

SUMMER 2021/VOLUME 58

THE GREENERSIDE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY



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- Harry Turner, Rams Hill Golf Course



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Babe Ruth and the Scottish Game

Doug Vogel shares his knowledge and inspiration for his recently published book.



Take It Back to the First Tee

A timeline of Bob Dickison's life and career.



Women in Golf

Jill Seymour reflects back on her experience volunteering at the 2021 U.S. Women's Open.

ON THE COVER

Morris County Golf Club
Jonathan Heywood, Superintendent



The Ask

Learn what changes your fellow members made to their operations, but are continuing now that restrictions are lifted.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joe Kinlin Chapter President
Bey Lea Golf Course



The summer months provide many challenges for our industry, but there are still exciting opportunities to take some time to come together even with these challenges. I want to tell you a personal story about how our industry came together to help a member and how it enriched my life.

Many of you know I work in Toms River at Bey Lea Golf Course. Fellow superintendent Pat McMahon works close by at Eagle Ridge Golf Club in Lakewood. In June 2018, the GCSANJ Foundation hosted an event to benefit his then 2-year-old daughter Madison who faced serious medical challenges, including brain surgery. I played in the event, and later that day, my wife Laura and our 6-month-old daughter Annie attended the dinner reception. We met Pat's wife, Susanne, and their brave little girl, and our families instantly connected.

Before that night, I would say Pat and I were peers, and now we are great friends. Susanne and Laura plan events for our families, play dates for the kids, and of course, girls' nights for the wives. We have expanded our circle of friends through the McMahons, and their friendship has enriched our lives. It was these friendships that helped preserve some sense of normalcy during the pandemic. Socially distant Friendsgiving, visits to Argo's Farm, and sleigh riding and pizza at Eagle Ridge brought us all together thanks to these "Super Wives."

I know the last thing you want to do in the heat of summer is attending an off-course event, but you never know how it will change your life. You will meet amazing people like The McMahons. Meeting them reminds me that our industry is filled with great people and amazing families. I'm proud of our organization for its ability to support members in so many ways.

Stay well,

JOE KINLIN
Chapter President



Madison McMahon and Annie Kinlin

FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Maureen Sharples

This past month, I have had the pleasure of volunteering to help the GCSANJ Foundation with our annual scholarship application. Due to the increase of applicants in recent years, Tyler Otero, GCSANJ Foundation President, and Jennifer Torres, Scholarship Chair, teamed up to update our application and streamline the process. I am assigned the duty to collect and redact the applications and the supporting documents to submit to our grading committee. As a result, I have the privilege to read each one. It is a diverse group of students. While they all differ in academics, extracurriculars, and special skills, they all have one thing in common, a strong work ethic. I can assume this is a direct result of being a child raised in this industry.

The summer months are particularly hard on our members and their families. As a daughter of a superintendent, I know this all too well. The days are long and stressful, and the moment you're on a good track, the weather changes or staff turns over, and you are left picking up the slack. It's stressful at home too. Your spouse or partner is working double-time with the kids and trying to keep the household intact. You've gotten through the day...week...month...season at work only to feel guilty you missed out on time with your family. It's okay, take it from the scholarship applicants and me. Your perseverance and commitment to your work through the summer months is one of the greatest lessons you can teach your children, and it does not go unnoticed.

Watching my parents all those years showed me that hard work was worth doing for something I was passionate about and loved. While we didn't have the typical summer vacations, some of my greatest memories as a kid were riding in a golf cart to check on the irrigation system or taking Monday trips to the shore or Hershey Park. I'm sure our scholarship applicants have similar experiences that they cherish as well. As a parent and thinking of that adage of the quantity of time vs. the quality of time, I like to note that it's a two-way street. As you strive to make quality time with your family, I think you'll find your family/kids will reserve time in their lives for those precious experiences with you as well, no matter how busy their schedules are.

After getting to know our scholarship applicants over the past few weeks, it is obvious that their outstanding achievements deserve to be rewarded, and as parents, you should all feel pride that your successes go way beyond the golf course.

MAUREEN SHARPLES

Executive Director, GCSANJ



Let's Connect



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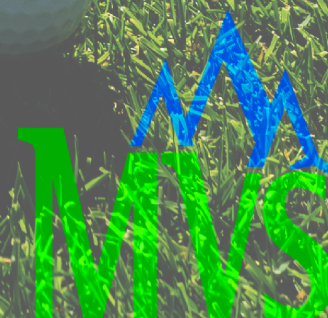
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MOVERS AND SHAKERS



Terry Sedon retired from the Rutgers University Golf Course after 25 years.

Grant Bezek is the new golf course superintendent at Rutgers University Golf Course.

Mark Griff is the new golf course superintendent at Packanack Golf Club.

Howard Szczurek is the new golf course superintendent at Deerwood Country Club.

Nick Roberto was promoted Northeast Regional Director of Sales for Textron Specialized Vehicles.

Andrew Bulizak is the new Territory Sales Manager for Textron Specialized Vehicles.

Rob Johnson was promoted to Director of Business Development of Fisher & Son.

Brandon Perrine is the new Central/South Jersey sales representative for Fisher & Son.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR UPCOMING EVENTS

