



Quality Golf News (Issue March 2014)



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The Role of a Golf Course Superintendent

Industry icon Dr. James Beard, author of Beard's Encyclopedia for Golf Courses, Grounds, Lawns and Sports Fields, defines a golf course superintendent as a professional agronomist who has direct supervision and responsibility for the maintenance of a golf course including the turf, trees, shrubs, flowers, water features, and bunkers, with emphasis on turf grass playing surfaces.

In his latest book, Turf Management for Golf Courses, he further states, "a golf course superintendent is entrusted with the development, turf culture and management of a golf course. The responsibilities are a) to supervise the construction and maintenance of the golf course, (b) to make proper problem diagnosis and select the appropriate corrective action, (c) to supervise the service and repair of turfgrass maintenance and construction equipment, (d) to keep appropriate records, and (e) to prepare and present budgets and reports."

Based on the above, the role of the superintendent is clear. What is often misunderstood is the wide range of skills that a professional superintendent must possess. To effectively fulfill their responsibilities, today's Superintendent needs to possess some or all of the following skills-soil science, plant pathology, horticulture, irrigation systems and scheduling techniques, drainage, insect and weed pest management methods, computer applications, rules of golf and interpersonal skills when dealing with staff, members, owners and or green committees.

To be successful, the superintendent would likely need to be competent in most if not all the areas above. In developing these skills to the necessary levels, understanding both the theory and practical application will allow for the greatest chance of success. In my experience, this comes with good education, good apprenticeship and time.

Often overlooked but a necessary ingredient in the development of a successful superintendent is commitment. Most golf course superintendents that I know devote themselves completely to their trade treating it more as a passion than as a job. This is not always easy as Mother Nature is often trying to return the golf course back to its original state. Add to this the fact that the superintendent must plan around periods of heat, cold, insect invasions, diseases, floods and droughts to provide good golfing experiences for their members or guests at the golf club.

So next time you see your golf course Superintendent give him a wave and a smile for his dedication to provide you as a golfer a nice place to recreate amid nature with fine turf and flowering trees! -- Tony Taylor, Certified Golf Course Superintendent.



The Faldo Series Thailand Championship 2014

Panorama Golf and Country Club was selected as the host venue for the Faldo Series Thailand Championship 2014. Established in 1996, 40 Faldo Series tournaments now take place in 30 countries worldwide with more than 7,000 golfers participating each year. The Faldo Series Asia is supported by The R&A, ISPS Handa and Mission Hills and



is endorsed by the Asian Tour and the Asia Pacific Golf Federation. Past winners include Major Champions Rory McIlroy and Yani Tseng. The Club welcomed 90 of the country's best junior golfers to play in this well renowned junior golf tournament on February 1-2, 2014. The event was arranged and organized by Thai Students Golf Union (TSGU). The winners of each class secured a spot to represent Thailand against top junior golfers from other countries in the Faldo Series Asia Grand Final at Mission Hills China in March 2014.



Khun Pipoo Burapolpiman (James), Club's General Manager (5th left) and Khun Seksan Suwanapura, TSGU's Secretary & Faldo Series's Tournament Director (4th left) with all the winners.

The winners of the 2 day-competition were – Nuchakorn Nunphakdi (girls U21), Bunyaporn Zeng (girls U16), Poovadol Lee-arthan (boys U21), Worakorn Toyam (boys U18), Putt Sridama (boys U16).

Singha Panorama Senior Tour #1

The first tournament of the 2014 season for the Thailand Senior Professional Golfers Association (TSPGA), the "Singha Panorama Senior Tour #1", was held at Panorama on



Khun Prachuab Sabcharoen, TSPGA former president (7th from Left) pictured with Pro Manus Saengsui (7th from right) and other winners.



The winner, Senior Pro Manus S. (Left) received the check from Khun Prachuab Sabcharoen

February 19-20, 2014. This was the sixth TSPGA event hosted by Panorama Golf and Country Club since 2011. The 2-day event had a full field of 158 players on the first day and was cut to 95 players on the following day. The winner was Pro Manus S, who won against Pro Somworn S. in a play-off as both finished on minus 4 after 36 holes.

CHANG Thailand AM Tour at Panorama Golf and Country Club



Khun Pipoo Burapolpiman (James), Club's General Manager (4th from left) with all the winners.

Panorama Golf and Country Club proudly hosted the CHANG Thailand AM Tour presented by Golf Channel Thailand and Toyota on Wednesday, January 22, 2014. This was the second event in this series hosted by Panorama. Similar to the first event, this event was well attended with 93 amateur golfers participating in the mid-week event. The overall winner in the the Champion's Flight was Khun Panuwit Ornju.

