



IPM Council of Canada
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MESSAGE TO REGISTERED GOLF FACILITIES

The IPM Council of Canada Board of Directors and committees have been conducting virtual meetings over the past few weeks to try and anticipate how best to serve golf facilities and IPM Agents during this period of uncertainty.

Many questions have been raised by golf facilities who are being greatly challenged by limited labour and reduced income. These questions range from the logistics of certain elements of the IPM Accreditation Program to the expense of staying in the program at all.

Since golf courses must still be maintained, even while not open for business, and IPM Accreditation is required to legally use pesticides in Ontario, the program needs to continue.

Golf Course Registration Fees

What most do not realize it that the annual cost to the Council per registered golf facility is already more than the current golf course registration fee of \$800. However, in light of the extraordinary challenges facing golf courses this year, the Board has accepted a deficit budget and has approved a reduction of the fee to **\$500 + HST for the June 1, 2020 - May 31, 2021 registration year.**

Also, since it is still unknown when golf courses will be able to open for play, the usual due date for registration fees has been delayed from June 1, 2020 to **Sept. 1, 2020.**

It was decided that the IPM Certified Agent annual fee and due date of June 1st will remain the same. Since it is a professional fee with a certificate that expires and the amount of \$75 + HST has not changed since 2009, it was considered reasonable to maintain the status quo.

IPM Accreditation Program Elements

We have been asked about when Scouting Forms need to be started. Scouting is a very important element in an IPM program and should start as soon as the IPM Agent has access to the property. However, for the purposes of the annual desk review, using the database on the Council website, **scouting forms must start either the date the golf course opens or a minimum of one (1) week prior to the first application of pest control product, whichever comes first.**

On-site Audits

After much consideration, it was decided that due to the COVID-19 situation and in the interest of safety, that all on-site audits will be suspended for the 2020 season.

If you have any questions regarding anything in this notice, please do not hesitate to contact me. Stay safe everyone and we hope to see you back on the golf course sooner than later.

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