



January 2, 2024

Dear Golf Course Superintendent:

Once again, the MGCSA is partnering with our Minnesota golf industry allies to enhance the promotional opportunity of the Rounds Fore Research funding drive. This industry initiative unites fine courses from across the state to sell donated golf certificates to the public, with all proceeds going to the University of Minnesota's turf research program.

In 2023, thanks to support from clubs such as yours, the program generated over \$19,000 that was used for research at the University of Minnesota. In 2024, we hope to bring that amount back to historical returns by garnering assurances of four tee time certificates for four groups at each course., or the cash value of the donated tee times. Alternatively, your course could simply provide a cash contribution for research at the UMN through the Rounds Fore Research program.

We are extremely excited about the development and operation of the University of the Minnesota TROE Center. Because of strong support from clubs like yours, this 12-acre research center is viable today. The TROE Center has provided valuable information to golf courses with local university-based research that will allow them to make environmentally sound decisions that impact their course. Examples of research that have been funded through our donations include those on reducing inputs on golf courses, increasing pollinator stewardship, reducing plant diseases like snow mold and dollar spot, identifying new cultivars, reducing winter injury, and making irrigation more efficient.

On behalf of the MGCSA, please join forces with your General Manager and Golf Professional to pursue four (4) tee times, with cart, as certificates to be used at the discretion of the contributing club. Your club may even choose specific tee times on specific dates. The golf opportunities will be sold by the MGCSA through an online auction, with all proceeds going to support the University of Minnesota and other turf research destinations. Please email, or mail, your certificates or check to the MGCSA Executive Director Chris Aumock at our office address located on the left column of this letter or chris@mgcsa.org.

The MGCSA, and our allied association partners, truly appreciate your support and hope you consider our request. If you would like to have a representative of the MGCSA or the University of Minnesota visit with your club's leadership regarding turfgrass research in Minnesota, contact Chris at 651-324-8873, or chris@mgcsa.org.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark B. Michalski".

Mark Michalski, President
Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association

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