

Superintendents in Atlantic Canada are wondering if the rain is ever going to stop. It is hard to believe that in May we were as dry as anyone had seen it for that time of year and battling numerous large forest fires.

The relentless rain has made it impossible to mow many areas and superintendents have had to make that difficult decision to put mowers out knowing there will be some damage, but not mowing will create a mess of clippings when you can get out there. This week we have finally gotten some mowers out and our blower goes all day trying to deal with the clippings.

Any superintendents without a full cart path system have had to deal with the unpopular decision of no carts. The weather looks like it is finally turning and hopefully things will start to dry in the second half of July.

This week we let a foot and a half of water out of our irrigation pond. That is absolutely silly for mid-July.

Several provincial tournaments have been going on through this period and hats off to the superintendents hosting those events. We all know it's not easy to provide tournament conditions while you are fighting the weather. We have members at our club that have been playing here for 60 years and have never seen it this wet.

The heat and humidity coupled with the wet weather has superintendents on high alert on the disease front. Finding a day you can spray and be able to get around has been difficult, so careful planning has been a must.

In our area the rains have been heavy and random and often overnight. We have still been relatively busy, which has increased traffic pressure in the wet conditions. One saving grace is most clubs are at their full compliment of staff for the season so there is maximum labour to try to get caught up.

I would like to welcome Matt Hamilton to the region. He is taking over for long time Superintendent, Brian Gouthro, at New Ashburn Golf Club. I spoke with Matt, and he said he is settling in nicely and glad to be back home.

We have lots of national tournaments in the Atlantic region and wish them success:

NextGen Atlantic Championship at Avondale Golf Course in PEI with host Superintendent Timothy Mack.

Canadian Junior Girl's at Hampton Golf Course in NB with host Superintendent Andy MaGee.

Canadian Women's Amateur at New Ashburn Golf Club in NS with host Superintendent Matt Hamilton

Canadian Men's Mid-Amateur at Algonquin Golf Course in NB with host Superintendent Steve Williams.

Canadian Women's Senior at Mill River Golf Club in PEI with host Superintendent Blair Duggan.

RBC PGA Scramble National Final at Cabot Cape Breton in NS with host Superintendent's Jason Dziabel and Jason Haines.

Matt Blackburn
Superintendent Chester Golf Club
Atlantic Director