

5 WAYS TO GET THE COURSE READY FOR SPRINGTIME

Editor's note: This article first appeared in Superintendent magazine and is reprinted with exclusive permission. For more articles by Ron Furlong and others on golf course maintenance, visit superintendentmagazine.com.

Here are five things I try to do to get myself and the course geared up for another (hopefully) successful season.

RON FURLONG — APRIL 3, 2017

It's the time of year we start to get serious about our plans for the upcoming season. Spring is right around the corner. Birds will be chirping, plants thinking about blooming soon, and golfers flocking to your course with a renewed interest in the game.

OK, that last one is more of a hope for 2017 than anything else, but hope springs eternal, right?

Whether this is your first time revving up the course for a new year or your twentieth, we all relish coming out of this dormancy phase. It's time to once again set the bar as high as we can in our quest to for the best season ever. After all, isn't that the goal each and every year?

As I enter my 16th year at the same course, here are five things I try to do to get myself and the course geared up for another (hopefully) successful season.

1. Recharge your batteries. The first thing I do is take some time off. As much as I'd like to get away for a big chunk of time in the dead of winter when things slow down considerably, I usually try to time my significant vacation time for the end of the winter, rather than the beginning or the middle. I find this timing works best for getting me ready to go in mid-March when things are really starting to heat up, and helps keep me from burning out in the late summer.

- 2. Finalize equipment repairs. Winter means different things for each of us, depending on geographic location, budget size and a variety of other factors. Some may not work during the winter at all, while others stay open all year long, like we do in western Washington. Whatever your situation, you want that equipment to primed and ready to go for the spring. Very little can be done on any golf course without the necessary tools. We all know this, of course, but you still need to make sure your equipment is primed and ready to go.
- 3. Put a plan in place. Even though Robert Burns' famous quote often comes true "The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry" it still makes sense to have a plan in place. Goals, projects, summer tournaments, crew size all of these things (and many more) need to be planned and prioritized, because each step affects the others. Create a spreadsheet on the computer to help you stay on schedule. Of course those plans will go awry a bit, but having a guideline there for reference is always a good idea.
- 4. Crew meetings. I have found that late winter to early spring is a great time to have those crew meetings that we all tend to put off. I'm not usually working with a full team at this time, but most of the core workers will be back, so it's a great time to review the plan and get input from them. Tell them about your goals for the year. How do you want to raise the bar in specific areas? Have them help you determine the tactics that will make those goals attainable. You'll still need to hold more meetings when your seasonal help arrives, but those will go more smoothly and efficiently because of the prior meetings you already held.
- **5. Staff meetings.** These are the ones you have with the "Powers That Be" at your particular operation: the owner, the general manager, the greens committee, or whoever

else is controlling your golf course. For the superintendent, these meetings are essential to communicating your expectations for the golf course, based on the resources you've been given. All too often, that means you'll be discussing budget constraints. Realistic outcomes need to be communicated based on budget size or other limiting factors. If you don't convey these things now, later may be too late. There's a positive way to spin this, of course, and you'll need to figure out how to do that. Getting everyone to understand exactly what you and your crew will be able to do – and what you won't be able to do – is a big step toward having a successful season.

Time to get to work!

Ron Furlong, a monthly columnist for Superintendent Magazine, is the golf course superintendent at Avalon Golf Club in Burlington, Washington.

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Marc Weston, CGCS

Marc Weston, CGCS, was elected the 49th President of CAGCS at the Annual Meeting held October 26th at Litchfield CC. Our President has been the Superintendent at Indian Hill CC in Newington for 14 years and became certified in 2012.

Connecticut Clippings is an official publication of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents

> Newsletter Editor Heather Garvin

Newsletter Committee

Bob Chalifour, CGCS (ret.) Mary Jo Kennedy, Chapter Executive Photo Collages

The Clippings is open to all commentary. Please send your comments to:

