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JACOBSEN FAIRWAY MOWERS

How Golf Course Superintendents Can Help Golf's Underserved Demographic

by Linda Parker

Golf course superintendents, like almost everyone associated with the golf industry, have witnessed two robust years of renewed enthusiasm for the game. Across the U.S., course superintendents' jobs have become more demanding and, at the same time, more secure than they have in decades. So, it is perhaps surprising to many in this role to learn that millions of potential golfers are still currently underserved or that, as superintendents, they are uniquely positioned to help resolve this deficit.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 61 million adults in the United States live with a disability. This number hits home even harder when you realize that it represents 26 percent of the adult population or more than one in four people in America. Worldwide, the United Nations estimates the number of people globally with a disability to be upwards of one billion individuals. None

of these numbers include children or teens.

Based on estimates from the National Center on Accessibility (NCA), approximately 10 million Americans with a disability would be interested in playing golf or returning to the game of golf if they had the opportunity and if golf courses provided greater accessibility. When it comes to golf, minor modifications at the course can go a long way to making the joys, wellness benefits, social engagement and even the frustrations of golfing accessible to more people. And who better in the golf industry to spearhead this important initiative and get the job done than golf course superintendents and their crews?

THE UNITED STATES GOLF ASSOCIATION (USGA) IS PAVING THE WAY FOR POSITIVE CHANGE

Although the launch has been four years in the making, largely caused by COVID-19-

related delays, the USGA was finally able to move ahead in 2021 with its plans for the first-ever U.S. Adaptive Open Championship. Scheduled for July 18-20, 2022, on Course

Based on estimates from the National Center on Accessibility (NCA), approximately 10 million Americans with a disability would be interested in playing golf or returning to the game of golf if they had the opportunity and if golf courses provided greater accessibility.

No. 6 at Pinehurst Resort & Country Club, the inaugural event will feature a field of 96 players.

John Bodenhamer, USGA senior managing director, championships, said, "Since 1895, our championships have provided the world's best players with an opportunity to showcase their skills on a global stage, compete for a national championship and achieve their dreams. ... we are proud to bring that same opportunity to the adaptive golf community through this championship, and to do so at Pinehurst, our second home. We believe this effort will spur participation for golfers with disabilities and hope it inspires others in the industry to make the game and its competitions more welcoming to all."

The U.S. Adaptive Open Championship will be open to male and female golfers, as well as professional and amateurs, and it will have no age restrictions. Golfers who qualify must have either a physical or sensory

impairment or an intellectual challenge. The 54-hole format will play out over three days, and tournament rules will permit the use of carts for all players and caddies.

To determine qualification for the event, golfers will need to have established a WR4GD Pass and an authorized World Handicap System index.

UNDERSTANDING THE WR4GD PASS

Administered by the USGA and Royal & Ancients (R&A) under the name of WAGR, the World Ranking for Golfers

All golfers deserve the right to compete as athletes to the fullest degree that is possible for them.

with Disability (WR4GD) ranks the top golfers with a disability based on their average performance in “counting events” over what is termed “a rolling cycle” of the previous 104 weeks. A rolling cycle tracks events chronologically but is not limited to calendar years.

This ranking system, which has been maintained only since 2019, was influenced by the Ranking for Golfers with Disability established in 2014 by the EDGA, previously known as the European Disable Golf Association. Within this window of participation, golfers who qualify for a WR4GD Pass, must have a disability that has an impact or influence on their game and meets guidelines defined in the EDGA’s Definitions of Impairment.

EDGA, a not-for-profit organization, relies on an international network of disability assessors



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Pinehurst No. 6 in the Village of Pinehurst, N.C., will serve as the host site for the inaugural U.S. Adaptive Open in July. (Russell Kirk/USGA)



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that includes doctors and physical therapists who generously volunteer their time. Prior to the founding of EDGA, no standardized guidelines existed to define which disabilities would be considered or how the disability affected the golfer's play. Without this standardization, determining how to qualify the field at the U.S. Adaptive Open Championship and other similar top-tier events would have been difficult if not impossible. Just as importantly, criteria for qualifying and ranking players with disabilities sends a powerful message that adaptive golf can and should be recognized as more than great recreation. All golfers deserve the right to compete as athletes to the fullest degree that is possible for them.

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS TIP:

The websites of WAGR, EDGA, EDGA Player Pass and other organizations that support golfers with disabilities offer excellent insights into the types of challenges golfers with special needs can face.

FIVE KEY CHANGES GOLF SUPERINTENDENTS CAN MAKE AT THEIR COURSES

Educating the golf industry in general, and specifically golf course personnel, about the range of adaptive needs golfers may have can lead to easily implemented solutions and better on-course experiences for players with a disability. For example, the ADA compliant golf course has already

established accessible routes and unobstructed paths connecting all elements and spaces of a building or facility at various courses. Superintendents should make sure that on-course workers don't absentmindedly park carts or equipment in places that block this access. Pointing out to workers that not every golfer can easily walk around an obstacle or step up on the curb can be all it takes to facilitate better awareness of a diversity of golfing needs.

How many more golfers could enjoy playing courses if superintendents moved the tee further forward?

Next, consider how much can be gained by thinking smaller. How many more golfers could enjoy playing courses if superintendents moved the tee further forward? This simple and relatively inexpensive step makes the game a lot more

fun for all short hitters, and when golfers with disabilities are ensured that this tee is also easily assessable for golfers using mobility-assisted carts, superintendents will be opening the door to many players who previously could not handle the length of the course.

Map the path of optimal accessibility across the facility and make the map readily available in the clubhouse. Recognize, however, that golfers with disabilities cannot be restricted from accessing portions of the course or its facilities if these areas are open to other golfers.

Assuage concerns from club members or others about potential turf damage from the use of mobility devices, such as crutches, single-rider golf cars, and thin-tire wheelchairs. Make it known that the best way to minimize turf damage or soil compaction is to maintain strong, resilient and

Eastern Amputee Golf Association
Photos www.eagagolf.org



healthy turf, which is always a golf course superintendent's primary objective.

