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President's Message by Peter J. Rappoccio



Dear Member,

I hope this letter finds everyone well and everyone is gearing up for the holiday season! The December weather has been kind thus far and many of us are wrapping up projects before our courses close for the season. Thank you to all those that came out to the December meeting at the Stockyard. We had a great day of education and camaraderie.

Thank you for everyone who filled out the survey regarding the annual meeting in January. After much thought the Board

recently decided on postponing the annual meeting until a later date in March or April. The main reasons for this were safety concerns from the COVID variants, proximity coming off of the holidays and the fact that most want an in-person meeting. Hopefully by late winter / early spring we can be in a position where we can gather again. At the Annual Meeting our distinguished service award winner will be recognized as well as welcoming the new board for the 2022 year. Please stay tuned for more information in the future.

As we look back on 2021, it certainly was a busy year on many of our courses and businesses. We have all had to learn to adapt to new methods, dealing with supply issues, and of course Mother Nature. I do not think any of us could have imagined all the rain from July onward. I am hopeful 2022 returns a sense of normalcy with the weather and the other external challenges we all have been dealing with. However, I am sure all of us we will be ready to face whatever challenges lie ahead.

I want to thank the Board of Directors for their hard work this year. We have some very talented people who are doing some great things for our association. Whether it is government relations, education, S&B, newsletter, membership, or setting up a great golf calendar, our association is very fortunate to have such hard-working individuals who work on our behalf. I also would like to take a moment to thank Don Hearn for his work as our executive director. Don works on our behalf 24/7 and has done a great job representing our association on a local and national level.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity of being President the last two years; it has certainly been one of the highlights of my career. I look forward to continuing to watch the Association prosper and I will continue to help in any way I can. If you are reading this and thinking of joining the board or a committee in the future, please do so. Getting involved in your association is the only way it can continue to grow and succeed!

I hope all of you have a wonderful holiday season and wish everyone a happy new year!

Regards, Peter J. Rappoccio, CGCS



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Jordan Koester, Assistant Superintendent The Country Club

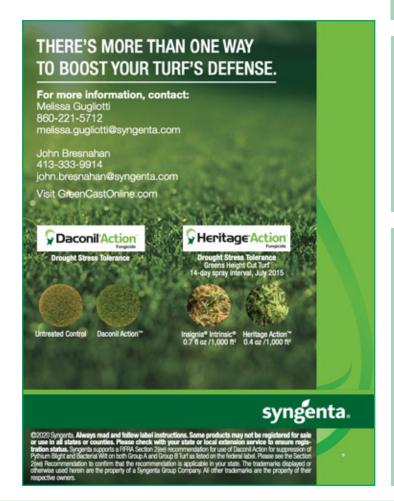
CONGRATULATIONS TO

Blaine Doherty, superintendent at Winchester Country Club, Winchester, MA. Blaine was formerly superintendent at the Wianno Club, Osterville, MA.

Andrew Updegrove, superintendent at Baker Hill Golf Club in Newbury, NH. Andrew was formerly a superintendent at The Country Club, Chestnut Hill, MA where he was Director of U.S. Open Operations & Projects.



Past issues of the NEWSLETTER are available using this link: http://bit.ly/GCSANEnewsletters.

