

President's message

by Jeff Stauffer

Summer is well upon us with many challenges in front of us. Along with the challenges, there are many opportunities to be realized with the right approach, attitude and focus. Be sure to have a plan, believe in the plan and execute the plan to the best of your ability, combined with the understanding that the plan can and will always change! Take for instance the weather, who would have guessed we would go from frost one week to humidex warnings the next! Have a plan, but be willing to adjust.

As you are aware, Bill 64 has received plenty of attention on many levels from the government down to citizens of our great province. At the time of writing this message, the Bill has finished second reading forwarded to committee and the Ontario Allied Golf Association continues to be involved with officials of the Ministry through meetings and conversations. The Ontario Allied Golf Association (OAGA) has requested and will be planning to speak to the committee golf's position on Bill 64, specifically an exemption with Integrated Pest Management Accreditation Program (IPMAP) being an important part of the exemption. The Ministry is assessing the validity of the IPMAP and the possibility of it fitting into the regulations of the new Bill. The bill has just now passed Third Reading and Royal Assent and we will be working towards this end. Those who have achieved or are in the process of achieving full accreditation, hats off to you!

Thank you to Paul Mickalko of Batteaux Creek and Jim Flett of Muskoka Lakes and their teams for a job well done in hosting the Pro/Super Challenge and Spring Field Day, respectively. The courses were in excellent condition and enjoyed by all in attendance. Our Presidents' Day is around the corner along with the OTRF Annual fundraising tournament. I'm sure both will fill up fast. Plan to attend and get involved, research has never been more important than ever in these times of consistent scrutiny and attention by government and citizens. We are the environmental stewards of the game, be involved, be proud, and communicate our important role in the value of the game of golf.

On behalf of your OGSA Board, best of luck for the summer months ahead and be involved positively; strength is in numbers!