Lastly, understand that the rules are different. Both the USGA and the R&A have modified the rules of golf for players with disabilities. Knowledge of these rules makes it easier for superintendents and their crews to plan for variances in play, such as the potential need for a drop zone outside a sand bunker.

THE HANDICAP THAT'S NOT A HANDICAP

Golf handicaps have nothing to do with physical handicaps or mental handicaps, two terms that have now been replaced by more respectful and considerate language. Ironically, however, it is golf's handicapping system that makes the game inherently friendlier than many other

sports for people with disabilities.

The handicapping system in golf was designed to level the playing field and make golf challenging and fun for people of all ages and all skill levels to play together, which, when you think about it, is the true objective of adaptive golf.

Linda Parker has been writing professionally since the 1980s. With clients in finance, sports, technology, resorts, and nonprofit global initiatives, Linda helps organizations communicate their stories in meaningful ways to the people they most want to reach. She has authored, ghostwritten, or contributed to more than a dozen nonfiction books. Linda is a member of the Authors Guild and the Golf Writers Association of America. You can connect with her at inda@glindacreative.com.



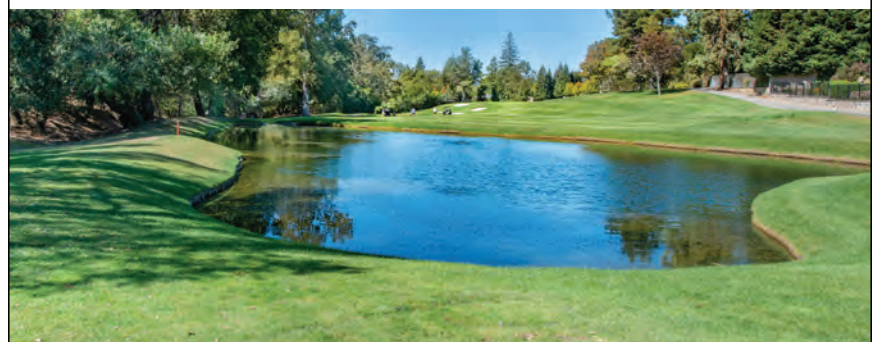
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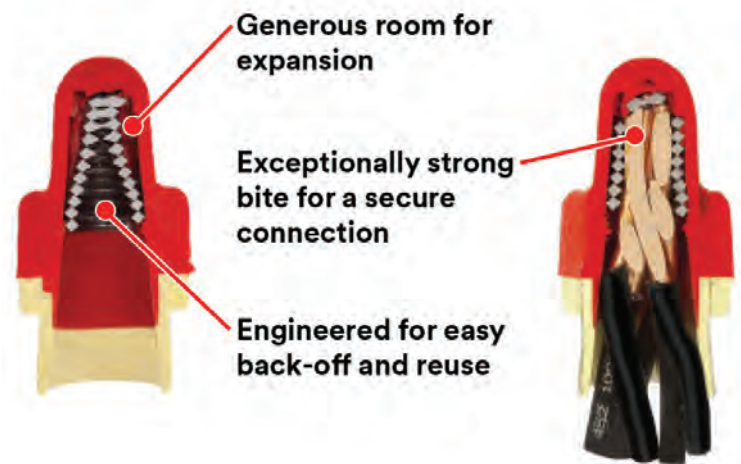
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65-Years of Experience in Golf

by Michael Kahn



TAM-O-SHANTER GOLF CLUB IN ONTARIO

Editor's Note: Many of our readers will relate to Mike Kahn's story. Despite being an octogenarian Mike is still active in the business side of golf as he and a team of experts offer consultation services.

My first job at a golf course was weeding greens in 1956. My boss back then paid me 50-cents an hour. The golf course, Tam-O-Shanter Golf Club in Agincourt, Ontario, Northeast of Toronto.

I was hired in late 1962 to finish building and then manage a golf center, Liftlock Golfland, which entrepreneur Bert Turcotte created in Peterborough, Ontario - 80-miles East of Toronto. The golf center included an 18-hole par-3 golf course (nine floodlit), a floodlit practice range, a miniature putting course, a pro shop, and a snack bar. We opened for business on Saturday, June 1st, 1963.

In 1967 we expanded the golf course to 27-holes adding several par-4s. These nine-holes were among the first in golf to sew wall-to-wall in bentgrass.

We built the entire 9-hole course with a 1950s John Deere 40 Crawler small bulldozer. We bought the machine, then sold it when we were done with it, so it didn't cost us a dime to use it.

My office at the golf center was barely 100-yards from the majestic Peterborough LifeLock that raised boats up 60-feet on their journey up the Trent Canal.

In Peterborough, I introduced many new innovations to the golf industry and loved these innovations. The City of Peterborough, Ontario was a North American product test city back in the 60s and 70s. My golf center was also a target for new innovations.

In 1973 I took delivery of the golf industry's first riding greens mower - the Hahn Triplex riding greens mower. This is a significant machine, in that it is a pioneer in professional golf mowing equipment. With hydrostatic drive and hydraulic lift, it used three electric clutches to engage the cutting heads, and cable drive to power them. It had belt drive in the cutter units. A most unusual arrangement! The center mower on the Hahn was out front. It was a big seller for clubs who could afford to abandon the then ubiquitous

single unit pedestrian machines. It had three independently driven reels - powered (originally) by flexible drive shafts. This riding mower was so revolutionary that golf course superintendents came from Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, and Quebec to Peterborough, Ontario to see it operate.

All the following riding mowers, Toro, Jacobsen, John Deere, had the middle mower behind the outside mowers. Only Hahn had the middle mower upfront.

The Hahn machine was so delicate that decided to put a woman on it - with the idea of better maintaining and caring for the machine. My Hahn triplex greens mower still looked

and ran like brand new after several years!



Ransomes-Hahn Tournament Triplex

67 in. (1.70 m.)
This one-man, one-machine greens management system represents a major breakthrough in golf greens maintenance. You are offered a full 67 inches of cutting with greens reels, tee reels, verticut reels or vibra spikers. A gravity-dump trailer can be quickly attached.
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THE HAHN TRIPLEX MOWER WAS AN EASY DECISION.

