

Happy 2010 Everyone!

The 2009 season was a great one for me and my staff of Mark Casler, Aaron Kolquist , and Tom Bergeman. First off, I would like to thank everyone that made me feel welcome, and gave me some encouragement on those long days, especially John and Rhonda Passolt. Thanks for bringing me into the Black Bear family. Hopefully the course met and exceeded everyone's expectations. I see many great things to come in the 2010 season at Black bear Golf and Tennis.

Projects completed last season included verticutting and topdressing greens, which thins the grass on the putting surface, reducing thatch, and produces a more quality putting green. The greens were also core aerated and heavily topdressed during mid October which will drastically improve their health and putting quality. Aerating, verticutting, and topdressing are some of the most important tools in a superintendent's tool-box, they are extremely important to the grass plants health.

The tees were aerated 4 times during the 2009 season. They were much healthier and divot repair was much improved. The fairways and rough also were aerated by season's end, the last couple in the snow. Another project last fall was clearing and/or brushing many areas around Black Bear. With the help of my crew, we cut a number of trees, and brushed hundreds of thousands of square feet bordering fairways.

I have spent a week in San Diego during February, attending the Golf Course Superintendents Association annual conference. Some of the classes I took were titled "saving green without losing green" (reducing fertilizer use), and "Public golf in the new economy".

One new player involved program I intend to implement for 2010, will be an "Adopt A Green" program. Primarily for the reduction of ball marks. Please check the clubhouse for more info.

Let's all make it a better 2010

Geoff Jordan Golf Course Superintendent