

Celebrating the

60TH ANNIVERSARY

of the founding of the USGA GREEN SECTION

BEFORE

the Green Section, golf courses often suffered huge losses of playing areas . . .



AFTER

Today, 60 years after the founding of the Green Section, ideal playing conditions are common at thousands of golf courses such as Baltusrol Golf Club.

Resolutions Adopted by the United States Golf Association, November 30, 1920

Resolved, That a Green Section of the United States Golf Association be and is hereby created for the purpose of collecting and distributing among members of the Section information of value respecting the proper maintenance and upkeep of golf courses.

The Green Section shall be composed of delegates and permanent members, as herein provided. Delegates may be nominated by any golf club in the United States or Canada, whether affiliated with the United States Golf Association or not, and each such club may appoint one delegate, provided that no person having any direct or indirect financial interest in the sale of any article, material or service used in the maintenance and upkeep of golf courses shall be eligible to membership.

The Green Section shall be conducted by a committee to be known as the "Green Committee of the United States Golf Association," which shall be composed of 25 members, one-half of whom shall be appointed by the president of the United States Golf Association and the other half shall be elected by the delegates and permanent members.

The officers of the Green Committee shall be a chairman and two vice chairmen, who shall be appointed by the president of the United States Golf Association and shall be *ex officio* members of the Green Committee.

The members of the Green Committee shall hold office for one year or until their successors are appointed, and any vacancies occurring in the Committee for any cause shall be filled by the remaining members of the Committee. The number of members of the Green Committee may be increased at any time by a vote of the Committee, and in such case the additional members shall be appointed for the remainder of the year by the Committee and thereafter shall be appointed or elected as herein provided.

Persons who have contributed in a scientific or practical way to the betterment of American golf courses may be appointed permanent members by the Green Committee.

The permanent members and the delegates to the Green Section shall meet at least once a year at the time of the annual meeting of the United States Golf Association or at the time and place of the amateur championship or at a time and place fixed by the Green Committee, and said meeting shall be for the discussion of subjects of interest and the election of members of the Green Committee.

The expenses of conducting the Green Section shall be borne by the clubs which appoint delegates to such section, and the dues of each club shall be fixed by the Green Committee.



60th ANNIVERSARY ISSUE STAFF

The entire staff of the Green Section contributed to this special Anniversary Issue and its success can be attributed to each man as well as Joe Schwendeman, serving as Managing Editor, and Janet Seagle, Art Editor. All of their efforts are appreciated with gratitude.

Alexander M. Radko
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*Color cover photo of
Baltusrol Golf Club
by Leonard Kamsler*



The Green Section's Goal . . . the Best Turf Possible

Like so many good things in life, the Green Section of the United States Golf Association is taken for granted. It's always there, season after season, quietly doing the most outstanding job in golf. Also, I must admit, the most underrated job in the game.

During my tenure with the USGA, I was privileged to serve two years as Chairman of the Green Section Committee. It was, indeed, a privilege.

Years ago, I worked one summer mowing tees and greens on a golf course. I also have been Chairman of the Green Committee at the Denver Country Club, at various times, for a total of five years. As a result of those experiences and a lifetime of playing the game, I have become thoroughly familiar with the work of golf course superintendents and agronomists. That background helped me fully to understand and appreciate the work done by members of the USGA's Green Section — those who were then on the staff as well as those who had preceded them. More than once I expressed my gratitude for the high degree of dedication, intelligence and devotion to duty of the Green Section staff. I am happy to do it one more time.

It is the opinion of the USGA Executive Committee that when the Green Section goes to work, the USGA is putting its best foot forward. For 60 years now, no other agency or staff within the game of golf has contributed to the good of so many as has the Green Section. Every golfer, whether he plays on a municipal course or the most exclusive club in the country, owes a very large vote of thanks to the Green Section for the turf on which he plays.

Unknown by virtually every golfer, the knowledge and experience gleaned by the Green Section down through the years has been passed unselfishly along to everyone in the turf-grass trade. It has made no difference whether a club was a USGA member or not; the word was passed — for the benefit of golf and golfers.

We look forward with anticipation to the work of these highly skilled scientists over the next 60 years. Their goal during the next 60 years will be the same as the first 60 — to attain and develop the best turf possible for golf courses throughout the country.

Will F. Nicholson, Jr.
President
United States Golf Association



Will F. Nicholson, Jr.

Congratulations from the GCSAA

As President of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, and a friend and follower of USGA and the Green Section, I wish to send congratulations on behalf of all GCSAA members on your 60th anniversary. GCSAA celebrated its 50th anniversary three years ago.

The reflections on our past certainly hinged greatly toward the advances that had been propelled by the start of the Green Section. The art of greenkeeping has advanced to the degree of being a science that now makes a true profession of the position of a golf course superintendent.

The impact that was made upon the golf communities by Messrs. Piper and Oakley in the late Teens and early Twenties dramatized the requirement of a specialized person in the art of greenkeeping. For this we measure ourselves and appreciate the USGA's preceptive leadership in years since.

The forward movement by the Green Section in these times of EPA restrictions, tightening economy and increasing recreational needs of our nation's golfing public is welcome. At this time we cannot afford to sit idly by, with a feeling that we have lost. Our close ties and a united front toward insuring constant research and education in all phases of hybrid grasses, and in monitoring chemicals that will not damage our environment and, most of all, in educating today's golfer of the problems of properly maintaining a golf course will continue to aid this wonderful game in the future.

GCSAA looks toward your direction and your support in our movement.

Melvin B. Lucas, Jr.
President
Golf Course Superintendents of America



Melvin B. Lucas, Jr.