I financed the triplex mower when I bought it. I easily figured I was ahead money-wise. Here are my calculations:

Before the Hahn riding mower, I was paying two walk-mow operators 8-hours a day, 48-hours a week to mow 27-greens. However, I was only mowing three days a week. The Hahn triplex could mow all 27-greens before noon and be back in the shop cleaned and ready for the next day. Now I was mowing my



LIFT LOCK ON THE TRENT RIVER AT PETERBOROUGH

27-greens 7-days a week and only 35-hours of labor cost - including its daily maintenance. The savings more than covered my finance cost by \$132.52 a month.

The Hahn machine also had attachments for verticutting and spiking. It was also useful for towing the drag-mat after aerating (coring).

NEXT - THE RANSOM 5-7 FAIRWAY UNIT

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MY LOVE OF INNOVATIONS

I introduced the first one-piece golf ball in 1972. Many split in two when struck by a hard swing. I held one of the first graphite shafts. I was among the first to taste Gatorade from Peterborough's Quaker Oats plant. I introduced the first floating rotary mower great for trimming around ponds and slopes. I was among the first to mow fairways with hydraulically driven reels. I was introduced to cavity back irons clubs. I was among the first to adopt the Scotts Pro Turf virtually fool-proof system of fertilizing and controlling weeds and fungus diseases.

CONSULTING CAREER

I moved to Florida in 1990 where I became involved in financing and brokering golf courses - all around the USA. I also managed golf courses in Fort Myers, Jacksonville, Tampa, Sarasota, and Daytona. I consulted hundreds of courses in the USA and Canada over 30-years. I also evaluated golf courses - not as a licensed appraiser.

Today I work with two experienced associates. Bill McIntosh, is a PGA lifetime member, former golf course owner, and a former management company area supervisor. Cameron White, a former PGA club professional, is now a licensed Florida attorney. Cameron is knowledgeable of golf course legal issues.

The team of McIntosh, Kahn, and White is a 100%, 360-degree golf course and golf business consulting team. We have advised all types of golf course facilities - 9, 18, 27, and 36-holes, Private Country Clubs, Daily Fee, Municipal, Executive, and Par-3 courses. Several we advised were residential development courses that fell into distress. We've been to Washington State, Oregon, Mississippi, Florida, the Carolinas, Illinois, California, Texas, Missouri, etc. Feel free to contact me directly for advice and help with your course Mike Kahn, mike@golfmak.com.

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The Great Golf Course Trades Winter Golf Escape Part 2 – Arizona

by Jay Flemma

Last month we took a sojourn through some of Florida's best public and private courses as a metaphoric break from a northeast winter's chill. This month we'll finish the two-part series with a look at another classic winter golf getaway: Arizona.

"Full many a flower is born to blush unseen And waste its sweetness on the desert air."
-*An Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*, Thomas Gray

It's a beautiful, if sad sentiment, but golf proves it untrue, or at least provides an exception to Thomas Gray's assessment. Few places on Planet Earth are so strikingly singular as either the stoic Saguaro cacti of the Sonoran Desert or the majestic, striated red rock canyons of the Sedona region. Indeed, many of Arizona's courses play and feel like you're in a fantasy golf calendar brought to life,

and Arizona golf provides countless opportunities to experience all the variegated flora and diverse fauna of the American southwest.

Generally speaking, Arizona golf courses frequently are also at the vanguard of water conservation. As the Colorado River frequently runs lower than hoped for, many of the state's best courses feature limited turf, sometimes as little as 75 acres for 18 holes.

"Full many a flower is born to blush unseen And waste its sweetness on the desert air."

Nevertheless, a treeless expanse also provides more airspace to play the game, though the desert can be unforgiving when it comes to unforgiving lies. Like everything in golf, there's interesting trade-offs. Best of all, each of the courses on our itinerary this month are public. So you can go out and play them right now.

THE LODGE AT VENTANA CANYON

Skyrocketing to the top of magazine rankings when they opened in the 1980's, the Lodge at Ventana Canyon's twin courses - the Mountain and the Canyon - are still, perhaps, Tom Fazio's best 36-hole facility anywhere. Set at higher elevation, the Mountain Course winds around the edge of the Santa Catalina Mountains making use of both the striking elevation change and undulating greens. The

best run on either course comes early – two, three, and four, a par-4-3-5 sequence that immerses the player amongst the cacti, the rocky foothills, and the myriad dry washes that pepper the terrain. Where the second green appears to float amid a sea of cacti, the third green is almost completely encircled by a chasm of stone. The effects of natural radiation are reduced by a cunning underground system of pipes beneath the green that keep it at a constant temperature, warming it on cold nights and cooling it in the blast furnace heat of the day.

It can exceed 110 degrees in high summer in Arizona, for those of you scoring at home.

Generally wider and less penal, the Canyon course showcases views of the Esperro Canyon and a larger portion of the 600-acre



VENTANA CANYON'S FAMED
WHALEBACK ROCK

preserve that encompasses the resort, and it's not uncommon to see deer, coyote, quail, red-tailed hawks, bobcats, rabbits and roadrunners on the course, especially as the shadows lengthen. There are some brobdingnagian cart rides between holes, but with 1,100 year old cacti and fragrant mesquite lining the cart paths, it's totally worth it.

SCOTTSDALE

Scottsdale is not just a golf Mecca – over 200 courses as of this writing, many of them the centerpiece of some of the finest luxury resorts in the world – it is also centrally located for quick trips to Tucson, Sedona or both.

Three 36-hole facilities are perennially ranked atop most golfer's Arizona bucket list trips: We-ko-pa, Troon North, and the Boulders.

Golf design aficionados prefer We-ko-pa as its two courses – the Cholla by Scott Miller and the Saguaro by the tandem of Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw – pose the most interesting strategic questions.

The Cholla course features diagonal hazards over the ubiquitous dry washes the meander across the property as well as panoramic vistas of the McDowell Mountains, Red Mountain, the Verde River

and the often snow-capped Four Peaks of the Mazatlan mountains.

“Best of all, the lack of surrounding land uses allow[s] this venue to be a perpetual native Sonoran Desert retreat,” wrote Miller.

