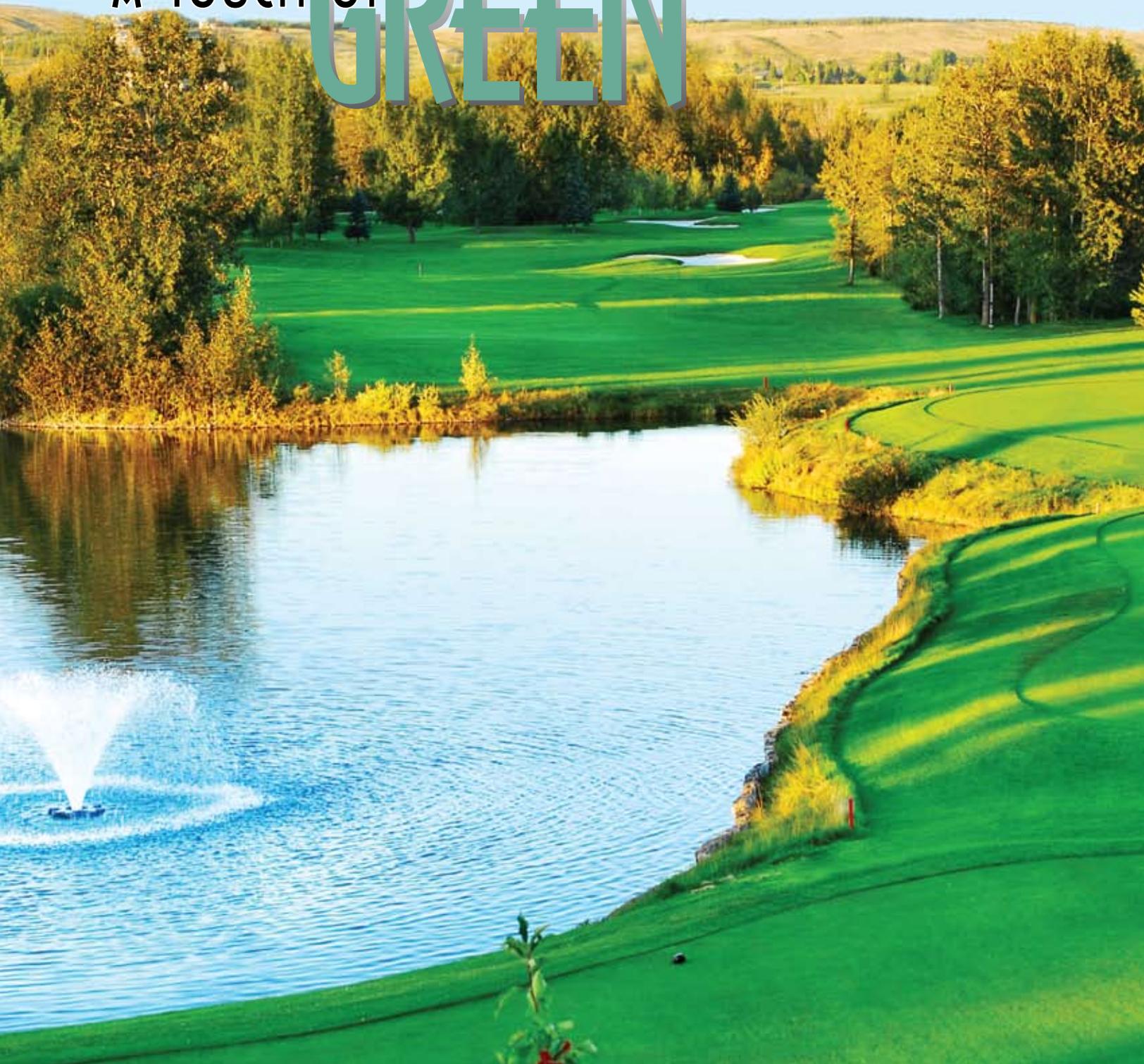


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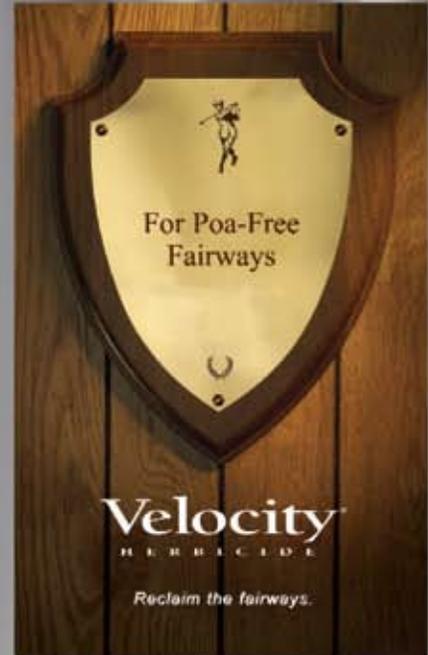


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Fax (403) 948-9527
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jason@airenet.com



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Airdrie, AB T4A 0H5
Phone: (403) 912-0130
agsa@shaw.ca

President's **MESSAGE**

Well, it is encouraging to be looking out my window at sun and enjoying temperatures in the mid-twenties. Summer has arrived in Edmonton and with some recent timely rains turf is in full gear ahead. It is really hard to give a report for Alberta as weather patterns from town to town have been so variable. As an example, fires are burning out of control in the North and bridges are floating away in the south. My golf course just outside of Edmonton has received 40 mm of rain since May 20th and, in contrast, Priddis Greens just outside of Calgary has received over 250 mm! We all have unique challenges to face day to day depending on where you are that makes our job so specialized. I hope that everyone's turf is happy at this point in the season, however, I know we all have different battles to overcome. I wish everyone the best over the next three months.

My first few months as president have been full of exciting adventures. In the month of April, I was fortunate to participate in The National Allied Golf Association Golf Lobby Days. We split into groups and informed politicians about the benefits of the golf industry to Alberta, made them aware of our Environmental Stewardship and IPM Practices and also briefed on the equality of property taxes for golf courses in the province. Most were receptive to our message and appreciative of our efforts. The highlight of the day was a 45 minute meeting with Premier Ed Stelmach. NAGA has been hosting golf lobby days in provincial capitals across Canada over the past three months.

