hope to see you at the monthly meetings.

Greater Cincinnati GCSA Happenings

Chapter Monthly Meeting - Vendor Appreciation

July 14th at Devou Park Golf Course

10:30am - registration

11:00am - Lunch and guest speaker, GCSAA Field Rep. Shane Conroy

12pm - 9 holes of golf

Cost - \$20 for meeting and golf (18 holes will be the same price)

Commercial affiliate members are encourage to bring a guest free of charge



Our Host for July: Devou Park Golf Course

Meet the Staff

Ronald Freking, Superintendent
 Veteran – US Air Force
 26 years in the industry
 Married – Melissa
 Children – Emily & Zachary
 Hobbies - Golf, Muscle Cars, Fishing
 He has been the superintendent at Devou Park for 26 years and oversaw the expansion of the course from 9 to 18 holes in 1994. Ron has also worked at the World of Golf, Golf Ranch and Golf Ranch of Tri County. The assistant Superintendent at Devou Park Golf Course is Juan Montes who has been with the course for 14 years. Another great

employee of Ron's is James Ryle who has worked at the course for 20 years, keeping the greens in great shape. Vince Keller was a long time superintendent at Devou and member of the GCGCSA.

History of Devou Park Golf Course

Devou Park GC was originally designed by John Brophy, the pro at Ft. Mitchell CC and opened in the 1920's. The exact date is unknown but rumored to be anywhere from 1922 to 1928. The golf course was expanded to 18 holes in 1994 by architect Gene Bates, only a couple of the original holes remain untouched. The golf course sits within the 800 acre Devou Park which has seen much increased traffic and development in the last several years. The golf course is owned by the city of Covington and operated by Billy Casper golf management.

Recent Projects

The staff has converted the fairways to Meyer zoysiagrass, this was done "in house" and is an ongoing project. Devou maintains their own zoysia nursery and are always doing small sod jobs to improve playing conditions in the fairways. The hilly terrain at Devou Park GC makes maintenance quite challenging!

Average rounds per year: 28,000
 Average under maintenance: 110
 Average size of greens: 6,200



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2015 Research and Scholarship Tournament

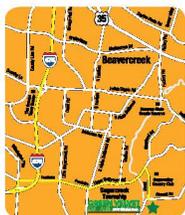
The Greater Cincinnati Golf Course Superintendents Association would like to thank Bob Weaver and the staff at Coldstream Country Club! Thanks to their help and everyone involved, the event was a great success! *(continued on page 4)*



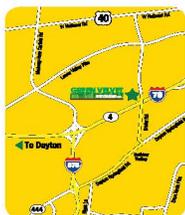
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The Research and Scholarship Tournament is a great priority of our association. The funds raised through this event will aid in research efforts and funded three scholarships for a deserving turf student and members' children.

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When it Rains, it Pours

By John Daniels, agronomist, Central Region

Much of the region has been inundated with frequent rains over past few weeks. In May, monthly rainfall records were broken for parts of Oklahoma and Texas. The rain has been a welcomed sight for several drought-impacted areas as it increased soil moisture and helped substantially raise reservoir levels. However, broad, heavy rain events have led to widespread flash flooding, some of which has caused damage to several golf courses. Recent rains on a



Fig. 1 - Extended periods of cool, wet weather favor the growth of *Poa annua* and other weeds.

course in southwest Missouri triggered the formation of a gaping sinkhole that swallowed up part of a practice area.

Even golf courses fortunate to avoid property damage have had to deal with a barrage of other challenges resulting from all the rain. Rapid turfgrass growth and the inability to mow without creating damage have created a domino effect of lanky rough. As mentioned in a previous update, incremental adjustments in height of cut may be necessary to avoid scalping and reduce clumps of grass.

A wet spring also has increased the prevalence of many troublesome weeds (Fig. 1). Excessive rain has reduced the efficacy of preemergence herbicides leading to weed breakthrough. Untimely rains have further complicated weed control by forcing spray rigs armed with... (continued on page 6)



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(continued from page 5).. postemergence herbicides to remain in the maintenance facility. More hand removal will most likely be required as weeds grow larger and are more tolerant to herbicides.

Be on the lookout for disease outbreaks during long periods of wet weather. Dollar spot, large patch (Fig. 2) and leaf spot have been reported throughout the region. Treatment with a penetrant fungicide is advised for active infections. Consider tank mixing fungicides to increase the spectrum of diseases controlled and reduce the likelihood of resistance. Make sure you are maintaining adequate nitrogen levels to accelerate recovery from infection. For those routinely affected by summer patch, preventative fungicide applications, based upon 65 degrees Fahrenheit soil temperatures at a 2-inch depth, most likely should have gone out by now. The key for controlling turfgrass

Figure 2 - Plentiful moisture has triggered outbreaks of diseases like large patch. Note the reddish-orange perimeters that are symptoms of an actively growing patch.



diseases is to apply an effective fungicide when the pathogen is active and prior to damage.

Credit: Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, June 2015.

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Rounds 4 Research June auction raises more than \$112,500 for turfgrass studies

National program has raised more than \$400,000 since 2012

The 2015 Rounds 4 Research fundraising program to support turfgrass studies, managed by the Environmental Institute For Golf (EIFG), sold more than 670 rounds and yielded more than \$112,500 in its June online auction. The EIFG is the philanthropic organization of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

The Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association, with more than \$22,000 raised, was the leader among more than 50 fundraising partners that donated rounds to support turfgrass research at the local level. The top bid was \$3,435 for a two-night stay



and eight rounds of golf offered by Bandon Dunes Resort in Bandon, Ore.; while the high bid for a tee time for four golfers was \$1,720 for the chance to play at Somerset Hills Country Club in Bernardsville, N.J., a famed A.W. Tillinghast course and host of the 1990 Curtis Cup Match. (continued on page 9)

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(continued from page 7)... "Playing at Bandon Dunes was on my bucket list, but the most gratifying result of the auction for me is knowing that the funds will go toward a better golf experience for all of us," said Dr. Robert Stout, who submitted the winning bid for Bandon Dunes.

"We are pleased with the success of our Rounds 4 Research program and the good that we know it can do for turfgrass research," said Rhett Evans, GCSAA chief executive officer. "This is a terrific program that gives golfers everywhere a chance to play their favorite courses and benefit the long-term health of the game."

The national campaign is supported by a \$50,000 donation from The Toro Co. The program has raised more than \$400,000 since launching in 2012.

Credit: Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, July 2015.

About GCSAA and the EIFG

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) is a leading golf organization in the United States. Its focus is on golf course management, and since 1926 GCSAA has been the top professional association for the men and women who manage golf courses in the U.S. and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to nearly 18,000 members in more than 78 countries. The association's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf.

The Environmental Institute for Golf is the philanthropic organization of the GCSAA. Its mission is to foster sustainability through research, awareness, education, programs and scholarships for the benefit of golf course management professionals, golf facilities and the game.

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