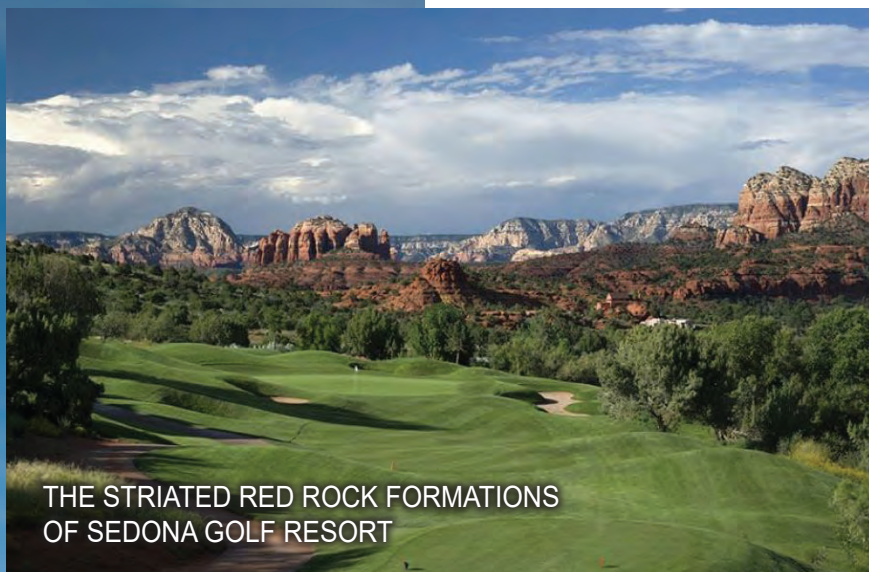
True to their minimalist roots, Coore and Crenshaw not only moved a few thousand cubic yards of earth to build the Saguaro course, but by designing greens and tees near each other, the course is eminently walkable. Again, the diagonal hazards and curvaceous greens provide sterling defense with a premium on planning and executing the golf shot – utilizing either the aerial approach or the contours of the natural terrain to feed the ball to the hole location.

Just over the ridge as the crow flies, the pair of courses at Troon North Golf Club have been the gold standard in



VENTANA CANYON'S
PAR-3 THIRD WITH ITS
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TROON NORTH GOLF CLUB
PINNACLE COURSE #10



THE STRIATED RED ROCK FORMATIONS OF SEDONA GOLF RESORT

Scottsdale since opening in the 1990s. Tom Weiskopf returned in 2007 to reroute and renovate both the Monument Course and Pinnacle Course, including reseeding all the greens with A4, then the state of the art in the industry and still a dominant turfgrass strain to this day.

“Two of Tom Weiskopf’s hallmarks of golf design are the short drivable par-4 and the thrilling long downhill par-3,” stated PGA Head Professional Mike Friend. “We have great examples of both here.”

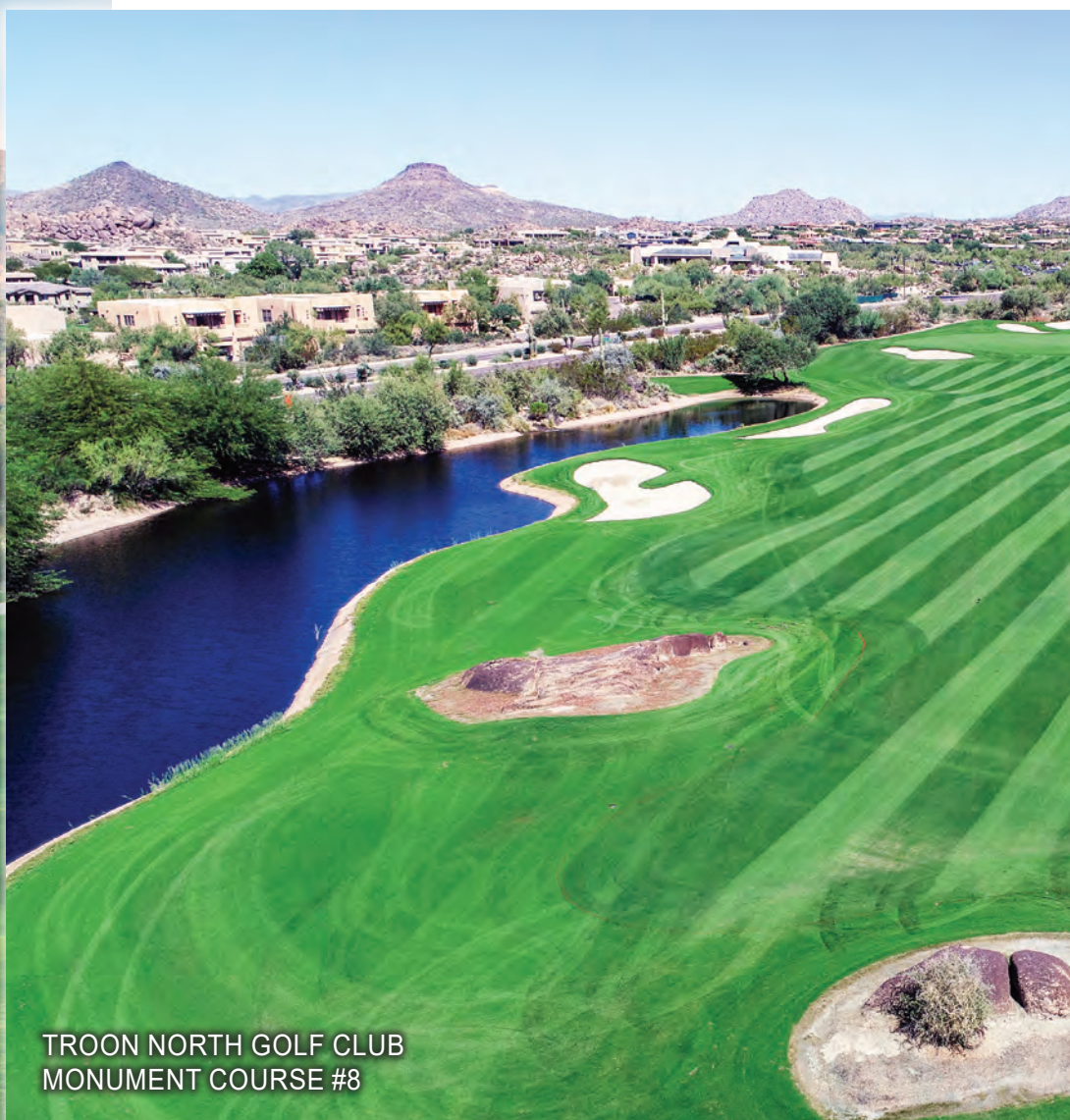


THE PICTURE WINDOW VIEW BEHIND THE MONUMENT COURSE'S 15TH GREEN

The 15th and 16th holes at the Monument course provide both back-to-back. The 306-yard par-4 15th also features a picture window view behind the green to the broad expanse of the valley beyond. And the following 16th plays directly towards the valley floor below as a backdrop.