> Heather Garvin Newsletter Editor heather.hartseed@gmail.com

> > CAGCS P.O. Box 3678 Woodbridge, CT 06525 203/387-0810

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The President's Message

Marc is a native of Berlin, CT and and professional development he began working in the green industry mowing lawns for Central Connecticut Lawn Service, which led him to Marc has also served GCSAA through attend UCONN to pursue a degree the Scholars Task Group, Certification in Horticulture. While Marc was at Committee, and as a Grass Roots UCONN, his professor, Dr. Bill Dest, Ambassador. At the 2018 Golf organized a field trip at Willimantic Industry Show in San Antonio, TX, CC for the students to learn about the Marc will serve as the Delegate for business of golf course management CAGCS and will be giving a talk about from Superintendent Steve Rackliffe, CGCS. Dr. Dest encouraged Marc to Lightning Round Learning Session. take a summer internship at a golf course, and Marc began his first of Outside of golf, Marc represents his two summers at TPC River Highlands. Marc also participated in a business of Commerce, runs an internship management internship at Epcot in program at Indian Hill CC for the Town Disney World.

in lawn care in Chicago. Upon his Council. return to CT, he worked for 3 years assistant at Indian Hill CC in 2001.

Marc served as the CAGCS Golf Bowl. and Education Chairman before becoming an officer. He values his Please welcome Marc Weston as the time on the board for the personal next CAGCS President.

gained from connecting with other club leaders sharing their experiences. "Networking Differently" during the

club at the Newington Chamber of Newington's Transition Academy, and serves on State Representative After graduation, Marc worked Gary Byron's Small Business Advisory

at TPC River Highlands with Noel Marc lives in Wethersfield with his Hall and Tom DeGrandi and 2 years wife, Wendy, and daughters, Leah at Oronoque CC before becoming the and Libby. He is a lifelong Seattle Seahawks Fan and, yes, he knows they should have run the ball in that Super





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2017 CAGCS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The following are recipients of the 2017 CAGCS scholarships.

Dr. Richard Skogley Scholarship recipient: Taylor C. Weischet daughter of Ward Weischet, she is attending James Madison University.

CAGCS Scholarships were awarded to:

Jesse S. Anderson, IV, he is attending Lafavette College

Christopher Bresnahan, son of John Bresnahan, he is attending University of Vermont

Lily Chalifour, granddaughter of Bob Chalifour, CGCS she is attending Eastern CT State University

Megan C. Decker, daughter of Michael R. Decker, she is attending Southern New Hampshire University

Michael E. Decker, son of Michael R. Decker, he is attending University of New Hampshire

Evelyn DeVaux, daughter of Kevin DeVaux, she will be attending Elms College

Whitton R. DeVaux, son of Kevin DeVaux, he is attending Springfield College Emma Favreau, daughter of Jim Favreau, she will be attending the University of Rhode Island

Matthew A. Girardi, son of Anthony Girardi, CGCS, he will be attending Roger Williams University

Nicholas M. Girardi, son of Anthony Girardi, CGCS, he will be attending University of Wisconsin-Madison

Michael D. Grace, son of Peter Grace, he is attending Merrimack College Benjamin R. Larson, son of Rob Larson, he

is attending Sacred Heart University Ashley Marino, daughter of Michael Marino, CGCS, she will be attending Roger Williams University

Zachary Mauro, son of Chris Mauro, he will be attending The University of New Haven

David G. Mihailides II, son of David Mihailides, he is attending University of Rhode Island

Korey Moller, daughter of Peter Grace, she is attending Goodwin College

Brian T. Modzelesky, son of Kenneth Modzelesky, he will be attending Roger Williams University

Ryan E. Napier, son of John Napier, he will be attending Lyndon State College

Gregory J. Siemers, son of Charles Siemers, he will be attending Rensselar Polytechnic Institute

Julia A. Vitali, daughter of Christopher Vitali, she is attending Eastern Connecticut state University

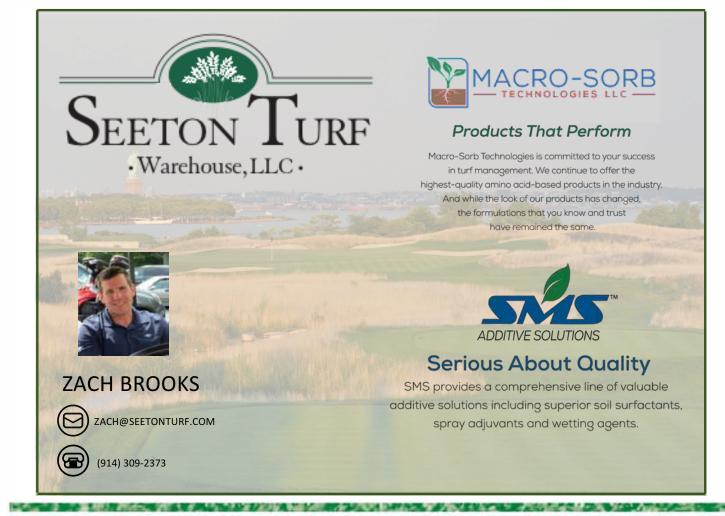
Zachary J. Weiland, son of James Weiland, he is attending Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Chloe Wellins, daughter of Jonah Wellins, will be attending Wingate University Christopher C. Wojick, son of Gregory Wojick, he is attending University of Connecticut