Our first meeting of the year took place at Pine Hills Golf Club in Rocky Mountain House. Mike Johnson should be commended for having the course in great spring condition with some of the best greens I have seen this year. Carol Bubar was our guest speaker who briefed us on the Weed Control Act including additions of new restricted and noxious weeds. One pesticide point in Regulations was gained by members present for her talk. We had 51 members and 21 industry representatives golf in the afternoon in what turned out to be a great day. Thanks to all who attended and we hope to see you at Elbow Springs on August 8th for our AGSA Championship. I would like to thank those of you who donated sports books in support of the Slave Lake Golf Club. Leard Robertson (superintendent) is leading a campaign to help re-stock the library that was lost during the fires in May. I will be dropping off a box of books on behalf of the AGSA for Leard in the upcoming week.

The ever popular Challenge Cup is scheduled for July 25th and 26th at The Springs and Eagle Ranch Golf Courses in the Windermere Valley. Look for some new exciting changes this year. We are close to capacity for teams again. If you have not registered and would like more information, please contact Barb in the AGSA office. This is a great event for team building by bringing club managers, club professionals, presidents and superintendents together for a competitive yet social gathering.

Barb Alexander, Jason Clouston and I are working with

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DUANE SHARPE
 Superintendent,
 Blackhawk Golf Club



Chairman James Beebe and the 2012 CGSA Conference Committee. We are currently assisting the CGSA with solidifying a theme, key note speakers and general sessions. Please mark your calendars in advance for the new conference dates of Sunday, February 5th to Thursday February 9th, in Calgary.

Paul Dodson from Silver Springs Golf & Country Club has been selected as Alberta's nomination for the CGSA Superintendent of the Year Award. The AGSA has put together a nice package with many letters of support for Paul. We wish you the best of luck!