WE-KO-PA CHOLLA NO. 8 AFTER RENO



TROON NORTH GOLF CLUB MONUMENT COURSE #8

Finally, the Boulders Golf Resort in nearby Carefree offers the North and South Courses, both winding around the five million-year old Monzonite boulder formations scattered across the landscape. It's a splurge, but an unforgettable one; you'll remember vacationing at the Boulders your entire life: sun-drenched days fade to the lazy haze of the Milky Way and an endless sea of stars in the evening.

SEDONA GOLF RESORT

Two hours north of Scottsdale, Sedona Golf Resort is set in one of the most captivating regions of the Southwest. The thrilling 6,646-yard, par - 71 course is widely considered among the world's most unforgettable golf experiences, winding around the famed red rocks of the valley, including Snoopy Rock and Coffee pot rock.

In the sizzling summer heat of Phoenix and Tucson, Sedona's elevation – anywhere between 4,000-4,350 feet - can be up to 15 degrees cooler. Sedona is also at the perfect elevation to keep the snow away except for a few days a year, meaning almost year-round golf.

When not reporting live from major sports championships or researching golf courses for design, value, and excitement, multiple award-winning sportswriter Jay Flemma is an entertainment, Internet, trademark, and banking lawyer from New York. His clients have been nominated for Grammy and Emmy awards, won a Sundance Film Festival Best Director award, performed on stage and screen, and designed pop art for museums and collectors. Twitter @JayGolfUSA



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Helping to Dial in the Details

The age-old expression of “The Devil is in the Details” was never truer than in golf course maintenance. Highly visible areas like bunker faces, cart paths, and clubhouse surrounds are the areas that can make a difference, and help create differentiation, between good and great courses.

Seago International brings together equipment from all over the world in an effort to help Superintendents tackle those tasks that are at the bottom of the “Want To” list but near the top of “What Our Members Notice” list. The time-consuming, sometimes back-breaking, low team member on the list has to do it, type work that just has to be done. Seago provides equipment that helps these jobs go smoother, faster, and with better results. Here is how we help:

Bunker faces and pond banks that look their best

The new line of Air Force Gen 3 mowers take everything we have learned from over 30 years in the hover mower business and puts it to work. From the new extra sturdy Nylon Injected Polymer deck to the industry-leading taller impeller, Air Force has always focused on performance. If a hover mower doesn’t float well then what is the point. Air Force brought 2-stroke engines back with our F-15 Gen 3 and it is the lightest, yet most powerful hover mower in the small machine category.

Speaking of light, the new F-19 Gen 3 is now the lightest full-size hover on the market and it features the strongest deck, longest and strongest handles along with more blade and height of cut options. When you focus on hover mowers for over 30 years, there is no doubt that Air Force is the best available.

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Where the rubber meets the road is the expression everyone knows, but where

the sand meets the turf and where the turf meets the cart path what everyone sees first. Bright white sand meeting rich green turf is such a highly visible and dramatic line that it always stands out. Seago’s Power Rotary Scissor Head is a portable and powerful attachment whose counter-rotating blades make quick and clean work for edging bunkers and/or cart paths while also being useful as a detail trimmer. For cart paths and anti-encroachment on greens, Seago offers the Atom Pro/Cart Path Edger that is shaft driven, with a wheelbarrow design that is stable and easy to operate. The cross-over blades track along concrete cart paths very easily or deliver a clean line when using it for anti-encroachment on greens. Asphalt cart paths are the hardest thing to edge unless you use the optional wire wheel brush blade which makes quick and easy work of asphalt edges and any type of crevice cleaning.

First impressions are lasting ones

The clubhouse is probably the most expensive single structure anywhere on the course and the place where members/guests spend the most amount of time. It is generally the first thing members/guests see when they arrive, check-in, close out their round and visit the 19th hole. Dressing the clubhouse area to look its best is made easier by the Masport Rotarola, a striping rotary mower that delivers a reel-like cut/stripe with the ease and low maintenance of a rotary. The Rotarola is also great for step cut on collars and for the live hitting area on a driving range. Tree debris, divots, and broken tees don’t bother this machine at all – it just cuts well and delivers a great stripe.

Seago is not the place to look for greens mowers or fairway rollers. Our equipment will not be the top line of your budget but it is vital for course maintenance. Seago doesn’t offer equipment that is flashy, enjoyable to use, or turns heads (although most are curious about hover mowers) but what you get is useful equipment that works hard and gets the job done.

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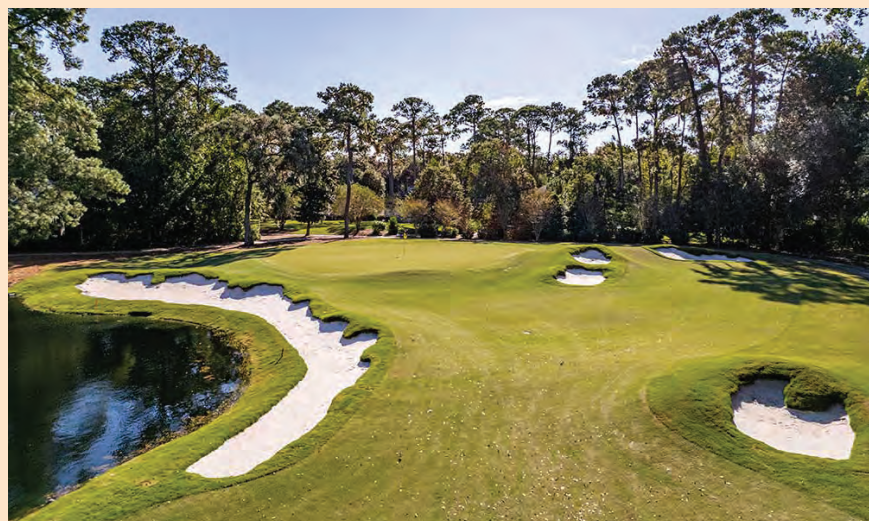
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Rapid ROI on Capillary Bunkers for Landings Club