Abby Wollenberg, daughter of Paul Wollenberg, she is attending Roger Williams University

A Memorial Scholarships was awarded to Cameron W. Boraski. Cameron works for Wyantenuck Country Club, Peter Bacon, CGCS, Golf Course Superintendent and Jennifer Lee Morgan. Jennifer works for Orange Hills Country Club, Jud Smith, Golf Course Superintendent

The Board of Directors and members of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents want to congratulate all recipients, and wish them the best in their scholastic endeavors.



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KEVIN'S KORNER

Labor continues to be a struggle for many superintendents in the northeast. Whether attracting them or retaining them, the process is difficult and costly. In one of my recent presentations we spoke of how hard it is managing and communicating with a multigenerational workforce. No easy feat, and challenges in dealing with younger employees dominated the post-presentation discussions. Much like our favorite sports teams, there needs to be an element of youth within our staffs and industry workforce to succeed now, and, more importantly, in the future.

This piece isn't meant to be a means to fix problems associated with attracting new and vibrant turf professionals, nor is there a magic bullet on molding millennials into the perfect future assistant superintendent. I could simply write "let them do whatever they want, whenever they want, tell them they did an amazing job and give them a participation trophy." But honestly, that sounds good to me too, and I'm far removed from my younger years. It is meant to focus on who we are trying to attract, ways we might be able to reach them, and resources available to everyone that may assist in attracting young people to our industry.

So many superintendents started working on golf courses at young ages. Whether on the grounds crew or as a caddy, the "I want to work on a golf course" seed was planted very early. Enter insurance issues and many of those opportunities are gone. Very few superintendents hire employees under the age of 18. Problem being, they have graduated high school, gotten their first or had multiple jobs, and have considered a non-turf career path that they believe they will be on the rest of their life. We need to look even younger than high school-aged individuals.

Our mission at GCSAA to "enhance the enjoyment, growth, and vitality of the game of golf" cuts right to the heart of this matter. In order to grow the game, we need to engage the younger people without hiring them. I have written about The First Green before, and will be presenting the topic to the GCSA of New England at an upcoming meeting. The First Green initiative is about opening up our courses as a science lab to young students. Access to our property and game may never happen otherwise. Showing them what we do at our facility and how we do it is a key step to a possible future with golf in it. Bring them

Many superintendents are going the other direction, and headed back to school. Going to a son's or daughter's class and talking about our profession. In addition, attending

career days at local schools. GCSAA has redeveloped some marketing tools to promote our profession to younger individuals. Our office might be slightly different than many others, and that may appeal to more kids than

I saw a tweet recently from the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association claiming that 37 percent of those employed in golf are students. It would be optimistic to say many of them are turf students, beginning a lifelong dream towards superintendent stardom. What I see is a large portion of your workforce that will need to be retrained when those current students pursue their actual

career goals. Perhaps giving every toddler you know a Fisher Price lawnmower might be a good start. Reaching out and engaging school aged children about the passion and enjoyment we share in our industry may also reap future benefits.

GCSAA Resources and Deadlines

You Get Cool Stuff from your Association Already

Turf Equipment Technician Certificate Program

The Turf Equipment Technician Certificate Program is a series of exams designed to demonstrate proficiency in key competency



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areas related to turf equipment. This certificate program is available to any and all turf equipment technicians regardless of whether you work for a golf course. The program is made up of eight exams covering the key competency areas of:

- cutting units
- drivetrain systems
- electrical systems
- engine technology
- hvdraulic systems
- metalworking and fabrication
- spray systems
- fundamentals of turfgrass operations

You can choose to take one exam or work to complete the entire program by successfully completing all eight exams in any order.