Finally, I would like to report that the AGSA remains in a strong financial state with nearly 200 members and continued support of our events from industry affiliates throughout the province. Over the next few months we will be working on building a strong relationship with NAGA who is structuring a provincial entity. They will provide financial and professional support – readily available for any issues relating to golf, such as potential pesticide bans and taxation issues. This is an exciting step for Alberta golf courses. Keep an eye out for further information coming this year. 🗨️

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE:	Monday, August 8th, 2011
LOCATION:	Elbow Springs Golf Course Calgary, AB
HOST SUPERINTENDENT:	Pat Johnson
9:00 am	Registration, Coffee
9:30 am	AGSA Meeting Dress Code in Effect
11:00 am	Lunch
12:00 pm	Golf – Cross Over Start

Dinner and Prizes will follow golf.

**The Low Gross and Low Net winners will win a trip to the CGSA Fall Field Day in September in Prince Edward Island.



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CGSA Report

JAMES BEEBE
Alberta Director
CGSA



It has been a very busy and active time at CGSA over the past few months. Committee meetings have been ramping up and the Conference Coordinating Committee has been busy preparing for the Canadian International Conference and Trade Show that will be held February 5-9th 2012, in Calgary. The Conference will have more than 40 speakers from across North America discussing topics pertinent to the ever changing dynamic of the Golf Course Management industry. We will also be more than 100 exhibitors at the trade show and there will be numerous social events for delegates giving them the opportunity to see old friends and expand professional networks.

CGSA members can look forward to the release of the new web site in the first week of July. The professional development committee has worked with CGSA staff and web site developers to give this web site a fresh new look. The new site should be easier to navigate, and has been built to be more interactive, streamlining member's ability to find archived resources.

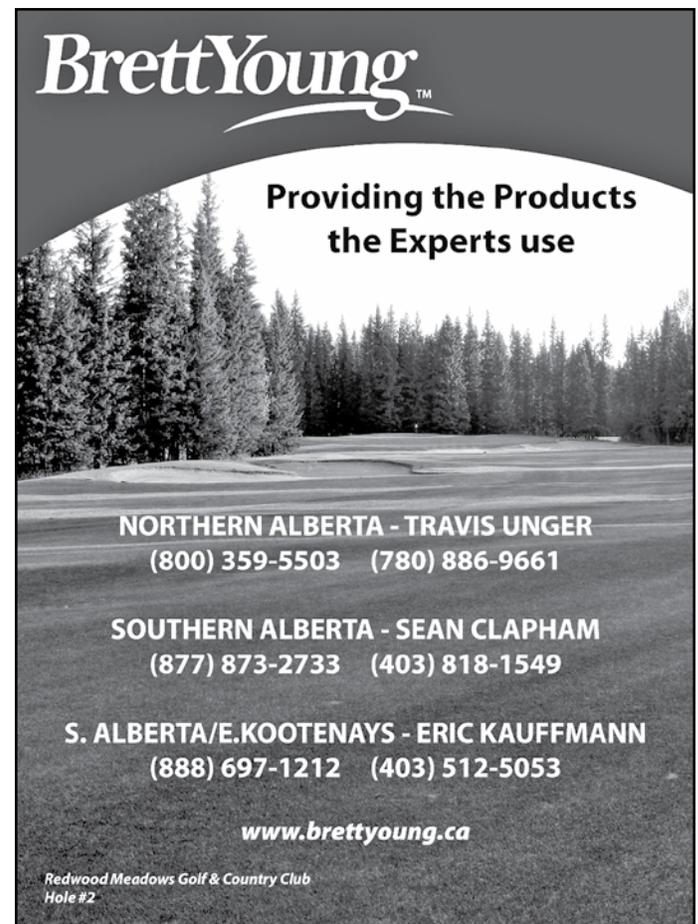
Now that the provincial and federal Golf Lobby days are in the books, all reports from representatives attending these meetings indicate a high level of success. CGSA was a major partner in the development of this National Allied Golf Association (NAGA) initiative on behalf of all Golf Course Superintendents across the country. Relationships with Members of Parliament, Senators and numerous Ministers and Deputy Ministers as well as government staffers should bode well for the golf industry in the future as the industry faces challenges that require government assistance. The consulting lobby group Impact, that helped organize this event and got NAGA in the door with politicians, will be providing a summary report of all provincial and the federal Golf Lobby Day initiatives.

