

## CGSA Regional Report (Alberta)

### October 2025

An abnormally wet July and early August where the Calgary area received over 250mm of rain over presented its challenges for turf managers. This weather pattern then shifted north to provide the Edmonton area a wet latter half of August. Diseases not normally prevalent in the province during the summer were reported at a much higher incidence. Pythium and anthracnose being the main ones as it is rare for turf in our province to stay damp long enough for damage to be noticeable and warrant treatment. The high amounts of rain resulted in higher humidity levels and dew staying on the leaf blades significantly longer. From a turf species perspective, annual bluegrass seemed to thrive this summer as the long, dry days never really happened.

September however has been a totally different story. Hot, dry, and frost free. Yeah, you heard it, a frost-free September in Alberta. That's crazy! September golf in Alberta is some of the best we have. The shorter days and cooler nights allow the turf to get into the sweet spot where you are not required to live on the edge to produce high level conditions. This is always a bonus because as we all know, staff numbers drop significantly come September.

On August 18<sup>th</sup> the AGSA Sid Puddicombe Championship was held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club in Edmonton. This year's Low Gross Champion, for a 2<sup>nd</sup> straight year, was Troy Hurl (Highwood Golf Club). This year's Low Net champion was Peter Francis (Leduc Golf Club). Both these individuals earn a trip to this month's Fall Field Day at Le Club Laval-Sur-Le-Lac in Laval, QC. Congratulations gentlemen and well done.

As the calendar flips to October, many courses prep for closure following Thanksgiving. Grounds crew will shift their focus to preparing properties for winter. As everyone else is slowing down, our teams will burn it at both ends ensuring as much stuff gets done prior to snowfall as possible so that the next season can start off as strong as possible. It is one of the most important times of the year, and the time when staff really earn their paychecks. Let's hope the mild weather continues and everyone has favorable conditions to do the necessary work putting their places to bed.

Once courses have been put to bed and turf professionals can breathe for a moment, November will provide them the opportunity to collaborate with their peers and get some continuing education at the AGSA Property Manager's Conference from November 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>. This is the 30<sup>th</sup> year of this event and it has grown to one of the largest regional conferences in the country. Every year it is great to get together to listen and learn from others that help make us better for the following year.

With the conference season not that far away, don't forget that the Canadian Golf Course Management Conference is scheduled for February 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> in Calgary, AB. This year's theme, "Deep Roots, Bright Future" sums it up well. I hope to see many of you there to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CGSA.

Best wishes,

Cameron Kusiek