GCSAA GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

The GCSAA Golf Championships, presented in partnership with The Toro Co., is a members-only event benefiting the EIFG. GCSAA Golf Championships registration is now open. Tournament registration closes Jan. 3. Any registrations processed/received after Dec. 20 will be assessed a \$50 late fee.

GCSAA has developed resources to help you outline the benefits to you and your facility of attending the 2018 Golf Industry Show and GCSAA Golf Championships. View the

resource below for information specific to the Golf Championships, and access additional planning tools in the Attendee Resources section. GCSAA Golf Championships Justification Resource.

GCSAA establishes political action committee

The board of directors of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has approved the formation Kevin Doyle of a GCSAA Political Action Committee. GCSAAPAC will support members of Congress who support GCSAA's Priority Issues Agenda.

GCSAAPAC will be governed by a fivemember board, which included the chairman and vice chairman of the GCSAA Government Affairs Committee and three at-large members. For more information about serving on the GCSAAPAC board or to learn more about the eligibility to donate, visit www. gcsaa.org/pac.

FREE Webcasts:

Nov. 30: Dealing with Moss on Putting Greens, Fred Yelverton, Ph.D.

Dec. 7: Updated Solutions for Dollar Spot Management, Rob Golembiewski, Ph.D.

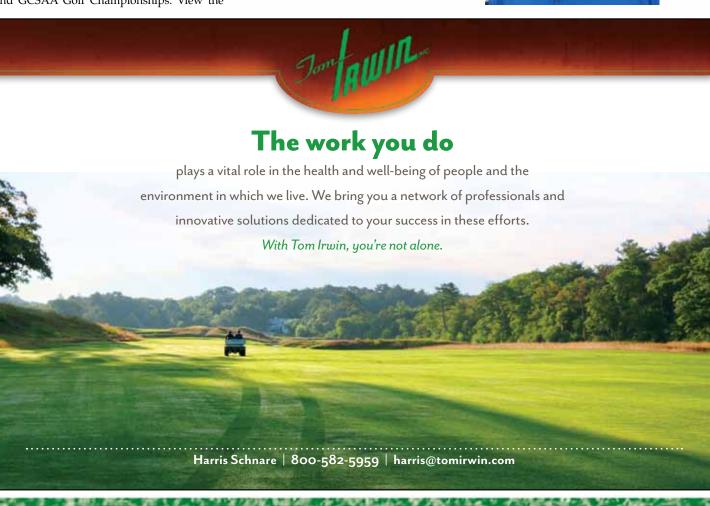
Dec. 12: For Adults Only: Civitas Turf Defense for Annual Bluegrass Weevil Control presented by Intelligo, Ben McGraw, Ph.D.

Dec. 14: Organic Matter Management, Next Steps, Roch Gaussoin, Ph.D.

Again, if I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me.

GCSAA Field Staff kdoyle@gcsaa.org Follow me on Twitter @GCSAA NE





SUPERINTENDENT/ ASSISTANT KENEY PARK GC OCTOBER 10, 2017

Flight A Super/Asst

1st Net – 59 m'c – Copper Hill CC
Steve George/Kevin Donovan
2nd Net – 59 m'c – Torrington CC
Steve Curry/Steve Palin
3rd Net – 59 m'c – Rockledge CC
Al Adaskaveg,/Tim Nadeau
1st Gross – 70 – Tradition GC at
Wallingford, Kevin Collins/Tyler Sears
2nd Gross – 72 m/c – Shuttle Meadow CC
Andrew Hannah/Marc Zotter
3rd Gross – 72 m/c – Twin Hills CC
Mike McDermott/Eric DeStefano

Flight B

1st Net – 56 Kevin Doyle, GCSAA/Tim Gerrish, Gardner & Gerrish 2nd Net – 57 John Napier/Mike Streckfus, Rolling Greens CC 3rd Net - 59
Chris Guilmette, Goodwin GC/
Matt Guilmette, Goodwin GC
1st Gross - 73
Eric Morrison, Shennecossett GC/
Ward Weischet, SiteOne Landscaping
2nd Gross - 75 m/c
Melissa Gugliotti, Syngenta/
Ed Grant, K & J Tree Removal
3rd Gross - 75 m/c
Peter Gorman, Pine Orchard Y&CC/
Mike Sullivan, E. Gaynor Brennan
Municipal Golf GC