Last year, the six-course Landings Club, in Savannah, Georgia, installed the Capillary Bunkers liner on its Magnolia course, as part of a large-scale renovation with Arnold Palmer Design architect Brandon Johnson. And director of ground and projects Chris Steigelman says the results are already showing the wisdom of that decision.

“We have dabbled with various bunker drainage techniques across our courses, though none of them apart from Magnolia have to wall to wall liners,” he says. “But part of the goals of the renovation project was to reduce our bunker maintenance workload. Brandon’s designs called for the bunker surface area to be reduced by 50 percent, and with the Capillary Bunkers liner, the amount of time we now spend on bunker sand maintenance has gone down dramatically.”

The new-look Magnolia has retained the steeply flashed bunker faces that the course previously had, and Steigelman says that the liner has played an important role in making the design work effectively. “We get around fifty inches of rain a year, and in the summertime, we often get thunderstorms coming from out of nowhere and dumping a huge load of rain on us,” he explains. “Previously, every time we got a big rain, the bunkers were destroyed, and I had to put several guys on rebuilding them for several days. Now, that doesn’t happen.”

The club started the renovation project in March 2021, with the Capillary Bunkers installation starting in June. The bunkers were finished in August, and the course reopened – hosting a Korn Ferry Tour event in its first week – at the start of November. Georgia-based contractor Todd Godwin Construction handled the work.

Steigelman says the benefits of the Capillary Bunkers technology have already been made very clear.

“We operate two golf courses out of the Magnolia maintenance facility, the Marshwood course as well as Magnolia,” he says. “We got hit by two tropical storms, one on a Sunday night at the end of June: seven inches of rain, four in an hour and a half. It trashed the bunkers on Marshwood, to the extent that we had to spend \$25,000 dollars on new bunker sand. The bunkers on Magnolia were like nothing had ever happened. It was incredible. I took our board out there and said to them ‘This is what you’re paying for.’”

“I’m very grateful that we chose Capillary Bunkers, because of the ease of installation. During the build, it was raining every day, and so we wouldn’t have been able to install some of the competitor products. But the guys were just out there laying the concrete and then putting plastic sheeting over it to help it dry!”

<http://www.capillaryconcrete.com>



Oakland Hills Country Club’s South Course has made a meteoric rise in World Top 100 Golf Courses rankings list, as it celebrates the completion of an extraordinary restoration project and improved course conditioning, through the support of Bernhard and Company.

The South Course at Oakland Hills has played host to 17 major golf championships in its illustrious history, including six US Opens, three PGA Championships, and the 35th Ryder Cup in 2004. The restoration project has allowed the course, once again, to offer its originally intended playing style, with larger fairway landing areas and greens. That, coupled with pristine conditioning, has enabled the famous course – nicknamed ‘The Monster’ – to rise a phenomenal and unmatched 41 places in the new rankings list, moving into 31st position.

Following the renovation work carried out by renowned course architects, Gil Hanse and Jim Wagner, Directory of Agronomy, Phil Cuffare, and his team of turf professionals were tasked with elevating the conditioning on the South Course to its highest ever level. With industry-leading grinding equipment and educational support provided by Bernhard and Company, the team was able to work with profound efficiency in delivering attention to detail mirroring that of the very best courses in the world.

Cuffare said: “We are very excited about the recognition that our famed South Course is receiving after the completion of its extensive restoration. To bring back to life something that had been lost for so long is a great feeling and we are continuing to express that through our conditioning efforts.

“The ultimate compliment to great golf course architecture is great conditioning. As such, the most important aspect of our agronomic programs in turf health, and the cornerstone of achieving that is

using our reel and bedknife grinding machinery to sharpen mowing equipment used to maintain our fine turf areas.

“The ability to achieve the perfect cut in an efficient and precise manner is what separates Bernhard and Company from others. We have very high expectations that need to be met and Bernhard is the partner that helps us to achieve those goals.”

The project involved the course being largely stripped back to the bare soil, to make way for a total revamp. When managing the growth and health of the new turf, it was more important than ever to ensure that all grass cutting was carried out with perfectly sharp blades to prevent any damage to the young plants.

What’s more, each hole was covered with sand in traditional USGA specifications, meaning that mower blades were constantly subjected to sand damage. However, with the Bernhard and Company Express Dual 4250 Reel Grinder and Anglemaster 4500 Bedknife Grinder machines in the workshop, the maintenance teams were able to sharpen blades as regularly as necessary to ensure that they were operating at maximum efficiency as the course began to blossom.

The latest Top 100 ranking reaffirms Bernhard and Company as the dominant grinder supplier to the world’s best courses. In addition to Oakland Hills, Bernhard and Company are also the official grinding machine provider for over half of the courses named in the list, including major championship venues all around the globe. Impressively, Bernhard and Company machinery is used by 13 of the world’s top 20 courses and seven of the top 10.

For more information, visit www.bernhard.co.uk.

Bagwell honored as president of Carolinas Golf Course Superintendent's Association



A love of turf maintenance born on the baseball fields of Summerville and developed at some of South Carolina's most notable golf courses led John "Billy" Bagwell to a coveted honor.

This fall, Bagwell was elected president of the Carolinas Golf Course Superintendent's Association. His journey to the position included stops at Clemson's Walker Course and the highly awarded Callawassie Island Club in Okatie, where he currently serves as golf course superintendent.

Starting at a young age, Bagwell accompanied his father Howie to area baseball fields to prep the grounds for summer seasons. At the time, Howie served as the athletic director for the Summerville YMCA.