NINE & DINE

August 24th

Morris County Golf Club

Host: Jonathan Heywood

RYDER CUP

September 30th

Canoe Brook Country Club

Host: Rob Schipper

SEPTEMBER GOLF MEETING

September 9th

Beacon Hill Country Club

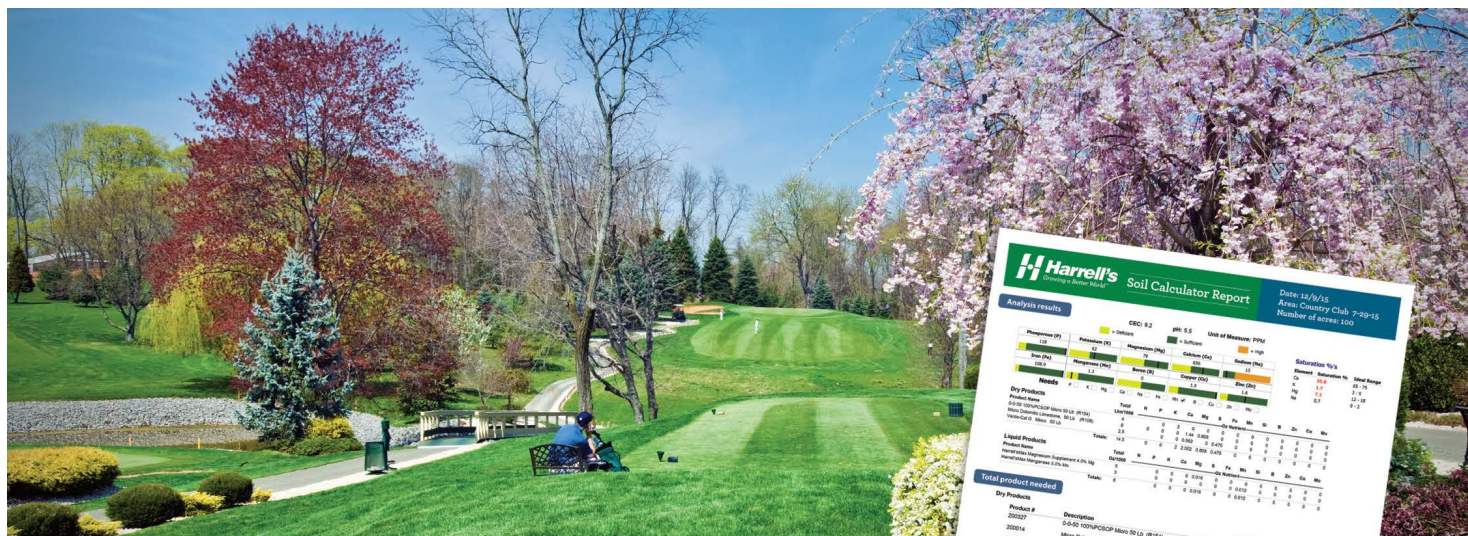
Host: Tim Meyer

CHAPTER CHAMPIONSHIP

October 18th

Somerset Hills Country Club

Host: Ryan Tuxhorn



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MILESTONES



Ken and Ginny Kubik celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 27, 2021.

Bob and Helen Ribbans celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 5, 2021.



Ginny & Ken Kubik and Helen & Bob Ribbans

NEW MEMBERS



Tiger Seo

Class C, Edgewood Country Club

Andrew Bulizak

Class AF, E-Z-GO Textron

GROWING FAMILIES



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GCSANJ MEMBERS SUPPORT THE 2021 FOUNDATION SHOOTOUT

By Shaun Barry



Some of our members remember the GCSANJ Invitational, and many remember the RTJ Team Invitational. These events were successful for many years and were precursors to the GCSANJ Foundation Shootout. They brought teams together for a day of golf and fun, and the RTJ was a great fundraiser. Our Foundation was asked to run the RTJ, and they did. Eventually, however, interest waned, and it became evident that a change was needed.

That change was to end the tournament. The Foundation, however, wasn't ready to give up the idea of running a fundraiser. The funds raised were vital to the financial health of the Foundation. The trustees decided to stay with a golf tournament, but we would now reach out to a different world-class course every year, unlike the RTJ, held at Metedeconk National Golf Club every year.

Jeremy Batz was the superintendent at Trump National Golf Club-Colts Neck, and he also was on the Foundation Board. He volunteered his course, and in 2014 The GCSANJ Foundation Shootout began. Every year after that, we have been able to move the tournament to a new venue. Covid prevented us from having an event at Essex County Country Club in 2020, but the club enthusiastically agreed to be our host in 2021.

Tyler Otero, Keith Bennett, Jim Cadott, and former Foundation President Tony Hooks negotiated with the club so the club would be happy and our costs would fit our budget. It turned out to be a win for everyone.

Due to decisions made by former GCSANJ Boards, the future of the Shootout is secure due to the GCSANJ Sponsors Program. This program was created in response to suggestions from affiliate

members for one early-season payment the affiliates could pay upfront for all the year's opportunities. Platinum Sponsors Fisher and Son, Grass Roots Inc, Harrell's, SiteOne Landscape Supply, and Storr Tractor receive four players. Our Gold Sponsors, Double "D" Turf, Finch Services, Helena, Willow's Bend, Noble Turf, Plant Food Co., Syngenta, and SynaTek received two spots. Without fail, these affiliates add players to complete their foursome. This year BASF, Bayer, Blooming Beds, Ewing Irrigation, Nufarm, E-Z-Go, Soil, and Water Consulting, and Total Turf Golf Services were Silver Sponsors, and that included one player, which turned into a twosome.

You can see why the future looks secure. In addition to these sponsors, several other companies stepped up in a big way, but none did more than Lee Kozsey. We usually have two Title Sponsors, but Lee was able to be the lone Title Sponsor. That is a big deal. Our other generous sponsors are listed below.

Dinner Sponsor: Middletown Sprinkler Co.

Lunch: Nufarm

Cocktail Sponsor: LaBar Golf Renovations

Beverage Sponsor: Ewing Irrigation

Beverage Sponsor: The Fredco Group

CP- Bayer

CP- Coombs Sod Farm LLC

LD- Douglas Plant Health

LD- NJ Soils

Hole Signs: Aquatrols, A G Enterprises, Black Lagoon, Brandt, Corteva, Law Firm of Collins, Vella, and Casello, NJGIC, Ocean Organics, PBI/Gordon, Total Turf Golf Services, Turf Trade, and Westchester Turf.

With all the sponsorships in place and a full field, registration functioned beautifully. Every attendee received a \$75 pro shop gift certificate and access to a beautiful lunch. This, however, was just something to occupy everyone's time until they could get out to the golf course. A small percentage of our field had played the course. They knew that they were going to experience something special. Most everyone else had only heard about the course. It is hard to conceive how good the course is until you get your opportunity to play it.

The day was extremely hot and humid, and play was suspended due to lightning in the area. Everyone gathered on the patio for some cool beverages and a nice long break. Usually, there would be several players who would choose to stop playing and continue the break. When golf resumed, not one player failed to head out to continue playing. This golf course is just that special and Jason Thompson and his staff always have it in tournament conditions. Nothing changes for outside events.

The Foundation Executive Board decided that the long lightning delay would adversely affect the evening schedule, so a decision was made to end play early. It was a difficult decision, but it was a logical decision based on the weather disruption.

The club was ready for the new schedule, and soon dinner was served. Unfortunately, the pro shop's computer malfunctioned, and results were delayed, and many people had to leave before the results were announced. Todd Raisch wasn't there to accept his third Ed Walsh Award, but Jeremy Hreben received a plaque for his 2020 Member of the Year Award. Rob Arnts wasn't there to accept the RTJ Trophy that he and Rob Johnson won for having the low gross score. Matt Castagna had to leave, so Shaun Kennedy took the Founders Cup for their low net score. Brian O'Malley and Tim Gerzabek finished second low net. Lance Rogers and Tom Weinert won the closest to the pin contests and Ben Stover won a long drive contest.

The Foundation Trustees are very thankful for the amazing support that it always receives. We know how difficult running an event like this would be without the support of Maureen Sharples, Tony Hooks, the GCSANJ BODs, and our affiliate members. Every one of you has made us successful, allowing the Foundation to help and give back to our members and society. We will continue to support our industry and anyone that needs help.