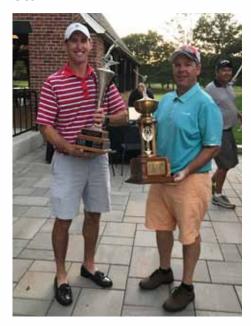
Skill Prizes:

Long Drive #10 –
Eric DeStefano, Twin Hills CC
Closest to line #7 –
Zach Brooks, Seeton Turf
Long Putt #9 – 33'2" –
Marc Muhlack, Old Lyme CC
Long Putt #18 – 37' -John Kelley, Portland GC
Closest to Pin #3 – 7'10" –
Chris Guilmette, Goodwin GC
Closest to Pin #6 – 2'1" –
Matt Golino, The Course at Yale
Closest to Pin #11 – 16'11" –
Andrew Hannah, Shuttle Meadow CC

Closest to Pin #13 – 7'7" – John Bresnahan, Syngenta

Presidents Cup Winner: Andrew Hannah, Shuttle Meadow McLaughlin Trophy Winner: Kevin Doyle, GCSAA

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CAGCS MEMBER/GUEST LAKE OF ISLES SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

1st Gross – 69 – Eric Morrison, CGCS, Shennecossett CC, Casey Roan, guest 2nd Gross – 71 – John Parmelee, Indian Springs CC, Keith Kronberg, guest 3rd Gross – 73 – Matt Quinn, Indian Hills CC, Ken Parisi, guest

1st Net – 60 – Ben Newfang, Wetherfield CC, Tim Nadeau, Rockledge GC 2nd Net – 63 – Marc Weston, CGCS, Indian Hills CC, Chris Sankey, guest 3rd Net – 64 – Heather Garvin, Chas. C. Hart Seed, Dale Ashlock, guest

Closest to the Pin
4 – 10'4" – Jim Ritorto, Lake of Isles
6 – 10" – Jon Charpinsky,
Golf Club of Avon
11 – 1'6" – Ted Gallagher, guest of Ed
Grant
16 – 5'5" – Peter Gorman,
Pine Orchard G & CC
Long Drive – Sean Flynn, Mill River CC
Skins – 3 on #3 Tim Nadeau,
Rockledge CC

ANNUAL MEETING LITCHFIELD CC OCTOBER 26, 2017

1st Place Gross – 30

Andrew Hannah, Shuttle Meadow CC Duncan McGowan, Litchfield CC Gil Perez, Dunning Custom Soils Peter Grace, H.B. Smith Richardson GC

2nd Place Gross – 32 Mike Dukette, Harrell's Tim Nadeau, Rockledge CC Bruce Morse, Norwich GC

Al Adaskaveg, Rockledge CC

1st Place Net – 21
Jeff Palmer, New
England Golf Cars, Inc.
Andrew Fries, H. B.
Brownson CC
Steve Curry,
Torrington CC

2nd Place Net – 24 Peter Gorman, Pine Orchard Y&CC

ログニュース 三世紀 あんこ 突 しょうし アメビル 1440年 1450年 カラヤドレムン デブル・トレビリ おりだんみょう 英タンムレン・ベ

Ed Goodhouse, retired

Tim Gerzabek, Helena Chemical Co. Rich Duggan, Lake Waramaug CC Kevin D'Amico, retired

Skill Prizes:

Long Drive #9 – Josh Thermer, Lake Waramaug CC Closest to Line #7 – Matt Quinn, Indian Hill CC Closest to Pin #3 - 11'11" – Marc Weston, CGCS, Indian Hill CC Closest to Pin #6 - 19'10" – Duncan McGowan, Litchfield CC



CAGCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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James Favreau

Class C Rep to the Board – Tyler Kwalek

CT Clippings Editor – Heather Garvin

Chapter Executive – Mary Jo Kennedy



New Members!

Donovan Maguigan; Class A, Lake of Isles Adam Murray; Class C, Madison CC Thomas Panton-Lula; Class C, Watertown GC Bob Silliman; Class Commercial, LaCorte Equipment

Congratulations!

Ed & Christine Downing on the birth of their 4th child Dominic Alexander Downing, weighing in at 8lbs 13ozs on October 16, 2017.