The Environment Committee continues to focus on such issues as monitoring and reporting all potential environmental issues that affect the Golf Course Superintendents profession. The environment committee encourages all golf course superintendents across the province to report to the CGSA office any new environmental

issues that come up in your community or municipality. Reporting issues such as pesticide bans, or water restrictions and/or water taxation issues will help the committee to ensure proper advocacy strategies are in place.

The CGSA Fall Field day is quickly approaching and you won't want to miss registration as it is sure to sell out. The CGSA Fall Field Day is being held in PEI at the Dundarave Resort on September 18th and 19th. The popular two-ball 9 hole tournament will be held on Sunday September 18th and the CGSA championship will be held on Monday September 19th.

The Board of Directors and staff of CGSA welcome your feedback and suggestions to help make the CGSA a stronger voice in the golf industry. 



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NITROGEN

Nitrogen fertility is one of the most important aspects of putting green maintenance. However, if too much nitrogen is applied putting green speed will be reduced and if too little is applied recovery from normal 'wear and tear' will not be sufficient to provide good putting green quality. There needs to be a balance struck between green speed and recovery, so continual 'tweaking' of the program is common amongst Superintendents as new products become available.

Turf damage from winter injury, summer disease, aeration or plant stress will result in less than optimum quality. When recovery is necessary, higher rates of nitrogen are required and application at these rates should be continued until recovery is complete. To determine turf quality and a need for increased nitrogen applications, a simple 1-5 scale can be used where 1 is very poor, 2 is poor, 3 is acceptable, 4 is good and 5 is very good/excellent. Very good quality would be when turf has no bare patches, is tight and dense, the leaf texture is fine and upright, and green speeds are in the acceptable range. Greens should be assessed on a weekly basis and the values should be recorded so that quality can be compared between rating periods.

Once turf quality is in the 'good' range, nitrogen application rates should be reduced to a 'maintenance' rate so that green speeds can increase. Acceptable green speed varies from club to club, but typically speeds of 8.5 – 10.0 is acceptable for normal play. Other measures that can be used to increase green speed include lowering mowing heights, mowing with turf groomers, brushing, rolling, topdressing, reducing moisture content, and use of growth regulators.

The following table outlines generic recommendations for nitrogen rates of application depending upon needs of the turf. For instance, rates of application for the 'recovery' program should be 1.0 lb N/1000ft² per month. The 'tighten up' program should be used when greens are completely recovered but turf density needs to improve from acceptable to good. Once 'good' quality is achieved then the 'maintenance' program should be instituted. The 'hardening' program is recommended for the fall period,

FERTILITY for Putting Greens

JIM ROSS
Prairie Turfgrass
Research Centre



August 15 to October 15. Typically, there are multiple applications per month, either weekly or every two weeks.

With regards to type, nitrogen is considered to be either water soluble (WSN) or water insoluble (WIN). WSN is quickly available to the plant, while WSN will be more slowly available. Urea (46-0-0) and ammonium sulphate (21-0-0) are the two most common WSN fertilizers and a growth response and colour change should be noted within

2-3 days. Methylene urea and polymer coated urea are two examples of WIN or controlled release nitrogen sources. Often WSN and WIN sources are mixed to provide some quick release and slow release properties. When conditions are cool and soil temperatures are consistently below 10°C, a blend with a higher percentage of WSN (60-75%) should be used. When temperatures are warmer, a blend with 60-75% WIN can be used.

Nitrogen type and application rates for various fertilizer programs.