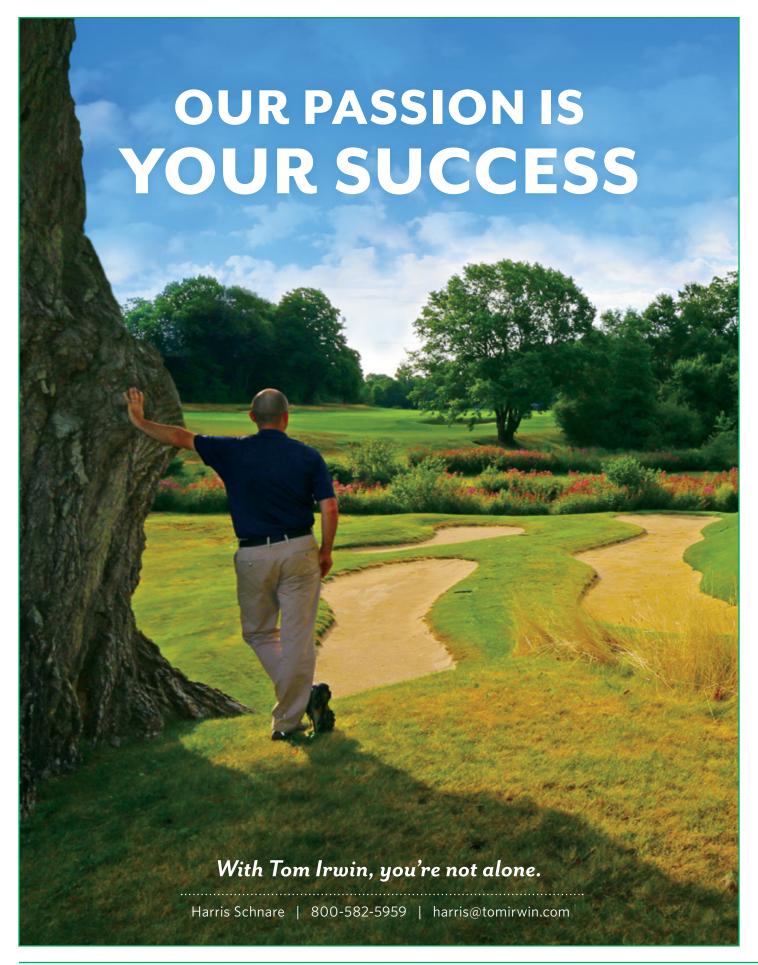


As in the past, *The Newsletter* continues to invite Affiliate members to submit a press release about new personnel, new products or a company bio. We will print each and every release **free of charge**. This is a great way to advertise for free. Who said nothing in this world is free? Free advertising to better your company, wow what an offer.



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For more information, please contact Don Hearn at 774-430-9040 or donhearn@gcsane.org





Thoughts From Your Executive Director by Don Hearn



The next U.S, Open Championship will be played at The Country Club, June 16-19, 2022. Many have already signed up to be volunteers during the days of the championship and the week leading up to it. There was an orientation at the club in mid-October where the expectations were detailed and followed with a barbecue lunch sponsored by the Tom Irwin company. Other supporters of the day were BASF and the TORO company.

It will be an exciting time for everyone involved and the club's staff and membership are proud to be a part of this historic event. Director of Grounds Dave Johnson and Superintendents Adam

Bennet, Anthony Howard and Andrew Updegrove and the entire turf team at the club have been preparing the course for the championship for almost four years. The changes to the course have been done under the guidance of architect Gil Hanse and the team of contractors has been led under the watchful eye of Matt Staffieri, President of MAS Golf Course Construction based in Hopkinton,





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NEW ENGLAND SUPERINTENDENTS CHAMPIONSHIP GROUPS



This year's New England Superintendents Championship was held at the Essex County Club, Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA, October 18. 64 players from the 7 New England superintendents' associations played on a distinctive course during a beautiful day. Our host, Eric Richardson and his excellent team had the course in outstanding condition, and all felt welcome by the hospitality shown by the golf shop and clubhouse staff.

The championship was played as a Stableford competition, and the winning team was the GCSA of New England. The winning team included Tim Crane, Bob Cullen, Dick Duggan, Ryan Emerich, Eric

Fontaine, Andrew Ingham, Mike Nagle, and Mike Poch.

We are fortunate to have strong support from the commercial side of our industry and that was evident by the sponsors of this year's event. Our thanks to Tim Russell, Andrew Ingham and Five Star Golf Cars & Utility Vehicles; Ben Petersen and Tom Irwin, Inc.; and Garrett Whitney and Read Custom Soils for supporting the event and helping to make it a fun and relaxing day for all. On a personal note, it was great to see many of the people in our industry I've met over the years and to meet others who are now new friends.