Scott Gennings, CGCS, Wallingford CC and Timothy O'Neill, CGCS of Darien on renewing their certification in September with GCSAA – GCSAA offers a professional certification program that enables golf course superintendents to be recognized for their high level of achievement in golf course

management. The professional designation, Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS), is bestowed upon those who voluntarily meet the stringent requirements.

The CGCS designation is the most widely recognized in the golf industry and the highest level of recognition that can be achieved. Approximately 25% of GCSAA Class A members are certified golf course superintendents.

Congratulations to the GCSAA Class A members who were chosen to be a part of the 2018 Melrose Academy:

Andrew Fries, CGCS of HB Brownson CC and Dennis Petruzzelli, CGCS of Billy Casper Golf

The Melrose Leadership Academy supports the professional development of GCSAA member superintendents by providing individuals the opportunity to attend the Golf Industry Show.

The academy is open to applicants who meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Must be a current GCSAA Class A or Class B member and GCSAA Chapter member in good standing.
- Must be a Class A or Class B member for five or more years.
- Class A or Class B members working for current members of the board of directors or the board of trustees, and children of GCSAA staff members shall not be eligible for the Melrose Leadership Academy.
- Past recipients are not eligible.
- Attendees of the Golf Industry Show in the last five years are not eligible to apply.



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Condolences

To Greg Bradley and family on the passing of his mother Joan Bradley on November 18, 2017. Please visit her obituary at - http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/hartfordcourant/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=187301520

To Scott Neumann and family on the passing of his son, Garrett on November 17, 2017.

Garrett was Scott's assistant at Fairview Farms GC. Please visit his obituary at http://www.rep-am.com/obituaries/2017/11/20/garrett-mneumann/



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jcalcardinal@aol.com

2017 CLASS C TOURNAMENT OCTOBER 17, 2017 THE COURSE AT YALE

Matthew Golino welcomed 19 of his colleagues to this years' Assistant Golf Course Superintendents Tournament held at The Course At Yale, the number one Course in College Golf!

Participants included: Steve Onofrio, Kevin Fuchs, David McIntvre, Adam Murray, Josh Yuhouse, Matthew Golino, Matt Beluk, Ryan Crooks, Phil Matts, Tyler Kwalek, Steve Palin, Matt Quinn, Timothy Dunn, Jack Kelley, Tyler Sears, Josh Thermer, Christopher Konow, Jason Cannata, Noel Hall, and Ben Newfang.

The results for the 2017 CAGCS Class C Tournament were as follows:

1st Place Gross – Jack Kelly, Portland GC 2nd Place Gross - Matt Ouinn, Indian Hill

3rd Place Gross – Phil Matts, Grassy Hill

1st Place Net - Noel Hall, TPC River Highlands 2nd Place Net – Jason Cannata, TPC River

3rd Place Net - Chris Konow, Black Hall Club

Longest Drive

Highlands

Ben Newfang, Wethersfield CC

Closest to the pin

Jack Kelly, Portland GC Phil Matts, Grassy Hill CC

In conclusion, Matt stated "everyone had a great time, the weather was perfect, and the camaraderie was exceptional!"

Beer, refreshments provided by Turf Products. Food & carts provided by Harrell's and the skill sponsors for the day.





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**** **Todd Apgar** 203-948-4941

scott.apgar@metroturfspecialists.com

todd.apgar@metroturfspecialists.com ****

के के के के के Jake Green

203-984-7501 iake.green@metroturfspecialists.com

Matt Topazio 845-821-8986 matt.topazio@metroturfspecialists.com

44444

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2017 NEW ENGLAND SUPERINTENDENTS CHAMPIONSHIP AT CAPE COD NATIONAL GOLF CLUB

Thank you to Cape Cod National Golf Club and Superintendent Eric Strzepek for hosting the 2017 New England Superintendents Championship on Thursday, October 5th. The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Cape Cod also helped host this event where each of the seven associations across New England was represented with an 8-man team. It was a beautiful day and the course conditions were impeccable. Thank you to all that participated!

Thank you to the following companies who helped sponsor this event.

