



United States Golf Association
Green Section, Florida Region
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March 5, 2007

The USGA, in cooperation with Grey Oaks Country Club, cordially invites you to a USGA Green Section Educational Workshop for Course Officials. The meeting will be held at Grey Oaks Country Club on Tuesday, April 3rd from 8:00 am until 12:30 pm. The cost is \$40.00 per person and includes a continental breakfast as well as a buffet lunch to be held after the meeting.

The focus of the program is to answer the most frequently asked questions we hear from golfers regarding their golf course. *"Why aren't the greens faster?" "Why is that tree being cut down?" "Why overseed?" "Why are neighboring courses in better shape than ours?"* Without being overly technical or scientific, our goal is to provide factual information on a level that all members can understand.

The program speakers will be Bob Vavrek, Senior Agronomist, USGA Green Section, Todd Lowe, USGA Agronomist, and myself. With nearly 50 years of combined experience with the USGA, we will share knowledge gained from our travels throughout Florida and across the country.

We hope you will speak to the Green and Golf Committee Members, Board of Directors, General Managers, Golf Professionals and Superintendents of your club and encourage as many people to attend as possible.

Registration deadline is Friday, March 30th, so please fill out the enclosed form and RSVP (total number in your party) by phone to (772) 546-2620, fax (772) 546-4653, or e-mail sfoy@usga.org.

We look forward to seeing you on April 3rd.

Sincerely,

John H. Foy
Director, Florida Region
USGA Green Section



- 8:00 a.m. **Registration** – Coffee and Danish
- 8:30 a.m. **Welcoming Remarks**
 Jim Butler, General Manager, Grey Oaks Country Club
- 8:35 a.m. **USGA Green Section – “Better Turf for Better Golf”**
 John Foy, Director, Florida Region, USGA Green Section
The USGA Green Section is the only non-biased agency devoted solely to golf course playing conditions and its environment. Learn about its history, current research projects and future goals of the association.
- 9:00 a.m. **Overseeding – “The Goods, the Bads, the Uglies”**
 Todd Lowe, USGA Agronomist
Overseeding provides pretty, green golf courses during the winter season, but not without a cost. Learn about the pros and cons of this practice and techniques for being successful at your club.
- 9:30 a.m. **Bunkers – “Hazards or Havens?”**
 Bob Vavrek, USGA Senior Agronomist
Bunker playability is a common topic on many of our visits. Learn some of the common factors that affect sand firmness and bunker consistency so that you can properly address comments concerning bunker conditioning.
- 10:00 a.m. **Stretch Break**
- 10:15 a.m. **Putting Greens – “Is it All About Speed?”**
 John Foy
Golf courses are often evaluated by how well the putting greens perform. Learn about stimpeters and factors affecting putting speed as well as other factors that affect putting green quality and how to maximize playability without jeopardizing turfgrass health.
- 10:45 a.m. **Trees – “Dealing With Shady Characters”**
 Bob Vavrek
Trees are integral to golf course playability and design but create challenges for maintaining good turfgrass growth. Learn about how to maintain the best of both worlds and when it is time to say goodbye to those beloved trees.
- 11:15 a.m. **Written Maintenance Guidelines – “Setting Standards”**
 Todd Lowe
Your golf course is being maintained to some type of standard. Learn how to formalize guidelines that meet golfer expectations within the budget and address comments like “How can we take it up a notch?”
- 11:45 a.m. **Open Discussion on Agronomic Issues**
 John Foy, Bob Vavrek, Todd Lowe
Other pertinent topics will be discussed, including disease issues that have plagued Florida golf courses this playing season, as well as the importance of allowing periodic course closures for maintenance practices. This is the perfect time to ask all of those burning questions on golf course maintenance issues!
- 12:30 a.m. **Adjourn** – Lunch

