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April 30, 2020

President's Update



NEW BRUNSWICK GETS THE GREEN LIGHT!

Golf courses in New Brunswick received some good news last Friday, which allowed them to open for golf with restrictions on tee times, no club house activities other than washroom access and social distancing practices on the course. PEI has also announced that they will be open for golf on May 1, with restrictions and guidelines to come. Nova Scotia has no planned date set for opening due to the active Covid-19 cases that are still being reported. In Newfoundland course superintendents will finally be able to perform some basic maintenance on their properties, while respecting the Chief Medical Officers regulations around health and safety and social distancing.

New Brunswick and PEI superintendents will now be the first out of the gate and establish the best practices for the rest of us to follow. We all look forward to seeing your WhatsApp posts about how it is all working and what might not be working.

Good Luck!

TIME TO BE READY!

If you haven't had many or any staff back yet, it is time to make your facility compliant with provincial safety policies as they relate to Covid-19 social distancing work practices. Understand too that some of your returning staff may have been at home for the last 6 weeks, where they did not need to be as vigilant about social distancing. Please make sure that they understand all the new procedures and the importance of compliance. It will take some practice to create new habits.

ATLANTIC ALLIED GOLF ASSOCIATIONS (AAGA)

The AAGA has held several meetings over the past couple of weeks as we moved toward having golf open up in Atlantic Canada. The AGSA executive director, Jim Nix, has been attending these meetings as our representative. Their focus has been to develop letters and messages to send to industry and government concerning the need to get golf open when restrictions can be eased and to outline some recommended guidelines for what safe social distance golf can and should look like.

AGSA 2020 SCRAMBLE

Unfortunately, the 2020 scramble which was scheduled to be held at Mill River Golf Club and hosted by member superintendent Blair Duggan has been cancelled for 2020 due to the current Covid-19 situation. As it stands right now plans are to hold the 2021 event at Mill River.

TURF NEWS

The next issue of the Turf News will be out in just a couple of weeks. We are very excited about this issue as we have a number of articles by or about AGSA members. We look forward to starting a new feature that will profile an AGSA Superintendent. With our region being so big, quite often we don't get to know each other so we look forward to introducing someone new to many of you each issue. We will have at least two other AGSA member articles as well as our regular mechanics column from Jamie Matheson, irrigation corner and mindful superintendent columns from Barry Stone and Paul MacCormack respectively.

Finally, of course, you will get to see the newest and best from our corporate members and we would encourage you to support these sponsors.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Mills". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being more prominent than the last name "Mills".

John Mills
AGSA President

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