From left: Donny Droppo, Gilberto Perez, Kurt Calderwood, Robin Hayes



Tom Hoffer, Andy Hannah



From left: Andrew Ingham, Ryan Emerich, Rick Lewis, Ian Doumas



From left: Scott Rossi, Brant Slayton, Patrick Van Vleck





From left: Tom Rowell, Jason Bastille, Joe Oliviera, Mike Whitehead



From left: Scott Watelet, Robert Diaz, Garrett Whitney, Willem Geldenhuys



From left: Max Major, Terry Davio, Peter Jacobson, Jack Hassett



From left: Eric Fontaine, Mike Nagle, Kyle Ladd, Greg Holder



From left: Anthony Grosso, Al Adaskaveg, Dave Stott, Rick Lawlor



From left: Andrew Fries, Robert Dorsch, Matt Emond, Brady Klein



From left: Paul Bonini, Neil Lajeunesse, Ben Jenkins, Parish Pina



From left: Sid Chase, Jeff Brooks, Pat Meehan, Matt Crowther



From left: Mike Poch, Tim Crane, Kevin Doyle, John Laprey



From left: Alden Maddocks, Chris Cowan, Alex Martin, Jeff Tibbetts



From left: Dick Duggan, Bob Cullen, Scott Cybulski, Bob Searle



From left: E.J. Chea, John Gabbeitt, Shaun Marcellus, Dan St. Laurent





At left: Kevin Doyle, GCSAA Northeast Regional Field Staff and Peter Rappoccio flank the sculpture of Old Tom Morris at GCSAA Headquarters. Peter Rappoccio, current GCSA of New England President, and I traveled to GCSAA Headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas early last month to attend the Chapter Leader/Executive Symposium. Thirty-seven leaders from 23 affiliated chapters strengthened their leadership skills at the symposium.

This annual event allows chapters to send a volunteer leader and association staff member to GCSAA headquarters. The program is intended to strengthen each chapter's leadership team, build on successes, and learn new concepts and ideas to support chapter effectiveness.

While there we participated in sessions focused on a broad segment of volunteer and association management topics with plenty of time to network with our peers from around the country. GCSAA staff highlighted the various ways the association can assist in chapter operations.

The session's first day was highlighted by updates on GCSAA, The First Green, regional advocacy efforts and communications platforms to assist with chapter operations.

Day two was also filled with key information from the GCSAA Foundation and leadership training.

Amy Leslie, the CEO of Perspective Consulting based in the Kansas City area, concluded the event with an interactive workshop. Leslie educated the group on how your personality can impact your leadership style, while maximizing your success both personally and professionally.

Objectives included:

- •Gain practical skills and knowledge to help you successfully lead your facility and your chapter
- Explore the challenges and changes impacting today's association operating environment
- Build an ongoing professional network of peers and share best practices and innovative ideas
- Receive updates on programs and initiatives that are of interest to chapters from GCSAA



GCSAA COO Bob Ranquist addressing attendees at this year's symposium.

Attendees included:

- Central Illinois GCSA Nathan Jordan
- Central Texas
 Jake Snyman and Carol Cloud
- Florida GCSA Jennifer Bryan
- GCSA of Arkansas Samantha Nuckolls
- GCSA of New England Peter Rappocclo, CGCS and Don Hearn, CGCS, Retired
- GCSA of New York Steven Kurta and Suzanne Mis
- Georgia GCSA Lydell Mack and Tenia Workman
- Heart of America
 Brent Stephenson and Thomas Storey
- Idaho GCSA Bryce Burton and Lori Russell
- Inland Empire GCSA
 Michael Bednar and Lori Russell
- Iowa GCSA
 Brian Abels and Kory Brown
- Lone Star GCSA Michael Upchurch and Carol Cloud
- Michigan GCSA Ryan Moore and Adam Ikamas
- Midwest Association of GCS
 Mark Kosbad, CGCS, Todd Schmitz,
 and Luke Cella
- Minnesota GCSA
 Eric Ritter and Michael Sonnek
- Nebraska GCSA Troy Lorenz and Katy Boggs
- North Texas GCSA
 Jason Wiedeman and Shannon Phillips
- Peaks and Prairies GCSA Ryan Blecta and Lori Russell
- Rio Grande GCSA Michael Adkins and Carol Cloud
- San Diego GCSA Sandy Cooper
- South Texas GCSA
 Allen Plagens and Carrie Cole
- Southern Nevada GCSA Misty Kadel
- Utah GCSA Natalie Barker



The New England PGA Pro-Superintendent Championship took place at the Franklin Country Club, October 20. The event was won by the Trull Brook team of Alan Santos and Jeremy Cox. As always, the course was in wonderful condition. There were many comments stating how well the course had come through the summer. Kudos went to host superintendent Mike Luccini and his hard-working team for the beautiful conditions.