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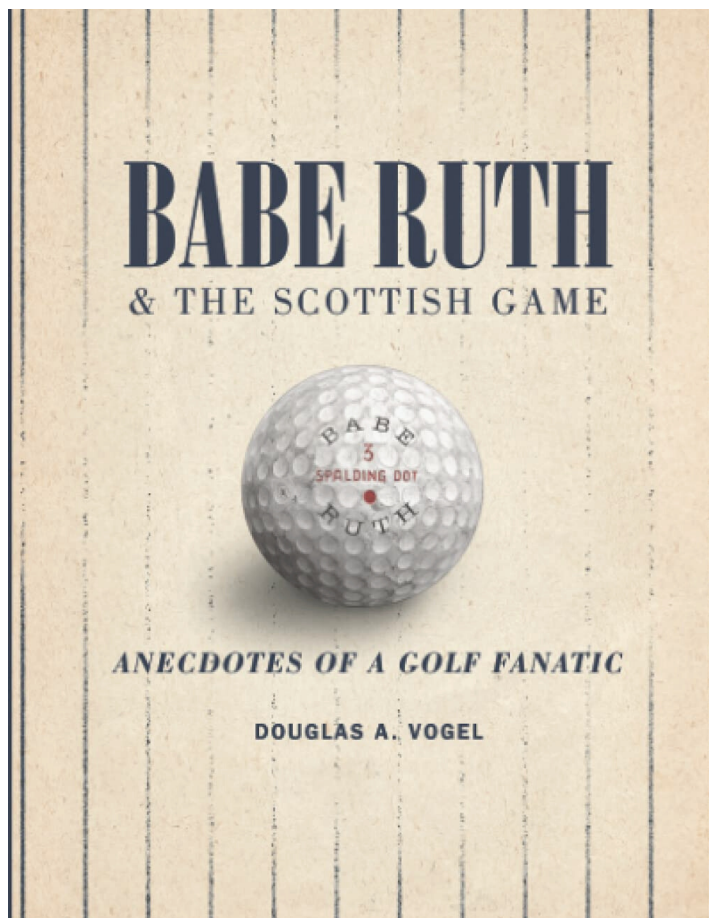
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Doug Vogel

Babe Ruth and the Scottish Game

Written by Donovan Maguigan

In trophy display cases and tucked away in file boxes at many golf courses in New York, Connecticut, and New Jersey, collections of mementos including scorecards, photos, golf clubs, and archived documents share a tall tale "Babe Ruth Played Here." These mementos of his many golf visits have enticed members at clubs and piqued the interests of golf and baseball historians alike. One such person attracted to these items was Doug Vogel, the golf course superintendent at Preakness Valley Golf Course. An interest in these artifacts and the stories behind them led the way to the culmination of the publication of his book, *Babe Ruth and the Scottish Game*, released this past June.

Meticulously researched, full of rich historical details, and a must-have addition to anyone's golf or baseball library, *Babe Ruth and the Scottish Game* chronicles the golf passion of Babe Ruth as he traveled through the country and the world in

pursuit of his love of golf. The book tells of epic matches, booming long drives, and grand stories of the biggest celebrity at the time, on and off the baseball diamond. Vogel paints the picture of this story in the book as he wrote in the Author's Note:

"[Ruth] played often, all the time and every day. Before baseball games and on days off. During spring training, in the off season and in retirement. Competitively, for fun, for money, for raising money. He played in the sunshine, in the rain, in the snow. Spring, summer, fall and winter. He made birdies and bogies, eagles, double eagles, and two hole-in-ones. Sometimes he played good, sometimes not so good. He always played left-handed. No doubt about it, Babe Ruth played golf." (Pg. 2)

Nurtured by his lifetime interest in baseball, one of Vogel's earliest writings on the Babe and part of the genesis for the writing of this book was while he was writing for the March 1995 GCSANJ Greenside. In an interview after the publication of the book, Doug said that when he first started to be involved with the GCSANJ, the chairman of the communications committee, Ken Krausz, was seeking contributors to write articles for the upcoming Greenside. Doug volunteered and wrote an article entitled "Same Swing, Different Ball," a recounting of the rivalry between Babe Ruth and Ty Cobb that resulted in three matches for USO war relief funds in 1941 played across New York, Massachusetts, and Michigan.

Following the writing of that article and as Vogel played golf across New York and New Jersey, he began to see more and more clubs celebrating visits from Ruth. He began to research the artifacts he found at the clubs, comparing them with the information he found with newspapers, researching the information with the club, and speaking with fellow baseball writers and historians. Doug's research on Ruth's golf activities even continued up until the final days before publication.

A repeated story through Doug's research was Ruth's interaction with several greenkeeper-professionals at many of the clubs he played. As with many clubs at the time, the professional role at the time was split between giving lessons and caring for the golf course in a dual role of golf professional and greenkeeper. One relationship featured in the book was with Lester Moffitt of Wallkill Golf Club, which Ruth played often. While researching and collecting material for the GCSANJ 75th Anniversary Journal, as Doug recalled, "I was looking through minutes typed into binders, and it caught my attention. Moffitt felt it was important to stand up during the meeting and say that Babe Ruth played his course." Vogel recounts that special moment for Moffitt in his book:

"The Greenkeepers talked about turf and what each other was doing to make it better for their golfers. As usual, Moffitt got the ball rolling, but

Same swing, different ball

By Doug Vogel

One of mankind's most important arguments that will forever be fought is the intriguing question of who was the better ballplayer—Babe Ruth or Ty Cobb? Both men have set the standards by which all modern ballplayers are measured. A strong case can be made for either player.

Working in Ruth's favor is a .342 lifetime batting average, 714 home runs and 2,211 runs batted in. If that isn't enough fuel for the fire, then throw in the part that as a pitcher, Ruth had a better winning percentage than the great arms of Christy Matthewson, Walter Johnson and Big Ed Walsh! Cobb brings to the table a .367 batting average, 4,191 hits and 892 stolen bases. He was also a defensive genius with skills second to none. The word fear has been defined as Cobb on the base path. Ruth had power. Cobb was cunning and intense. Their on-field rivalry was anything but friendly, yet they had the highest respect for each other. After their Hall-of-Fame careers were over they took their rivalry onto the competitive playing field of another

Continued on page 15



for the first time, he didn't talk about grubs or chickweed or brown patch. This was much, much more important. Babe Ruth played his course over the weekend. The grub talk could wait. (Pg. 74-75)"

Doug's thorough research on the subject over the last several decades required diligence and perseverance. He begins the book with a warning about the challenges faced with a larger-than-life celebrity personality, the separation between fact and fiction. Through his thorough research, while writing the book, he combed through newspapers, box scores, interviews, and other historical documents to confirm as much information as possible. One such example of a story needing confirmation, Doug found a photograph that included a likeness to Babe Ruth among several other players. As Doug reviewed the photos and researched the background, the facts proved to be too overwhelming for the legend. With a rough estimate of when the photo was taken, he utilized box scores of games as well as factoring in the need for train travel at the time. As he recalled, "I didn't want to confront them about the photo, but I said to myself, 'I don't think that is him.'" On the challenges that he faced with researching the book, Doug stated, "Some of the stuff is unbelievable and quickly dismissed, and some of it requires correction."