Type	Program	Rate/1000ft ² /100m ² /mth	Typical Period
WSN	Recovery	1.0 lb/450g N/mth	April15-May 15
WSN	Tighten up	0.6 lb/270g N/mth	May 15-June 15
WSN/WIN	Maintenance	0.4 lb/180g N/mth	June 15- Aug 15
WSN	Hardening	0.2 lb/90g N/mth	Aug 15-Oct 15

Continued on page 10

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NITROGEN FERTILITY for Putting Greens Continued from page 9

Be aware that when plants begin the active growth phase following winter, there will be a ‘rebound’ effect when clipping production will be much higher than normal. This will last for a period of 3-4 weeks and should be complete by the end of June. If you make an application of nitrogen just prior to this period clipping yield may be excessive. Excessive clipping yields, during the recovery period, will be 2-3 buckets per green for a walking greens mower (2/3

– 1 full bucket for each on riding mower) and should be expected. During the ‘tighten up’ program period, clipping yields should be about 1 bucket per green (1/3 full buckets on riding greens mower). Target clipping yields should be about 1/3 – 1/2 bucket for a walking greens mower during the ‘maintenance’ period and even less during the ‘hardening’ phase.

Typical Fertilization Program - Greens

Month	Nitrogen applications	Other Nutrient applications
April	Apply 0.5 lbs/1000ft ² every two weeks as a granular until greens are recovered from winter. Use a water soluble source of nitrogen until soil temperatures are consistently above 10°C.	Apply phosphorus and potassium at 0.25 lb/1000ft ² per growing month. Application rates should be higher if either of these nutrients is shown to be deficient as determined by soil test reports.
May	Apply 0.5 lbs/1000ft ² every two weeks as a granular until greens are recovered from winter. Use a water soluble source of nitrogen until soil temperatures are consistently above 10°C.	Apply some phosphorus and potassium at 0.25 lb/1000ft ² per growing month. Apply micronutrients as required by soil test reports.
June	Apply 0.2 – 0.3 lbs/1000ft ² every two weeks. Liquid applications may be used to replace the granular and should supply 0.1 lbs/1000ft ² for each application.	Deficient macronutrients potassium, calcium, magnesium and sulphur should be applied at 1 lb/1000ft ² if indicated on soil tests reports.
July	Apply 0.2 – 0.3 lbs/1000ft ² every two weeks. Liquid applications may be used to replace the granular and should supply 0.1 lbs/1000ft ² for each application.	Deficient macronutrients potassium, calcium, magnesium and sulphur should be applied at 1 lb/1000ft ² if indicated on soil test reports.
August	Apply 0.2 – 0.3 lbs/1000ft ² every two weeks. Liquid applications may be used to replace the granular and should supply 0.1-0.15 lbs/1000ft ² for each application.	Apply potassium at 0.25 lb/1000ft ² with nitrogen applications.
September	Final nitrogen application at 0.1 lbs/1000ft ² every two weeks.	Apply potassium at 0.5 lb/1000ft ² with nitrogen.
October	No nitrogen	No applications required

Recommended fertilizers

As far as granular fertilizers are concerned many different WIN sources are available. Make sure you choose a greens grade type fertilizer that has a small prill size. Following application, watering in the product is absolutely necessary in order to avoid mower pickup. Always have a 'favourite' fertilizer to compare against any new product that you try.

There are also many liquid fertilizers available and there can be considerable variability in growth response following application. If you are going to be 'exclusively liquid' the quantities still have to be about 0.1-0.15 lbs/1000ft² every two weeks. Generally, liquid fertilizers are more quickly available than granular fertilizers, so 'fine-tuning' applications rates is critical for a successful program.

Some of the newer liquid fertilizers are more efficiently taken up by the foliage. Dr. Roch Gaussoin put on an excellent seminar at last year's Property Manager's Conference. He mentioned to look for fertilizers that have complexing or chelating agents as these will help to move nutrients into the plant. Do not use products that have synthetic chelates such as EDTA, HEDTA or EGTA. If this information is not readily available on the label, ask for further information from the salesperson. ☺



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SUPERINTENDENT Profile



Dustin Zdan

**Superintendent
Connaught Golf Club**

Where were you born and raised?