From left: Joe Lazaro, Alex Martin and Matt Ponte

The 9-hole meeting took place November 2, at the Fresh Pond Golf Course in Cambridge, MA. Alex Martin was our host. He and golf professional Bob Carey worked together to make this event successful. The weather was beautiful and those who played enjoyed the time spent at Fresh Pond. After golf we gathered across the street from the course at the Mt. Auburn VFW Post 8818 for lunch, beverages, conversation and camaraderie. The event was a scramble format won by the team of Brian Skinner, Mark Casey and David Stowe. Closest to the Hole was won by Bob Dembek.



From left, first row: Nick Burchard, Don Hearn, Ted Wales, Karen Connelly. Second row: Joe Szczechowicz, Steve Bukoff, Steve Boksanski, Greg Cormier. Third row: Peter Roberto, Richard Bradley, Bob Mann, Eric Richardson, Warren Lent. Photo by: Virginia Wood

The Green Industry Alliance (GIA) met recently to discuss legislation that could impact the industry.

Representatives of the groups that comprise the Green Industry Alliance -Massachusetts Arborist Association (MAA), the Massachusetts Association of Landscape Professionals (MLP), the Massachusetts Association of Lawn Care Professionals (MALCP), the Irrigation Association of New England (IANE), and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England (GCSANE) met November 19 to listen to details and discuss various legislative issues relative to the green industry. Our legislative agents, Steve Boksanski and Warren Lent from BCB Government Relations spoke about the legislative agenda moving forward and what could be possible outcomes. GCSANE being one of the groups in the GIA provides a benefit to our members that would not be possible without the experience of a group like BCB Government Relations. Some may think it's not a big deal to be kept current on what legislative and regulatory agencies are thinking about. "All will be OK." "It's no big deal." "Somehow we'll make it work." These are some of the comments I've been told when discussing related issues.

In some cases, these comments have been true, but it doesn't mean we should not be diligent monitoring issues that could have a negative outcome for our courses. Attached is a list of items discussed at our November 19 meeting. Click here to read more about them.

If you believe you got a deal on something that seemed too good to be true, read on.

It's unwise to pay too much, but it's worse to pay too little. When you pay too much, you lose a little money - that is all. When you pay too little, you sometimes lose everything, because the thing you bought was incapable of doing the job it was bought to do. The common law of business balance prohibits paying a little and getting a lot. If you deal with the lowest bidder, it is well to add something for the risk you run, and, if you do that, you will have enough to pay for something better.



Attendees at the 2021 Annual Meeting and Conference of the New England Golf Course Owners Association.

I attended the Annual Meeting and Conference of the New England Golf Course Owners Association (NEGCOA) held at the Lake of Isles Golf Course in North Stonington, Connecticut, early December. It was an interesting meeting with a lot of open discussion about the state of the industry. Many items we have in common with this group such as labor issues, supply issues, outside event

management and the additional workload brought on by these situations were topics discussed.

Examples of how the supply chain slowdown is effecting our industry were described by some in attendance. For instance, stainless steel is in short supply. This has created a backlog of sprinkler heads being unable to be shipped because

the small stainless steel screws that hold the sprinkler head cover in place are difficult to obtain. Casings for golf car batteries are in short supply. They are in ships waiting to be unloaded on the west coast. This has contributed to increased delivery time for golf cars. Some are being told that golf cars originally scheduled for delivery this fall might not show up until sometime in late 2022 or even as late as 2023! The cost of PVC pipe has increased and delivery has become a problem due to the loss of power in Texas earlier this year. I was told a lot of this type of pipe is manufactured in Texas and the loss of power has created shortages along with the price increases. Sod shortages might be something you should pay attention to. I spoke with a grower who told me some varieties and blends and mixes could be in short supply next spring. I don't know exactly what your strategy will be, but I suggest you touch bases with your supplier to discuss your future needs.

As always, Executive Director, Elaine Gebhardt put this year's event together to produce an informative and interesting gathering of individuals with common interests and motivations.



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December Meeting

The December 2 meeting was held at the Stockyard restaurant in Brighton, MA. There were two presentations of strong interest to those in attendance.

Julie Whitmore, Business Services Representative at the MassHire Metro North Career Center gave an expansive presentation outlining the resources available to those interested in bringing on new employees. That's just about all of us! As you might imagine, there is preliminary information needed to determine if you will be able to qualify for any support. While this, on the surface, might sound burdensome, Julie and others with MassHire are very willing to help you with the process. Also, for a fee, there are companies that will handle all the paperwork required. It was interesting to realize that Massachusetts has programs to help employers with staffing of employees transitioning from other occupations, along with other options.