One fact that is free of any dispute, Babe Ruth loved golf and that could not be better translated than through the detailed hard work that Doug put into this publication. In a recent podcast interview with the Superintendent Radio Network, Doug attributed his completion of the work to the help and persuasion of his family, who supported him through the publication. In the acknowledgments of the book, he thanks his family:

"Big thanks to my children – Noah, Emily, and Faith. You have become Babe Ruth experts by osmosis. I truly believe it will come in handy someday. And the lion's share of credit for her typing, proofreading, formatting, organizing, and scheduling goes to my wife Susan. Thanks, thanks a lot."

With the publication of this book behind him, we asked an important question to a baseball and golf fan of Ruth, would he rather play baseball or golf with Babe Ruth? "Golf," Vogel replied, and who would be his dream foursome to which he answered, "Babe Ruth, Arnold Palmer, and Old Tom Morris."

As a dedicated scholar of baseball and golf research, Doug Vogel continues to research and follow the golfing exploits of Babe Ruth. He encourages anyone who may have a story of Ruth playing at their course to contact him at dv@metropolitangreenkeeper.com.

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Below is an excerpt from the Appendix section, “America’s Guest” and contains the list of New Jersey golf courses Ruth has been confirmed to have played with attributing anecdotes.

- *Crestmont Golf Club – After witnessing a golfer on an adjacent fairway collapse, Ruth and his caddy ran over and administered first-aid that came from a flask removed from the Babe’s golf bag. By the time medical help arrived from the clubhouse, the golfer was well on his way to recovery.*
- *Echo Lake Country Club – The local social column of the Westfield Ledger faithfully reported bridge tournament results, local engagements, and nuptials. Prominent in the May 28, 1936 column was the report that Babe Ruth played in the New York Curb Exchange tournament.*
- *Englewood Golf Club – American Golfer magazine ran a full-page pictorial in the May 1920 edition featuring the golfing exploits of the newest member of the New York Yankees. Ruth teamed with three-time Metropolitan and Yankee teammate Bob Shawkey 2 and 1.*
- *Houvenkopf Golf Club – The Babe frequented a cottage in Sterling Forest, New York, about an hour northwest of New York City, to get away from the spotlight of fame. He hunted and fished in the tranquility of the Ramapo mountains and played relaxing rounds of golf with working-class locals who made the Babe feel right at home.*
- *Laurence Brook Country Club – Charles Whitehead, a six-time NJ Amateur champion, and his partner Bill (Hop) Seng defeated Ruth and Ben Curry in a friendly match. Ruth matched tee shot with Whitehead, one of the longest drivers in New Jersey History.*
- *Monmouth County Country Club – A casual match pairing Ruth and club champion Harold James against club pro Alex Ternyei and J. Paul Carey found the Babe on the winning side 1 up. Ruth sank a pressure packed putt on the eighteenth hole to seal the victory.*



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ESSEX COUNTY COUNTRY CLUB

HOSTED BY JASON THOMPSON



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Nick Alley and Mike Tardogno



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Keith Bennett



Paul Ramina, Rich Lane,
Todd Raisch



Tyler Otero and Kyle Hillegass



Tom Pepe, Travis Pauley, Tom Weinert,
Dick Neufeld



Chad Broderick, Shaun Kennedy,
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Ben Stover, Dennis Desantis,
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Brian O'Malley, Mike Blaner,
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FOUNDATION SHOOTOUT

ESSEX COUNTY COUNTRY CLUB

HOSTED BY JASON THOMPSON



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Brad Park and Greg Nicoll



Joe Casello and Bill Murray



Tyler Otero and Jason Thompson



Lee Kozsey and Tyler Otero



Lance Rogers and Tyler Otero



Scott Scherer and Mark Kuhns



Tyler Otero and Rob Johnson



Jeremy Hreben and Ken Anson

TAKE IT BACK TO THE FIRST TEE

Robert Dickison, CGCS
Through the Years



Bob and Sydney Dickison

Bob became the assistant superintendent at UMCC. They began a large-scale landscaping and tree planting program. Over 2000 trees were planted.

Their third child, Susan, was born.

1963



Rutgers Class of 1962

Joe Bianco, Bob Alonzi, Bob Dickison, Bill Gaydosh, Bob Ujobagy, Marty Futyma

1968

UMCC hosted the 1968 PGA Ford Thunderbird Tournament. A severe thunderstorm hit the course during the final round. Tents blew away, and there were thousands of people trying to escape the wind and rain.

After the storm had passed, the greens flooded, but they needed to finish the round. Since this was before we used squeegees, the crew got towels from the locker rooms and used trap rakes to mop and push the water off the greens.



1968 Thunderbird Tournament

1958

At 16, Bob began working for a surveyor. While attending school, he was a football player and competed in track and field. He graduated high school in 1958.

1954

Bob Dickison grew up in Bloomfield, NJ. At 14 years old, he began working on his grandfather's dairy farm in Hope, NJ, on his summer breaks.

1960

Bob attended Delhi Technical College and majored in civil studies. He left the school and took a part-time job on the crew at Upper Montclair Country Club. He also worked at Ford in Mahwah, NJ as a welder.

In 1960, he married his wife, Sydney.

1961

In April 1961, Bob started working at UMCC full-time for superintendent Karl Ostberg.

Bob and Sydney welcomed twins, Katherine and John.

Bob became the Scout Leader for Troop 6 in Bloomfield from 1962-1965.

1962

Bob enrolled in the inaugural class of the 10-week program of the Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School. He was one of 25 students. His classmates included Bob Alonzi, Charlie Lane, Bill Gaydosh, Joe Bianco, Marty Futyma, and Bob Ujobagy.

UMCC hosted the PGA Ford Thunderbird Tournament, which they also hosted in 1966, 1967, and 1968.

Bob joined GCSANJ and received a scholarship from the association.

1970

UMCC hosted the PGA Dow Jones Open Invitational.

1971

In August of 1971, Bob became the superintendent at UMCC. Karl Ostberg met Bob one morning and told him he is now retired and will be working part-time and that Bob would take over his role. Karl then proceeded to sit with the crew to await Bob's instructions. This came as a surprise to Bob, but he happily took the job.



Karl and Bob

1990

Bob receives the Rutgers Turfgrass Alumni Achievement Award. He is also elected President of the New Jersey Turfgrass Association. He went on to become the Expo Chairman from 1991 to 2007.

1993

In 1993, NJTA awarded Bob the Hall of Fame Award. UMCC begins hosting the NFL Golf Classic which they did each year until 2002.

2010

Bob received the GCSAA Col. John Morley Distinguished Service Award. After 50 years at Upper Montclair Country Club, he retired. He received an honorary membership.

1988

GCSANJ awards Bob with the Distinguished Service Award.

Bob serves on the Met Golf Association Green Committee.

1983

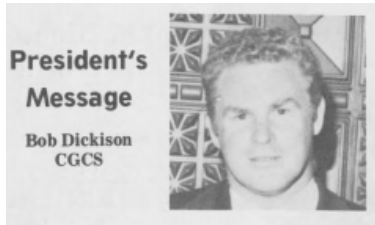
Bob is elected President of GCSANJ. Due to a drought and water crisis, Bob quickly became a vocal advocate for his fellow members. He formed a strong relationship with the NJDEP. Bob began speaking about water usage and tournament preparations at state and national conventions.