I was born and raised in Winnipeg, Manitoba (Very happy to have the NHL back!)

Did you come from a small or big family?

A fairly normal size family, my parents reside in Winnipeg, also have a sister in Austin, Texas, and a brother in Brandon.

Are you married with children?

I am married to wife Kara, and have three girls, Erin, Holly and Delainey. Hard to get bathroom time at our house!

What made you decide on a career in turfgrass management and what would you be if you hadn't been a superintendent?

I had always been interested in playing golf, just so happened one summer an opportunity to work St. Charles G&CC came about. After one summer season I transferred from Engineering at University of Manitoba to Plant Science and the rest is history.

How many years have you been at your current golf course, and where did you work previously?

I have been at the Connaught Golf Club for seven years now.

Prior to coming south I was in Whitehorse, Yukon at the Mountain View Golf Course for 8 great years in the Land of the Midnight Sun. I started my Turf Career at St. Charles Golf & Country Club in Winnipeg, and spent 5 years working there while going to University.

Tell us about your golf course and what your biggest challenges are there?

Connaught is fairly old golf club established in 1922. It was redesigned in 1956 on the current site with more modifications in 1975. We are a heavily tree lined golf course with smallish greens and lots of length. One of our main challenges is our trees. Being such an old site the lifespan of our huge poplars is ending causing substantial tree removal, and eventually replanting. Our huge trees had caused substantial turf problems, so we have removed over 50 trees from around greens! Usually dealing with the excessive heat is our other problem, but the past two seasons have changed that to dealing with excessive rainfall.

What are your preferences for golf course equipment and fertilizers?

We are mainly a Toro shop, as for fertilizers we use a multitude of different suppliers and products. The key for us out in the Southeast corner is good service.

Has your club addressed Occupational Health & Safety issue?

We have, we have taken a pro-active approach to dealing with all issues associated with the golf course. We have a staff orientation first thing in the spring, and monthly meetings throughout the season. We also have a comprehensive Employee Manual with all safety procedures in it.

What is your most Important Event this Year?

Our most important Event this year, and most years is the Southeastern Open. It is a 3-day Open event on the Labour Day Weekend in September. Generally we have golfers from around Alberta that take in this event.



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What is your Favourite Travel Destination?

Well I would say anywhere warm in the winter! But, truthfully, Hawaii has to be my favourite!

What Golf Course would you like to play if you had the chance?

That is a tough question – to single out one would be hard. Pebble Beach would be up there, the Old Course at St. Andrews, and I would settle for a walk at Augusta.

What do you like to do away from the Golf Course?

I am an avid hunter, so once we hit September there is not enough time in the day. Now that two of my daughters have

shown interest and gone out with me, we have a great time in the fall. Always been a diehard hockey fan, and taking the family to Tiger games occupies those cold winter months.

Do you have any mentors?

I would have to say my first Superintendent at St. Charles G&CC, Curtis Collins. The time I spent at St. Charles set me on my way in the golf industry. As much as Curtis wanted me to go into the industry he warned me it would be a lot of hard work, and not necessarily all that rewarding financially. I hold my 5 years at St. Charles in high regard and look back at them fondly. 🟩

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AGSA Spring Meeting



The spring meeting of the AGSA was held on June 6th at the Pine Hills Golf Club in Rocky Mountain House. A special thank you goes out to Mike Johnson and his crew for a wonderful day and those "great" greens, but can you do something about all those trees! We had a good turnout with 51 members and 21 Industry Reps attending.

We were fortunate to start the day with Carol Bubar, formerly of Olds College and renowned weed specialist to talk about the revised Alberta Weed Control Act. The Act was revised in 2010, and with the move to naturalize areas on golf courses this was great information on what is now expected. A number of new weeds have been added to both the Prohibited Noxious Weeds, and Noxious Weed classifications. You can get more information on the new act from the Alberta Invasive Plant Council, their website is <http://www.invasiveplants.ab.ca>.

