

GLAGS REGION UPDATE

June 27, 2019

The GLAGS region began the season with an educational seminar hosted on March 18 at West Haven Golf Club. The visiting speaker Dr. Ben McGraw of PSU discussed the basics of insect control and timing for our region. Dr. McGraw did an excellent job using humor and fun to keep all 85 attendees engaged while providing the most up to date control methods for insect pests on golf courses. Keith Cutten spoke next on the topics of golf course design, sustainability, and the future and evolution of golf course design. Keith shared many of his recent experiences working on Cabot Links as well as his involvement in the redesign of The Algonquin in St. Andrews New Brunswick. Keith's thought provoking presentation inspired all on how to increase the sustainability of our local properties.

Rain, rain and more rain. The start of the 2019 golf season for the GLAGS region has been challenging to say the least. The rain fall here at RiverBend Golf Community in west London Ontario totaled 135 mm for the month of May, compared to just 32mm for May 2018. These rain events crippled many area courses leaving roughs and fairways unmown for weeks at a time, many resorting to walk mowing these large acreages. June has brought a slight reduction in rain events and slightly more sun and warmth, resulting in rapid growth. The expectation is for continued rain throughout the summer.

The GLAGS association has hosted two events thus far at Arkona Golf Club and Ironwood Golf Club. Five more monthly events are scheduled to take place at Goderich Sunset Golf Club in July, Otter Creek Golf Club in August, West Haven Golf & Country Club in September and Sunningdale Golf & Country Club on September 30th which will be a joint event with the Alex McLumpha annual Golf Tournament. Our season ending event will be the Syngenta Cup at St. Thomas Golf and Country Club on October 17th where we reward fourteen superintendent members that either hosted or attended the most events during the season against fourteen superintendents from the KEGS Association.

As we look forward to the summer and improved weather it is important during this challenging weather that we share our frustrations and successes with our local associations and fellow turf professionals. These relationships will help us weather the tough times and will enhance our enjoyment of the good times. Best wishes to all, enjoy the remainder of the season.