UMCC hosts the 1983 and 1984 LPGA Chrysler Plymouth Classic.

Bob began consulting for a new golf course construction project at the Intercontinental Hotel, Rose Hall, Montego Bay, Jamaica (1979-1980).

2005

In 2005, Bob's beloved wife of 45 years, Sydney, passed away. His staff and many GCSANJ members missed her dearly when it came time for tournament preparations and Expo planning. Syd always volunteered to organize meals, social activities and kept the crew motivated and happy. Bob and Syd were a great team!



Sydney and Bob Dickison

2011

Once retired, Bob began consulting for The Meadows Golf Course, Lincoln Park, NJ (2011-2016).

1979-1980

UMCC hosts the 1979 and 1980 LPGA Coca-Cola Classic.



GCSANJ member volunteers for the 1978 LPGA Tournament at Forsgate Country Club

1971

Two weeks after becoming superintendent, Bob decides to take a day off to attend a Giants vs. Eagles exhibition game at Princeton University. A hurricane hits and floods the golf course, leaving him stranded away from the course. Another hurricane hit two weeks later. Bob looks back at this time as his initiation to be a superintendent.

1977

Bob became a Certified Golf Course Superintendent.



Present

Presently, Bob lives in Dover, DE with his significant other, Sira Joseph-Alexander. He has five grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Bob has been a member of GCSANJ for 59 years!



Arnold Palmer and Bob



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JILL SEYMOUR JOINS THE WOMEN-IN-TURF AT THE 2021 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN



By Jennifer Torres, Superintendent, Westlake Golf and Country Club

The 2021 U.S. Women's Open at The Olympic Club in San Francisco was like no other women's event in history. In fact, it made history thanks to the vision of the Director of Golf Maintenance, Troy Flanagan, who sought to organize a women-in-turf volunteer force when the club secured the event.

With the assistance of Syngenta's Kimberly Gard and Rainbird, the event had 29 women make up half of the volunteer grounds crew. In early February, Kim began reaching out to many women in golf with this wonderful idea that they could put together a dynamic group of volunteers that were all women. The plan was to have networking, professional development, open forums with guest speakers, a possible excursion, and the opportunity to volunteer on the maintenance crew at this year's event.

Twenty-nine women with diverse experience in the turf industry made the trip to The Olympic Club from May 30th to June 6th. Our member, Jill Seymour, was one of those women representing

our chapter with great pride and honor. Jill is the Golf Course Superintendent at Charleston Springs South Course in the Monmouth County Park System. She has been in the turf industry for 18 years, and for the past six years, she has been the head superintendent. She realized this trip reinforced what many women in this industry have found, "family." A family of women who doesn't mind getting dirty, working hard, and doing what it takes! She now has a network of 28 other amazing ladies to whom to turn with questions, problems, solutions, and support. The group of women she met the majority of for the first time have become instant friends. Friendships that will last a lifetime thanks to an excellent opportunity to volunteer.

When asked what her favorite thing about volunteering was, she replied, "Coming together with other women in golf from across the country to do what we love! No paperwork, decision-making, or putting out fires. Just digging in and doing what we love to do alongside women

who already are or will be lifelong friends because of this incredible bond we share."

Her takeaway from the event was realizing the fantastic support we have for women in the turf industry. We have so many people and companies in our corner that are ready to help us succeed. We are here and have so much to offer, and people are starting to notice.

The challenge we face as women in the industry is our numbers. We need more of us! It is why many see us making our careers more visible to our peers. We want to show the world the joy of the turf industry. "We need more of us to step up and get out there and do what we love," Seymour said. "We have the tenacity, grit, and passion of a dozen guys, and it shows. We need more presence and visibility in the industry, so it's not such a head turn or stares when we are running around calling the shots on the golf course."

The visibility this year's US Women's Open has given the women in golf is just the beginning. We are a formidable group. We have the knowledge and, more intensely, the drive to be here and succeed. Seymour said, "We feel we are expected to work twice as hard to prove ourselves, and that is fine... bring it on." We hope that this event and future events will ensure young girls have an introduction to this profession. Even if they don't know what turf management is, they will see us out there, featured in magazines, podcasts, etc., and think, "Hey, that seems cool; maybe I want to try that!" One of the main goals as a group is to promote this profession. We all see the need for staff in our industry, so why not show young girls the opportunity and help guide them along the way.



As a volunteer at this year's US Women's Open, Jill's day began at 3:45 AM as the ladies boarded vans for the 15-minute ride to The Olympic Club. From 4 to 5 AM, they had breakfast and attended the morning meetings. Then from 5 to 9 AM, they rolled out to complete their morning jobs. Jill was responsible for cutting the front nine pins with Gerardo, a Greenskeeper at The Olympic Club. From 9 AM- 1 PM, the ladies participated in educational seminars designed just for them. Each day from 1-3:30 PM, they had free time to go back to the hotel, nap, or watch the golf. At 3:30 PM, they had dinner and attended the afternoon meeting. At 4:30, they rolled out to complete the evening jobs that lasted until 9 PM, when they boarded the vans to return to the hotel. Jill's afternoon jobs varied each day from trimming heads, compacting bunkers, divots, and hand watering fairways. Around 9:30 PM, the ladies would unwind with "Truck Beers." I believe that was their version of tailgating. Just ask Jill about that the next time you see her.

The educational experience included:
Meeting the Olympic Club Connections- Shannon Roulliard- USGA US Woman's Open Director

Dr. Patricia Cornett, MD, - Olympic Club Member, played in over 50 USGA Championships.

Marrissa Marr- Olympic Club Green Chair



Linda Serge-Olympic Club Member and Board of Directors Calloway Golf

Kay Cockerill- Olympic Club Member and Reporter/Analyst for Golf Channel

Amy Wallis -Wake Forest University/Syngenta Business Institute spoke on "Leading While Female: Tools & Strategies for Women Leaders."

Brandon Bell- Syngenta Diversity and Inclusion Lead emphasized, "How to Be a Good Ally- Diversity and Inclusion."

Gina Rizzi- ARCUS Marketing and Radius Sports Group spoke about Presentation and Personal Branding.

Shelia Finney- Senior Director, Member Programs at GCSAA ended the program with a reflection of where we stand currently with membership and the benefits that the GCSAA brings to all our members.

"Women in Golf now has the momentum thanks to the vision of Troy and the hard work Kimberly put in to make this event happen. We as an organization need to maintain this presence and visibility at large tournaments. We need to lock in long-term supporters and establish goals to move forward as an entity to provide support for young girls interested in or coming up in this profession." Jill and all the Ladies Leading Turf look forward to more invitations from clubs hosting major events. Fingers crossed, this becomes a new tradition, and you will hear more stories from next years' 77th US Women's Open at Pine Needles Lodge & Golf Club in Southern Pines, NC.