From the baseball and soccer fields of his youth, Bagwell leveraged his early experience, convincing officials at Fort Dorchester High School to allow him a part-time job maintaining the school's ballpark. He was also an all-region infielder for the Patriots' baseball team.

Deciding to make this his "field" of study, Clemson University's turf major was the obvious choice. At Clemson, Bagwell learned from mentor Don Garrett, who was and still is the Walker Course superintendent. Bagwell graduated with a degree in Turf Grass.

After internships at Long Cove and Kiawah Island, he became the assistant superintendent at Callawassie Island Club in 2007.

"I love working on coastal golf courses," Bagwell said. "Baseball is the same every day – there's not as much variety. Golf is different. There's a larger acreage and so many things you can do to make it react differently. I get to see a gorgeous sunrise every day."

Bagwell was promoted to superintendent when the position was vacated and since has taken on "Island wide community maintenance" as Callawassie Island's director of agronomy. Noticed and celebrated for his impact during his tenure, he has led several environmental endeavors such as the island's work to become designated a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary in 2017 – one of only 23 in South Carolina.

His commitment and leadership led to him being elected to the Carolinas Golf Course Superintendent's Association Board in 2015. He served as director before being nominated to join the executive committee, starting as secretary/treasurer and advancing to VP. Traditionally a one-year office, his role was extended an additional year during the pandemic, bringing him to the fall of 2021 when he was elected president.

As his first act, Bagwell celebrated the camaraderie and valued community that taught him "how much people are willing to help one another."

During his presidential address in Myrtle Beach at the CGCSA Conference and Trade Show, Bagwell stated, "I am so honored to serve alongside so many great people. The Carolinas GCSA is made up of many incredible people and we saw this week what happens when people work together to chase the same dream. Thank you for this honor to serve as the next President of CGCSA. People need people, and it was evident this week that we are all better together."

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Tips and Tricks to Speed Up Your Golf Course Maintenance

by Jordan Fuller

Photo by Martin Magneymyr on Unsplash

The average golf course size is 74 acres. That's a large space to maintain, and it's not something you can just leave until later.

A huge part of golf is the feeling of being out in a beautiful, natural setting. Falling behind on maintenance means your course could begin to look and feel unattractive.

Even worse, trying to catch up on maintenance while golfers are in the middle of a round can be frustrating and annoying for your patrons.

If you want to provide the best playing experience, implement these tips and tricks to speed up your golf course maintenance and keep it up to date easily.

FOCUS ON THE BIG 3

Experienced golfers tend to favor three things when playing a course: firm fairways that allow for some roll, fast greens that make putting easier, and gradients that allow for a bit of challenge.

Focusing on these three aspects of your golf course maintenance above others will save you plenty of time in the long run. Not only will your course be well-maintained, but your patrons will be happy, visit often, and refer others.

The US Golf Association recommends using a TruFirm firmness meter to get an accurate idea of the firmness of your fairways and bunkers, a Stimpmeter to work out the speed of your greens, and a digital level to measure slope

across the greens.

ORGANIZE EFFICIENTLY

Maintenance is largely about being out on the course making things look and feel great, but management and organization is extremely important as well.

Investing in a Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) can make a huge difference to the efficiency of maintenance across your course.

This easy-to-use task management system software helps you to get your preventative maintenance ducks in a row, and keep them there.

All the necessary information is kept in a centralized

location, easy to access, and simple to keep track of. Things like work orders, assets and liabilities, and staff accountability are all managed here.

Although it may seem to be an unnecessary expense, you may be surprised at how much money using this simple software can save you in the long run.

PEST CONTROL

Pests are a huge reason for turf loss, next to poor drainage and inadequate sunlight. The good news is that this issue can be fixed much more simply than the other two can—with a simple preventative pest control program.

Fungicides, surprisingly, are

on the top of the budget list, surpassing \$41,000 annually. Insecticides, however, came much lower down, at just over \$7,000.

Implementing an effective pest control program can save your golf course grass in a big way. Too often, this is neglected until it's too late. Focus on it now, and you'll reap the rewards in terms of speeding up your golf course maintenance.

ROLL MORE THAN YOU MOW

Both mowers and rollers have their place. You will definitely need to mow your grass in order to keep it at an appropriate height, but switching out some of your mowing sessions for rolling can save you some time.

Some golf course superintendents choose to focus their rolling on a 20 to 30-foot circle around the hole. This is known as target rolling, and it allows you to maintain excellent green conditions (where it's most noticeable and makes the most difference) and still save time.

Make sure that you're using a modern, lightweight roller rather than an old-school heavy one. The older heavy kind can do damage to soil quality and turf quality if used too often.

MINIMIZE ACCESSORIES

Things like ball washers, spike cleaners, and even more commonplace items like signage may be costing

you more than it's worth it to keep. Removing or minimizing accessories like these can streamline your maintenance process.

It may be worth observing how often your players actually use these items. But in most cases, they're there to play and won't necessarily be affected by the removal of these kinds of accessories.

ENCOURAGE PLAYERS TO HELP

Your players are the lifeblood of the golf course, and your loyal members are most likely with you because they love the course and the game.

Encourage your members and your guests to take a proactive approach to the day-to-day maintenance of the course. Doing their part doesn't need to be complicated either. Ask that they:

- Staying on golf cart paths
- Walk the course when they can
- Fixing divots
- Raking bunkers

TAKE STEPS TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY

Maintaining a golf course's natural beauty requires a lot of resources. Taking steps towards becoming a sustainable golf course not only conserves resources but it also saves you money.

Take note that this isn't an overnight thing. Turning a regular golf course into a sustainable one takes a long time, but it's worth it in the end.

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Some possible changes that can make a huge difference to both the speed and cost of your golf course maintenance include:

- An underground drainage system to collect rainwater for irrigation use
- Solar panels (works great in very sunny areas) for lighting and other functions
- Digitized irrigation schedules that only kick in when necessary
- Composting facilities using natural resources
- Using tee caddies to prevent lost tees (many of which are not biodegradable)

CONCLUSION

Taking care of golf course maintenance early and properly is the best way to ensure that you stay on top of it and always provide golfers a premium experience.

