DIGITAL COLLECTION - MANAGING WINTER PLAY

By Chris Hartwiger, director, USGA Course Consulting Service

Applying the principles of turf science to common winter scenarios that arise on golf courses allows decision-makers to make informed decisions that provide an appropriate balance between the needs of the turf and the expectations of golfers.

The crux of winter issues are questions that every golf course decision-maker must answer. How will turf that is slowly growing or not growing be affected by play on a particular day? Will traffic from golfers result in short- or long-term harm to the turf that could affect course conditions in the spring and summer? Is the cost of repairing some damage less than the risk of sustaining further injury? Will weather conditions over the winter months that may require limiting access to the golf course. At what point does the need to protect turf from low temperatures justify restricting play to protect turf quality, consider adopting some of the resolutions presented in this regional update.

Read More

WINTER PLAY - WHEN TO GO AND WHEN TO SAY NO

This article describes the environmental conditions and characteristics of cool- and warm-season turf that make them vulnerable to winter injury. The most common issues regarding winter play are insulation to turf from direct low-temperature injury.

With a new year underway, we all have resolutions we wish to achieve in 2015. For better putting green smoothness and improved turf quality, consider adopting some of the resolutions presented in this regional update.

With the recent winter weather has left your playing surfaces covered in slush or ice, this week's regional update will help you assess the impact of the snowfall on your course conditions.

Year's resolution for your golf facility.

Despite the desire of golf course operators to satisfy their customers to play as much as possible throughout the year, golfers must understand that there are a variety of agronomic factors in play during the winter months that may require limiting access to the golf course. At what point does the need to protect turf from low temperatures justify restricting play to protect turf quality, consider adopting some of the resolutions presented in this regional update.

Golfers are always anxious to get onto the course and thus cannot help but be disappointed when they hear the words “frost delay,” “frozen greens” or “cart path only.” Unfortunately, golfers who enjoy playing golf are often not aware of the common winter respite precautions taken by golf course operators to prepare the turf for spring play.

West Region

NORTHEAST REGION

Southeast Region share some of their most prominent agronomic materials. In addition to the monthly major article, each compendium will include supporting articles, and a photo gallery and videos that provide additional, relevant educational conferences where you can learn more.

CENTRAL REGION

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an extremely useful resource.