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TECH TIPS

BY DONOVAN MAGUIGAN

QUICK AND USEFUL
SMARTPHONE APPS FOR TURF

UPGRADING YOUR NOTES

Remember where you wrote that perfect topdressing spreader setting from aerification three weeks ago? Not the initial setting, but the setting you changed out on the golf course. It's probably written on a vendor notepad in your office, on a scorecard in your cart, or maybe you wrote it on the back of an invoice? The truth is, you don't remember where you wrote it down, or you can't find it. Do you have to-do lists or tasks lists on multiple pieces of paper that you transfer from a pair of pants to a clean pair the next day? Let's assume for a second that you write information in a notebook that was organized by date, so the next question is, when did you write it down? Do you remember where that notepad or notebook ended up?

Taking notes is a reliable way to keep track of information that you are, let's be honest, probably not going to remember. As a superintendent or assistant, your mind is overrun with information that finds a way to squeeze other bits of information out, regardless of the importance. Riding the course, you see details to touch up, reminders to tell yourself, and notes from a discussion. Even if you are organized, you find yourself overrun with spiral notebooks, loose scraps of paper, or, if you are really organized, a notebook that you will still spend time searching through the book to find the information you wrote down.

Note application on your iPhone or Android smartphone can create an improved system to help you keep better-organized notes while also adding additional technology tools to your belt. They have simplified notetaking and providing a security blanket for when you most need the information you are writing down.

BENEFITS OF NOTE APPS ON YOUR PHONE

Image / Document Scanning

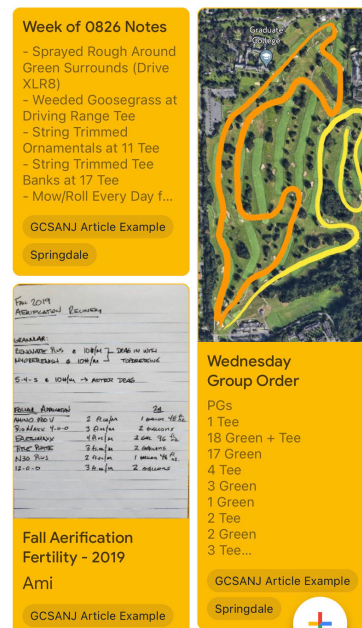
Smartphone cameras are doing great things within these applications beyond snapping pictures, including document scanning, which is great for storing paper information that you wish to digitally archive. These apps also feature a specific setting for whiteboards.



Whiteboard image in OneNote

Index

Note can be indexed and stored in specified folders, colors, tags (including #'s), and tabs.



Google Keep

Searchable

You can search these digital notebooks to a specific word, topic, date, and even scan images for text.

Shareable

You can collaborate and share notes with other people using these applications as well, with sharing only a text or email link away.

Formatting

The applications can be tailored to make lists with checkboxes, tables, and handwritten notes. Images can be marked up, labeled, and organized.



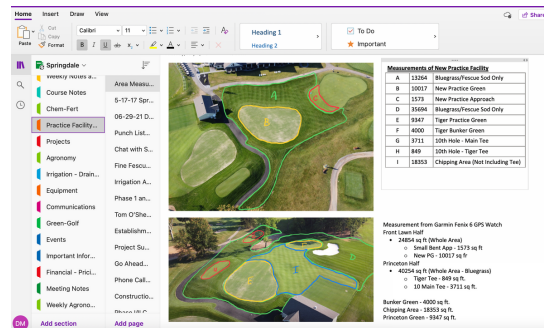
Tasks - Week of 1130

- ☐ Weekly Agronomic Update
- ☐ Submit Invoices (Saturday 1128)
- ☐ Schedule Practice Facility Meeting
- ☐ Order Covid-19 Signage
- ☐ Discuss Golf Carts with Green/Golf Committee
- ☐ Plan Out Last Green Sprays / Tee Sprays / Fairway Sprays
- ☒ Winter Play Plan
- ☐ Conduct Plant Health & Quality Inspections

Evernote

Desktop & Tablet Versions

All of the recommended application includes a desktop, web-based, and tablet version for ease of access.



Desktop view of Microsoft OneNote

Back-up

Collecting all your notes in a form that can be backed up in the cloud (usually for free) if your phone ends up under an aerifier or down a muddy water hole.

Recommended note applications to try and get yourself organized!

(All are FREE for both iOS and Android)

- Keep (Google)
- OneNote (Microsoft)
- Evernote
- Installed Apps (Notes on iOS / S-Note on Samsung Galaxy Phones)

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15 QUESTIONS WITH JAMES BRYSON

By Maureen Sharples

Bedens Brook Club golf course superintendent, James Bryson recently sat down with The Greenside to discuss his career and new job.

1. Tell us a little about where you are from?

I am from Atco, NJ, a small town about 15 minutes from Pine Valley Golf Club where I worked in high school. I went to Hammonton High School before attending Delaware Valley University in Doylestown, PA.

2. How long have you worked at the Bedens Brook Club?

I started at Bedens Brook on December 14th, 2021. The past 6 months have flown by with the move from Ohio and getting settled into a new job and house.

3. Why did you become a superintendent?

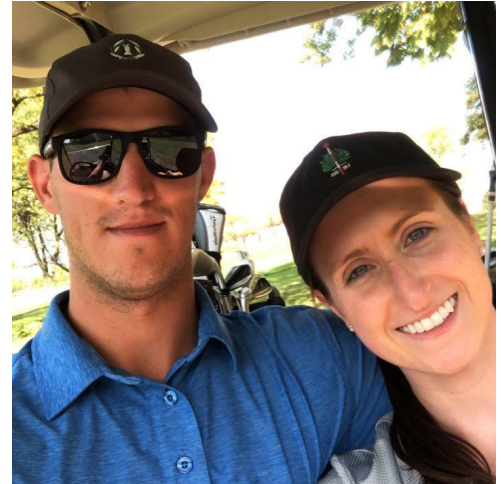
I really enjoyed my summer job at Pine Valley while in high school and worked with a great group of Assistant Superintendents who led me in the direction of going to school for turfgrass. I still see this group of guys at GIS and we talk throughout the year.

4. What are the unique aspects of Bedens Brook's course?

Bedens Brook is a quiet family club that has the amenities of a country club and a championship course with challenging and undulating greens. There are no tee times at Bedens Brook and members check-in upon arrival.

5. Tell us about your family.

My fiancé Emily and I plan to get married on September 3rd, 2021. We met at DelVal in undergrad and spent four years in Columbus Ohio. It feels great to be back in New Jersey and closer to family.



6. What are your interests outside of work?

Fishing, golf, snowboarding, and recently I have become a big foodie. We have a lot of small restaurants in the Princeton area. Not only are we enjoying a nice meal out, but we also get to help out the local economy and small business owners.

7. What is your favorite aspect of working on a golf course?

Working in a team atmosphere and training the staff to work together to produce a product we can all be proud of.