Platinum Sponsor – Turf Products Gold Sponsors – Beals and Thomas, Inc., MTE, New England Specialty Soils Silver Sponsors – Bayer, Nufarm, SODCO, Inc. Bronze – Hillcrest Turf Services, Turf **Enhancement Enterprises**

1st Place: Cape Cod 215 2nd Place: New England 207 3rd Place: New Hampshire 194 4th Place: Maine 194 5th Place: Rhode Island 191 6th Place: Connecticut 191 168 7th Place: Vermont



TWO MAN CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

1st Place: John Bresnahan, Syngenta and Brian Goudey, Syngenta

2nd Place: Daryl Aresco, Borough of Fenwick and Kevin Jaracy, Atlantic Irrigation

3rd/4th Place: Eric DeStefano, Twin Hills CC and Mike McDermott, Twin Hills CC, Neil Lajuenesse, Dunning Custom Soils, and Ed Grant, K&J Tree Removal



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Skill Events

December 2017

Closest to the pin hole #5, sponsored by Ocean Organics Tim Walker 4'-7" – Hudson Valley GCSA Closest to the pin hole #7, sponsored by The Care of Trees Blake Halderman 11'-10" – METGCSA Closest to the pin hole #10, sponsored by Koch T&O Mike Turner 8'-1" – Toro

Closest to the pin hole #15, sponsored by BASF Steve Wall 3'-5" – Central NY GCSA

Long Drive

Net Division sponsored by Syngenta Matt Beckman – Long Island GCSA Gross Division sponsored by Toro Andrew Hannah – Connecticut AGCS Sponsors Division, sponsored by Bayer Kevin Seibel – Century CC

Low Gross Team

Steve Whipple & Tim Walker from Hudson Valley GCSA Score of 75

Sponsorship Team Winner

Jim Staszowski & Mike Turner from Toro Score of 69

Two Man Team High Score

Net

Gross John Lombardi & Dean Chase - Rhode Island GCSA

Score of 89

Rich Sweeney & Jon Urbanski - Philadelphia AGCS

Score of 84



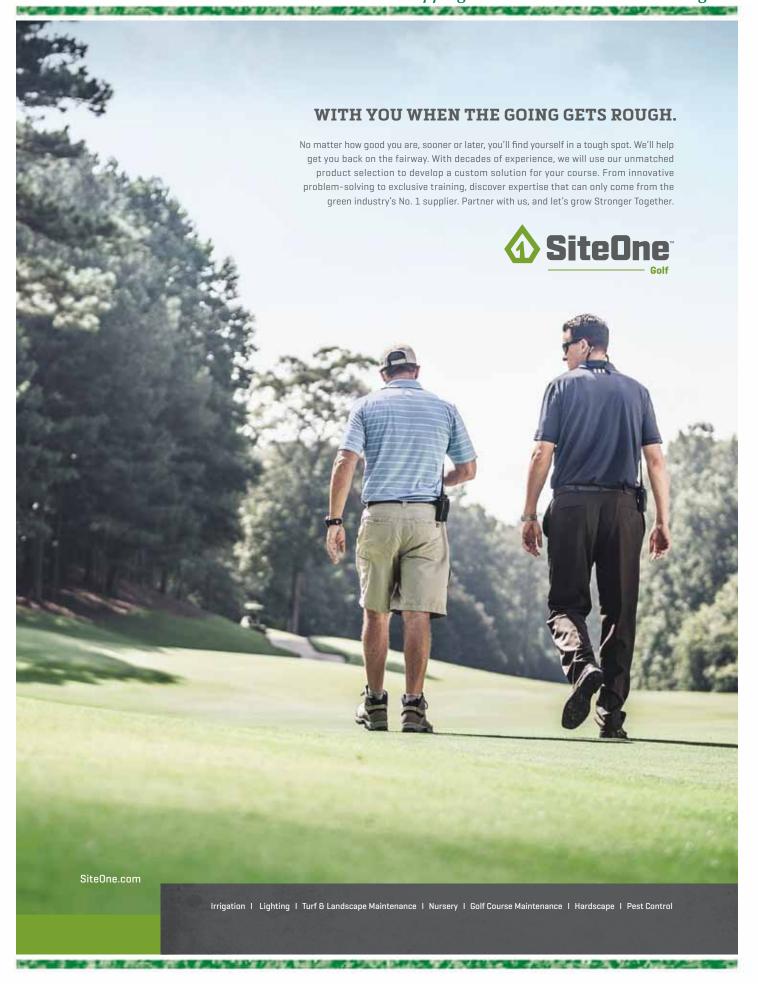
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