

News Notes

2003 TURF ADVISORY SERVICE

To keep up with the increasing costs of providing a high-quality advisory service to member clubs and the game of golf, it is necessary for the USGA to increase the fees charged for the Green Section's Turf Advisory Service. The 2003 fee schedule continues to offer a \$300 discount for fees received by May 15, 2003.

	Payment received by May 15, 2003	Payment received after May 15, 2003
Half-Day Visit	\$1,200	\$1,500
Full-Day Visit	\$1,700	\$2,000

Despite the increase, the USGA will subsidize the Turf Advisory Service (TAS) by about 50% in 2003, reflecting a commitment to provide golf courses with the best of services from a top-quality staff of 19 full-time agronomists. A Green Section visit is a bargain for the many benefits that are realized. The TAS strengthens the golf course superintendent's and Green Committee's position, and it provides a positive environment to discuss common problems and realistic solutions and expectations at whatever level of golf course budget is available.



GREEN COMMITTEE MEETING

Green Section Committee representatives from the Mid-Atlantic Region met on May 7, 2002, at the Chevy Chase Club in Chevy Chase, Md. This active committee meets twice annually at various locations in their five-state region to discuss pertinent agronomic topics, review Green Section activities within the region, and provide input to help keep the Green Section's Turf Advisory Service a useful tool for golf course superintendents and course officials. Organized by Green Section agronomists Stan Zontek, Keith Happ, and Darin Bevard, these biannual meetings always draw a good crowd of volunteers, whose participation is very much appreciated. Members of the Green Section Committee in the Mid-Atlantic Region include: Mark A. Bado (Wildwood G.C., Pa.); William C. Battle (Farmington C.C., Va.); Charles Carr, GCS (Radley Run C.C., Pa.); John C. Cummings, CGCS (Berry Hills C.C., W.V.); Joseph M. Duich (Penn State Univ.); C. McD. England, III (Guyan G. & C.C., W.V.); J. Roger Finn (Black Rock G.C., Md.); Ken Flisek, GCS (The Club at Nevillewood, Pa.); Dean M. Graves, GCS (Chevy Chase Club, Md.); George Hauptfuhrer (Huntington Valley C.C., Pa.); Harold James Loke, CGCS (Bent Creek C.C., Pa.); Robert V. Mitchell (Run Enterprises, W.V.); Earl F. Reese, Jr., GCS (The Homestead, Va.); J. Cutler Robinson, Jr., CGCS (Bayville G.C., Va.); Mack Saunders (Glen Oak C.C., Pa.); Mark A. Studer (Oakmont C.C., Pa.); Dan Taylor, CGCS (Independence G.C., Va.); Thomas L. Watschke (Penn State Univ.).

2002 Turfgrass and Environmental Research Executive Summary

RESEARCH PROGRAM UPDATE

The USGA Executive Committee approved \$1.45 million per year funding for the USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Program for the next three years. This research program provides funding opportunities to university faculty to conduct golf-related environmental and turfgrass management projects. The USGA's vision for the research program is to "use science as the foundation to benefit golf in the areas of turfgrass and resource management, sustainable development, and environmental protection."

A compilation of the most recent projects funded through the research program can be found in the newly released *2002 Turfgrass and Environmental Research Executive Summary*. The *Summary* briefly describes each project supported by the USGA's Turfgrass and Environmental Research Program. Projects fall into several categories, including: course construction practices, integrated turfgrass management, turfgrass germplasm enhancement, environmental impact of golf, and the Wildlife Links Program.

The *2002 Turfgrass and Environmental Research Executive Summary* can be obtained free of charge by contacting Mary McConnell at 908-234-2300, mmcconnell@usga.org, or P.O. Box 708, Far Hills, NJ 07931. Request publication #NS1651.