8. What are your biggest on course challenges at Beden's Brook?

Every golf course has its challenges and it is hard to point out just one. Our job is to fix problems on a daily basis and using your experience from past jobs and life lessons helps you resolve these daily challenges in an efficient and cost-effective manner. We have a very unique career path where every day is different and there are always challenges that we are hired to conquer.



9. What change would you most like to see to your operation?

Bedens Brook is a great place to work, and I would like to see more staff retention. Seasonal work often means replacing summer help every year. This year we have a dozen employees that are still in high school. I would like to see them come back for a few summers to help grow their knowledge and our industry. Many superintendents started in the industry during high school or college, and I would like to help show them what a great industry we work in and help them start a career.

10. What does a typical summer day look like for you as a superintendent?

I am very thankful to have a fantastic team at Bedens Brook. We have two great Assistant Superintendents, JP Newman and RJ Blanchard, who help schedule the daily tasks for employees. We discuss equipment needs with our Equipment Manager, Shawn Towne, and communicate plans for preventative maintenance windows. We give out morning assignments with a digital job board, and the team is off to prepare the course. I typically do my weekly planning, agronomic practices, and decisions and answer emails from the field to make sure I am available to help train and be available to the staff for any questions. I enjoy keeping a hose and tools on me to hop in with the team and help out whenever I have a few minutes to spare in the morning. I try to see every playing surface in the morning and hop over to the clubhouse after the front 9 to refuel on coffee and meet with our General manager and Golf Professional. Before I know it, we are out doing second assignments, and I'm wondering where the hours have gone.

11. What has been the most trying experience of your career?

Every year brings on new projects, new staff, and new events but the one I will always remember every detail about was the renovation at Muirfield Village and working with our great team and Mr. Nicklaus. I have a shadow box hanging in my house with a flag signed by Mr. Nicklaus and a thank you letter from him for the time that I spent at Muirfield. The work and effort put into that project were at the top of my list and the team we had at Muirfield made the hard work fun.

12. Who is your mentor in this industry and why?

I have a very unique group of mentors and have a lot of people that I have worked for over the years. I have taken everything I learned from Rick Christian at Pine Valley, Adam Wilkins at The Creek, Matt Shaffer at Merion, and most recently, Chad Mark at Muirfield Village and created my own management style. I talk to Chad Mark a few times a week and hosting two PGA Tour events and completing a total golf course renovation in one year will either make you closer or make you never talk again, thankfully we are very close. Chad has taught me a lot over the four years that I worked under him and helped me fine-tune the knowledge that I had from my previous years of working at other top clubs.

13. You spent quite a bit of time at Muirfield Village.

What did you learn from your time there?

Muirfield Village made me realize that it is great to be an Assistant Superintendent at multiple properties. It really helps you learn to manage different soils, bunker styles, and staff. Each property has distinctive problems and it broadens your horizons when dealing with these issues. Muirfield is a great club to learn everything about the industry and meet so many people. One of the biggest things I learned was to create a great team and refined my hiring skills and techniques. Putting together a team of that size takes a lot of recruiting and communication. Hiring and training the right staff takes dedication and creativity. We were constantly thinking of better ways to do tasks and train as well as always hiring. I will always remember the time Chad jokingly looked at me and said "Are we going to find time to mow the parking lot islands, or do I need to buy some goats?"



This created a new work schedule where we would hire high school students to work from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. to mow and trim around our 265-acre property, and it also gave an assistant-in-training an opportunity to manage staff members. Three years later, some of these high school students have worked four PGA Tour events and are enrolled at Ohio State studying Turfgrass.

14. Early in your career, you moved up the ranks at Merion Golf Club. Can you tell us about your time there?

Working at Merion was a goal of mine when I found out they were hosting the US Open. I was in my first year of college and knew that if I interned my junior and senior years, I would work the year before and the year of the Open. I worked for people I knew could help me get an internship. We had a great team led by Matt Shaffer, who was always about teaching and promoting from within. Matt grew our industry, and throughout my time there, we had over 40 interns between the East and West courses. I started at Merion as an intern and left to go to Muirfield when I was Senior Assistant at the East Course. Merion has the facilities for training the future of our industry with the best intern housing I have seen attached to the maintenance facility. It was a great area to live in, and some of my best friends are people I worked with at Merion.

15. List four things we don't know about you.

1. A close friend got me a job at Pine Valley in high school, and he is also now a Superintendent.
2. While at Merion, the Assistant Superintendents played men's league softball for our favorite local bar after work.
3. I left Merion Golf Club to work at Muirfield Village while my Fiancé studied veterinary medicine at Ohio State.
4. I probably drink too much coffee.

AG Enterprises *Rick Gordon*

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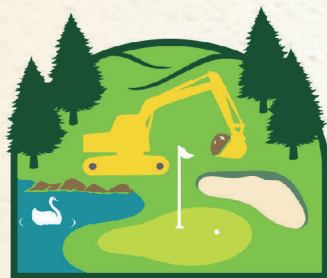
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DEVELOPING A COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

By Kevin Doyle, GCSAA Northeast Field Representative

What a long, strange trip 2021 has been. This is the time of year when the job board should be filled with double-cuts and multiple rolls, followed by fans, hoses, and syringing. Instead, pumping bunkers and flood rebuild seems like a daily task. The tines getting replaced are the venting variety on the aerator, not the moisture meter. I wanted to see if there were any educational or academic resources that could be referenced to assist in the aftermath of a summer season that was cool, historically wet, with minimal sunshine for weeks on end, but I couldn't really find any? I was looking to highlight changes we might see agronomically as we transition into late summer early fall. For our academics, giving the newsletter a read...consider this a hint! I did want to mention a few items, including some I found when scrolling the hundreds of search mishits.

Communication will play a critical piece moving forward. Whether it is with your owner, board, or internal decision-maker, be sure to take pictures and document the struggles Mother Nature has dealt you this year. Increased disease pressure, decreased inefficient mowing practices, labor-intensive flood mitigation, and many more wet-weather-related outcomes can negatively affect your budget. Superintendents do an amazing job of making these struggles appear as they never happened. Be sure to photograph and document for those with short memories.

The weird weather pattern of today will overshadow the strange temperature swings of the spring. It does not mean the timing difficulties of preventative practices for insect and weed control won't rear their ugly heads. In-season curative measures that are more aggressive than usual may be needed as a result.

Be sure to accurately document and communicate the challenges posed and hopefully successes your programs provided.

Working in the rain is not fun. Rebuilding bunkers is not fun. Clearing storm and flood debris is not fun. Hand mowing acres of turf due to wet conditions is not fun. Having to do each of these multiple times a week can be demoralizing. Managing the staff who are facing these challenges with you is not the normal grind of the summer season. Think of outside the box opportunities to add a sip of sunshine to their workweek to keep your staff both physically and mentally healthy.

Summer in the Northeast is almost always a war of attrition and full of surprises. Being reactive to conditions that are not the norm and excelling in the face of adversity is a specialty of golf course superintendents and their staffs. Communicating these challenges and successes are often not priorities during challenging times but can become critical down the road.