Visiting a golf course is all about the experience, and if your maintenance isn't

up to scratch, your course conditions are shoddy, or your maintenance staff are interrupting golfers, you can expect to lose loyal members.

A golf course is an investment. As long as you put the time and effort into it, you'll get excellent returns. Try some of these tips and tricks to speed up your golf course maintenance and let us know how it goes!

Jordan Fuller has been playing golf for decades. When he's not on the course aiming for a PR or coaching others, he writes handy guides and useful reviews on his website, Golf Influence.

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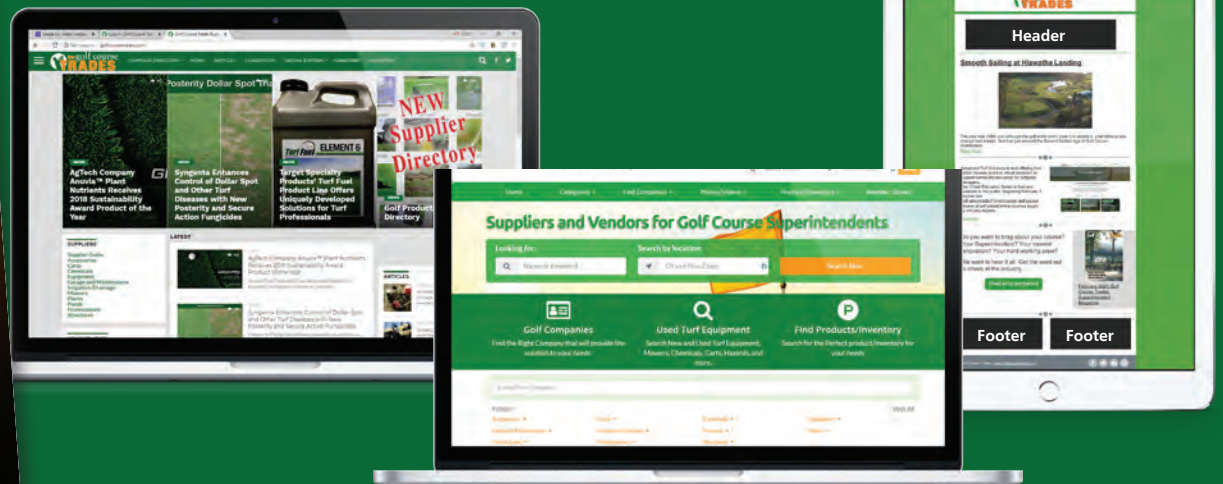
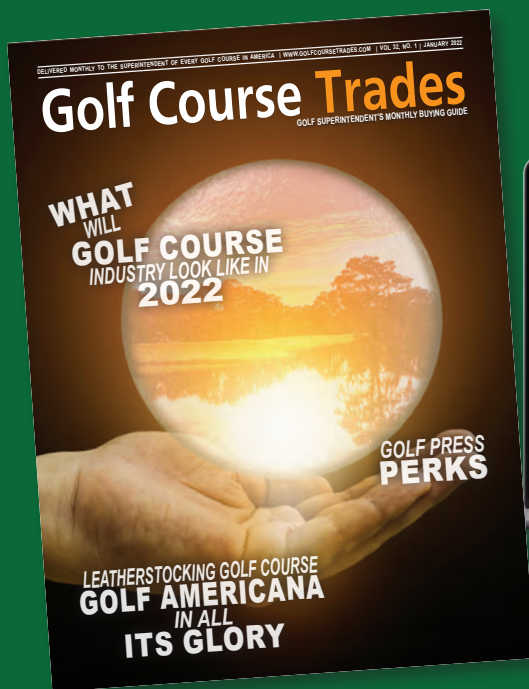
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Correction:

Golf Course Renovation: Optimal Balance at Overton Park 9 (Vol. 32, No. 2| February 2022, page 11

Correcting the contact name for “Available Golf Course Superintendent Job at Overton Park 9” Contact: Mickey Barker Mickey.Barker@memphistn.gov

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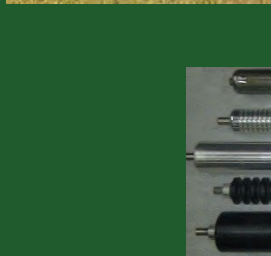
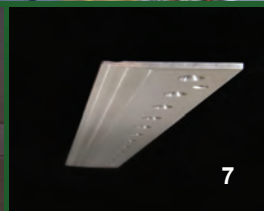
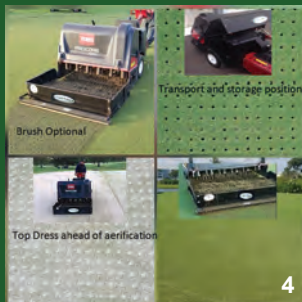
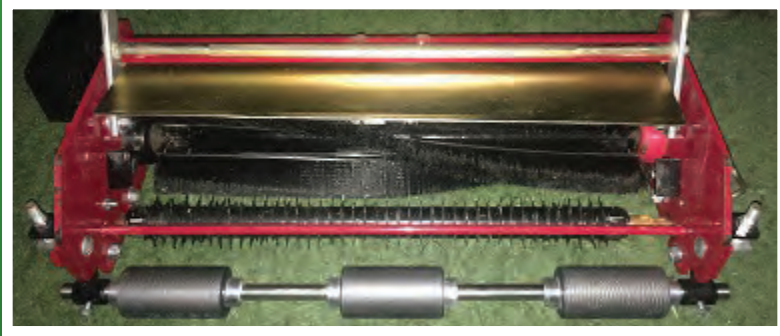


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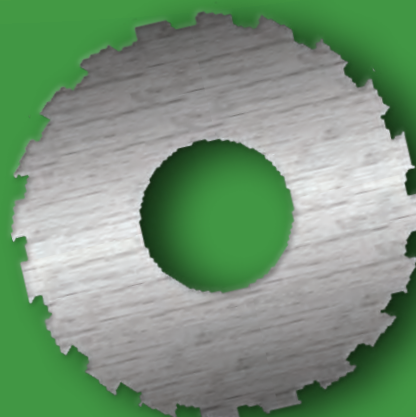
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