One of the most interesting things discussed during the meeting was that the AGIA is going to become a provincial association called NAGA – Alberta Branch. It will include representatives from Alberta Golf, Club Managers, PGA of Alberta, NGCOA as well as the AGSA. NAGA will have chapters in each province and on a national level, and actively defend the industry in any related issues, such as pesticides, taxation, etc. This association is looking for a permanent member from the AGSA to sit on this board. It would be a three or four year commitment, so if you think you are interested



please contact the board for more details. We also announced that the AGSA was putting forward Paul Dodson as our representative for the CGSA Superintendent of the Year Award – congratulations on the nomination and good luck Paul. After a very successful

Property Manager's Conference in 2010 we presented Jim Ross and the ATRF with a cheque for \$6300.

Next on our calendar is hopefully, summer, but regardless we have some events in the near future. The Challenge Cup will be here before we know it, this year on July 25th and 26th once again at Radium Resort. The AGSA championship is scheduled for August 8th at Elbow Springs, and the fall meeting is set for September 26th at River Spirit. Be sure



to mark down these dates and plan on attending.

We would like to thank all of our industry representatives who came for lunch and enjoyed a great day on the links in Rocky Mountain House. Make sure the next time your rep is around

thank them for the continued support of the AGSA. That being said here are the results:

SKILL PRIZES

Hole #2	Long Drive	Jonathan Krochak
Hole #3	Ball in Water Draw	Hugh Greene
Hole #4	KP – Industry Reps Only	Cory Becker
Hole #7	KP – AGSA Members Only	Connor Winslow
Hole #9	Long Putt	Dave Harms
Hole #12	KP – AGSA Members Only	Duane Sharpe
Hole #16	KP – Industry Reps Only	Tom Christmas
Hole #18	Long Putt	Brock Armstrong

Continued on page 16

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 Reid Solodan
 Dave Whitell



2nd Place Jonathan Krochak 84 Points
 Dean Ross
 Shelby Fischer
 Paul Dodson



3rd Place Matt Nelson 83 Points
 Deb Amirault
 Mac Baker
 Craig Spicer

Dates to REMEMBER

- July 25th & 26th** AGSA Challenge Cup
The Springs at Radium & Eagle Ranch, Radium, BC
- August 8th** 2nd AGSA Meeting
Elbow Springs Golf Club, Calgary
AGSA Championship
- September 19th** CGSA Fall Field Day
Dundarave Golf Club
Prince Edward Island
- September 26th** 3rd AGSA Meeting
River Spirit Golf Club, Calgary
- November 27th – 29th** Property Mger's Conference
Capri Centre, Red Deer





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On the **MOVE**

	From	To
Mike Desmarais	Superintendent, Drayton Valley GC	Superintendent, Trestle Creek Golf Resort
Nick Gelderman	Assistant, Coyote Creek GC	Greener Pastures
Jonathan Krochak	Superintendent, Medicine Hat G&CC	Assistant Superintendent, Country Club of The Hamptons
Clayton Mendiuk	Assistant Superintendent, Fox Hollow Golf Club	Superintendent, Fox Hollow Golf Club
Glen Noble	Superintendent, Fox Hollow Golf Club	Greener Pastures

New **MEMBERS**

Janet Burlo	Assistant Superintendent Country Hills Golf Club
Kyle Copithorne	Assistant Superintendent Elbow Springs Golf Club
Jordan Earl	Assistant Superintendent Pine Hills Golf Club
Travis Ekelund	Assistant Superintendent Earl Grey Golf Club
Ben Fulkerth	Assistant Superintendent Carstairs Golf Club
Shane Gibson	Assistant Superintendent Windermere Golf & C.C.
Matt Hall	Assistant Superintendent Desert Blume Golf Club
Randy Leslie	Assistant Superintendent Lacombe Golf & C.C.
Tom Morrison	Assistant Superintendent River's Edge Golf Club
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