If you need assistance developing or improving a communication strategy, GCSAA has you covered!

Check out the resources area for information to help:
<https://www.gcsaa.org/resources/research-information/secure/communication>

NEED ASSISTANCE?

Kevin Doyle
GCSAA Field Staff
kdoyle@gcsaa.org
Follow me on Twitter @GCSAA_NE

GCSAA LEARNING HUB Upcoming Webinars

Today's Turf is ... Ultradwarf Bermuda

Aug. 12 @ 10 a.m.
Rod Lingle, CGCS

Today's Turf is ... Kentucky Bluegrass

Aug. 19 @ 10 a.m.
Leah Brilman, Ph.D.

Today's Turf is ... Bluemuda

Aug. 26 @ 10 a.m.
Gregg Munshaw, Ph.D.

ABW: Reaching Optimal Control

presented by Syngenta

Sept. 14 @ 10 a.m.

Michael Agnew, Ph.D., Matt Giese and Lane Tredway, Ph.D.

A Look at Drug Misuse and Knowing the Signs

Sept. 16 @ 2 p.m.

Joe Abdalla and Mark O'Brien

Today's Turf is ... Poa

Sept. 30 @ 10 a.m.
Steve McDonald

Register at

www.gcsaa.org/education

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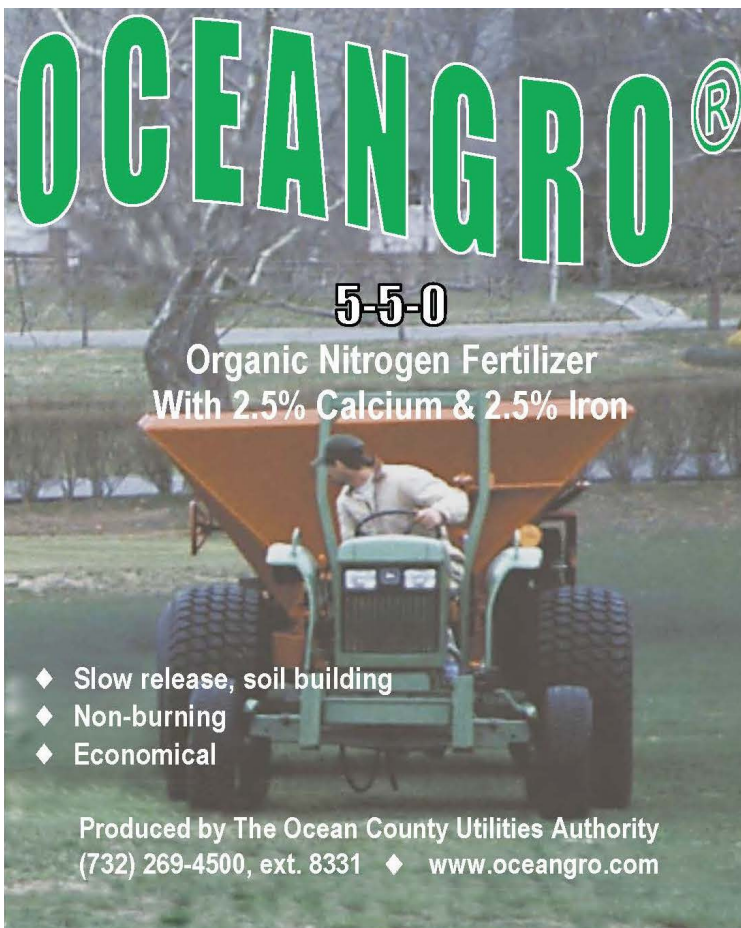
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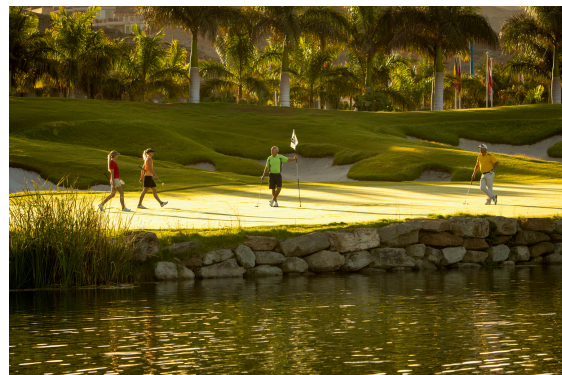
GCSAA GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

GCSAA Golf Championships registration opens on August 13th.

The JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa will be the host resort, with play taking place on its Valley Course. Other courses welcoming golfers over the two days of events are the Desert Willow Golf Resort's Mountain View Course and the Indian Wells Golf Resort's Celebrity Course.

The GCSAA National Championship is limited to 72 GCSAA members with a 5.0 handicap index or lower and will be played over two days. The two-day Golf Classic is limited to 120 players and will use a point-quota scoring system, with flights to be determined at a later date. Finally, the three-person team scramble fun event will be limited to the first 36 teams, or 108 players.

Visit GCSAA.org for details.





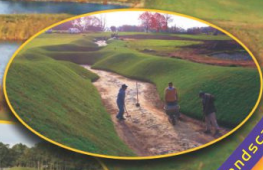
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"The only one we still are using is tee times, which we never used before the pandemic. Everything else went back to normal. We just have fewer ball washers and fewer rakes out this year."

-Rob Arnts, Superintendent, Stanton Ridge Golf and Country Club

"What is a change that you made at your facility due to COVID-19 that you are continuing with after restrictions were lifted?"

"We are basically back to business as usual since most COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted. One change we made that we are still using now is on course ordering of food and drink via cellphone through the clubhouse instead of using the halfway house at the turn. We found that it has worked better for our f&b operation, and also our membership doesn't have to wait for their food and drink. When they arrive at the clubhouse, everything is waiting for them on the back patio and keeps the pace of play moving smoothly."

-Kevin Tansey, Golf Course Superintendent, Stone Harbor Golf Club

"One change we made was implementing the use of a triplex greens mower on our greens with the reduced staff at the beginning of the season last year. We do not mow every day with the triplex now; however, it has been a huge labor saver and gives us the flexibility to reallocate labor to other areas of our maintenance operation several times per week.

To be honest, I'm upset I didn't implement this practice(at least a few times per week) earlier in my tenure here at Tavistock."

-Victor Frederico, Golf Course Superintendent, Tavistock Country Club

"With the reduction in staffing levels during the peak COVID period we took a look at our maintenance routines at the time and talked about what made sense and what could be improved or changed. As a result, we cut back on the amount of course accessories out on the course and we eliminated our first cut or step cut of rough. Both changes have been continued since. "

-Phil Juhring, Superintendent, Royce Brook Golf Club

"We transitioned away from water coolers and cups to bottled water for sanitary reasons during Covid and have continued to do so in 2021. We hope to fully transition to bottle filling stations on the course in the future to limit plastic waste, which requires staff effort to sort and recycle discarded bottles."

-Donovan Maguigan, Superintendent, Springdale Golf Club



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