After lunch a panel of four superintendents from different type courses (Eric Richardson, Essex County Club, private member; Ben Bouchard, Sky Meadow Country Club, private owner; Alex Martin, Fresh Pond Golf Course, municipal and Mike Murphy, Robert T. Lynch Municipal Golf Course) made presentations and answered questions about their hiring and retention practices. The discussion lasted about an hour, and easily could have continued for another hour but we were out of time. In addition to hiring and retaining, other items of interest and concern discussed were salary and benefit levels, position openings and if salary ranges should be published in job postings.

Some may have missed this so I thought it would be helpful to include it here.

Lee Elder, one of golf's trailblazers passed away November 28, 2021. He won the 1974 Monsanto open along with other PGA TOUR and PGA Champions TOUR events and was the first black golfer to play in the Masters Tournament. Before his passing, The Country Club, Brookline, Massachusetts, established the Lee Elder Internship for 2022 along with the USGA. The innovative program is designed to introduce underrepresented youth to the game and its core values, while also showcasing golf's many career pathways. Over the course of a week, 25 individuals will be exposed to multiple facets of the business of golf and gain firsthand experience and insight from industry leaders. The daily curriculum will cover tournament operations, media, course maintenance and design, sales and marketing, facility operations and management and other relevant topics.

Please <u>click here</u> to read more about this program



The USGA has published an infographic that can be purchased for posting in various areas of your club or course. If you would like to purchase some please click this link





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GCSAA Update by Kevin Doyle



One talking point that has been a lead topic at every site visit I can remember is labor. The early years in my role as Field Staff it would typically revolve around the quality of the crew. Now of course, discussion leans more towards volume, are you able to find enough labor. There are forward thinking people undertaking creative ways to solve those issues, and enterprising individuals blazing trails to

assist others. One recent site visit reminded me the that the oldest marketing strategy may still be a very effective method. While word of mouth may work for some, would it work for you?

I was delighted to hear Chris Johnson at Bellport CC tell me that his labor was in good shape. For this to occur on the south coast of Long Island was truly surprising to me. I know so many superintendents on the Island struggle to find labor. Johnson explained to me that a 2020 hire had recommended employment at the club to a family member. She was brought on this year and was a great fit! Word of mouth working at its best, but is it really that easy?

So, let's say one of your employees approached me and wanted me to work at your facility. What do you think they would say? They could be your biggest sales staff. Good pay, engaging work, flexible hours when needed, and being a wonderful place to work? That would pique my interest.

Now if I approached a friend of mine, one of your employees, and asked if they are hiring. I didn't receive the afore mentioned information, instead I got the opposite. Pay is ok, no flexibility to handle personal items, some people are nice but all I do is string trim and rake bunkers.

If you have tried to utilize current employees to fill out your staff, they may indeed have already given you a heads-up about your operation. If it worked, you may have found a great mix of the items employees are looking for. If your word-of-mouth initiative wasn't successful, understanding why could help grow your crew/business.

This area of the Newsletter has expanded on employee feedback before. The staff performing daily tasks are often the best resources for ideas to maximize efficiency. We have highlighted off-season strategic planning and how building a plan with the entire staff can build ownership in those new-innovative ideas. Consider utilizing your best possible sales staff, your current employees, to ensure your facility and employment opportunities are the best they could possibly be. If your employees are seeking to bring friends or loved ones to your team, you know you have built an employee package and inclusive culture that everyone at the facility can be proud of.

GCSAA Resources and Deadlines you Get Cool Stuff from your Association Already Get started on Facility BMP Manuals

Once your state BMP manual is available through GCSAA's BMP Planning Guide and Template you can easily create a facility BMP manual for your facility. Access is easy with your GCSAA website member log-in using the link immediately below, then select the facility BMP icon and go. Webinars are available to assist you with this easy to use tool.

Access the Facility BMP tool»

UPCOMING WEBINARS

Today's Turf is Playable

Dec. 14 @ noon Aaron J. Patton, Ph.D.

Tips for Painting Your Turf

Dec. 16 @ noon Sun Roesslein, CSFM

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

Kevin Doyle

GCSAA Field Staff

kdoyle@gcsaa.org

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New England Regional Turfgrass Conference and Show.... Setting and Staying the Course By Gary Sykes, Executive Director, NERTF, Inc.