Upcoming Events – 2nd Quarter 2014



PTT – Premium Diesel Hy-Force Junior Golf 2014

May 24, 2014, sponsored by PTT (Petroleum Authority of Thailand) Public Company Limited. For more information and detail, please visit www.pttgolfjunior.com



USCG Golf Tour 2014

North-Eastern region June 1st, 2014. The first junior golf tour with the eventual tour winners securing a spot for US College Sport Camp and the opportunity to visit 5 different universities in the USA. For more information please visit www.USCGTour.org

USCG Golf Tour 2014
"A New Tour with New Vision!"

WANT TO PLAY GOLF IN U.S. COLLEGE ?

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Schedule of event 2014		
6 April	Eastern Region	Green Valley Country Club, Rayong
4 May	Central Region	Krung Kavee Golf Course & Country Club, Patumtani
1 June	North-Eastern Region	Panorama Golf & Country Club, Khao Yai
20 July	Northern Region	Chiangmai Highlands Golf and Spa Resort, Chiangmai
3 August	Southern Region	Loch Palm Golf Club, Phuket
7 September	Western Region	Grand Prix Golf Course, Kanchanaburi
5 October	Championship	Thana City Golf & Sport Club, Bangkok

** Winner and runner up of each division will receive Bushnell Laser Rangefinder

For more information please visit www.USCGTour.org
 Or Call: 02-203-1440, 081-172-4675

Logos: Titleist, PUMA GOLF, LA ROCHE-POSAY, THE AGENCY GOLF WEAR



PANORAMA
 GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

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Update from **“The Royal”**



Building A National Standard in India

Recently I had the opportunity to attend the Indian Golf Expo in Pune, India, presented by the Indian Golf Industry Association. There, I was fortunate to experience several things while meeting some of the most influential people in Indian golf.

First, I would like to say that I am very impressed with where the Indian Golf Industry Association is headed and how they are positioning for and framing the onset of new and expansive mindsets in Indian golf going forward. This year's expo brought together people from all facets of the golf industry in India including Golf Course Developers and Operators, Course Designers & Architects, Club General Managers, Golf Course Superintendents and National Golf Associations like the PGTI, IGU, PGA. It was brilliant. This was the third annual event and from my point of view, I see it becoming bigger and stronger.

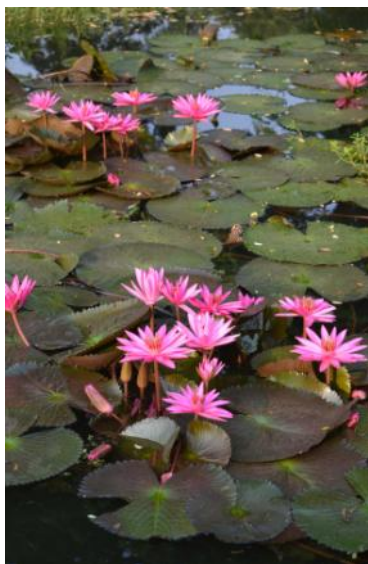
This is the sort of participation that golf in India needs to raise the standards. When top level turf grass and plant and soils scientists mingle with club owners, managers and industry representatives nothing less than opportunity for advancement arises. A national standard is being built for sure. My observations, as a long term golf course superintendent and having been involved with golf development and PGA TOUR golf event management, were filled with impressive experiences of the efforts of so many people coming together to share ideas and encourage education for the industry.

During the past two years I've had the pleasure on numerous occasions to meet, speak and work with and listen to Professional Golf Tour of India tournament officials and players at Royal Calcutta Golf Club and work with the Indian Golf Union in managing several professional events. I've seen how everyone involved is stepping up to improve the game nationally

by coming together and sharing information and teaching each other the strategies and techniques necessary to continue to improve the game in India. I'm quite impressed and encouraged by the commitments to the game of the owners, members and investors and industry associations to raise the national standard.

Royal Calcutta Golf Club is also contributing to the development of the national standard. The Club through its senior representatives, managers and members has taken great steps to improve its standing as the flagship golf course in India and by improving the club to international standards with focused and deliberate investments. It was clear to me when I was in Pune at the Golf Expo, everyone knew who Royal Calcutta Golf Club was.

In the past five years the Club has certainly raised its standards evidenced by its ability to attract the year ending PGTI event, McCloud Russell Tour Championship. Having had two successful tournament events with accolades from the PGTI players and tournament directors, the Club is poised for several more years of continuing to raise its standard thus helping raise the national standard as well. -- Tim Denham, Consulting Golf Course Superintendent for Quality Golf International, Asia - Royal Calcutta Golf Club, Kolkata, West Bengal, India.



Flowering Trees at The Royal Calcutta Golf Club,
Kolkata, India.

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