The New England Regional Turfgrass Conference and Show was set on course back in March of 1998. For some of us that doesn't seem too long ago, but if you do the math, 2022 will be our 25th event! At that time, we were very concerned with the amount of support we would get from the industry. That first year, it felt that support was strong, but you are never certain until the seats are filled, and the booths were setup if it was all going to happen the way we were hoping. Fortunately, all went well and just like that we are remembering the years that have gone by. In 1998, we had retired Hall of Fame picture Jim Palmer of the Baltimore Orioles as a keynote speaker. As a teenager, I never wanted Jim to pitch against the Sox. He seemed unhittable with his big kick and usually went into the late innings at the Sox's expense. I had to arrange his visit and so I called to arrange a meeting place the day of the event. Jim's wife picked up the phone told me how excited Jim was to be coming to a turf conference. She filled me in about Jim's pursuit of the perfect lawn and that he spent endless hours working on it! He did a great job speaking to our audience and spending time on the show floor. Like the kid in the Candy Store, Jim wanted to stop in every booth to see what they were selling and pick up as many tips as he could while he was with us. I became a new fan, still glad he was retired, but I really enjoyed the time with him. The rest of the show went as nearly as good as the time spent with Jim. Our new turfgrass endeavor was launched successfully and the challenge was to keep it going in a good direction, with great quality and value for everyone who attended. We feel we continue to stay that course!

Though without a Trade Show in 2021, it does seem like a long time since we were together in 2020. We were lucky we were able to get in and out of Providence the way we did. If you remember 2020, our show just closed as the first cases of Covid were being reported in RI. We knew it was coming, but no one knew it would still be a concern 2 years later. Soon after finishing up the 2021 virtual conference, our board had committed to planning a face-to-face conference in Providence if it was to be permitted. So far, things are holding together, and it looks good for March. The city is also experiencing a reopening. There are still more questions, but so far most have good answers. Remember, 8 months ago, the convention center was still set up as a pandemic overflow hospital, but the threat never grew large enough to utilize the facility. The convention center hospital was dismantled in the spring and then the facility was converted back for its original use. This was the biggest

item on our punch list! The next question was concerning the city's hotels and restaurants. Most hotels were closed since April 2020, their staff laid-off and it was not known when they would be back online. The reports are good that the hotels are starting to come back online. Many with major staff changes, but they will be open! Restaurants have mostly recovered, but some have not reopened and won't be. Here is a bit of good news, Rhode Island's 1st "110 Grill Providence" is open and is located almost right in front of the convention center across the street! That is a great sign that things are getting better every day in Providence. Our plans are in place, and we continue to be putting together a great 25th event!

So, where do we stand? Our show manager (David Rosenberg) reports that support is strong for booth space on the show floor, and we are actively putting together another, what will be, a great trade show! There are some that are still under company restriction not to participate in trade shows. That is too bad, and we will miss their presence, but a large majority are signing up enthusiastically! Education is coming along strong! We have a large group that are planning presentations in 2022. Drs. Frank Rossi, Stan Kostka, Beth Guertal, Scott Ebdon, John Inguagiato and Mike Hurdzan are just some that are planning to be with us for seminars and sessions with many more presenters. In 2022, we have a Grass Court Tennis seminar and a "new" Cemetery Management seminar being tried this year. We have education-filled Equipment Managers sessions both Wednesday and Thursday along with Golf, Sports Turf & Grounds and Lawn Care & Landscape sessions planned. We are trying our best to cover all the needs of the turfgrass industry. That was our hope, that all turfgrass industry professionals would find a reason to attend. We continue to stay that course since 1998!

What is to come? By now, if you are on our mailing list you should have received a postcard about the show. If you haven't, then go to our website and send an email to me with your address. In December, we hope to get our brochure out in the mail to everyone with registration forms. Our website is www.nertf.org. From that website in December, you should be able to register for the show. We are hoping to have registration open by December 15. Around that time, we suggest you register for hotel rooms if you plan on staying in Providence. 2021 has been a real challenge, and we are hoping that virtual shows are behind us and that we will be fortunate to be back at the convention center in just 110 days or so! That doesn't sound very far away! That is the course we have set, and we plan to stay that course right through March of 2022!

See you all in Providence, March 8-10, 2022!



MET TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

The Philadelphia AGCS wins 2021 Met Area Team Championship at Saratoga National Golf Club



From left: the GCSA of New England team - Alex Martin, Bob Healey, Mike Hermanson, Brian Skinner, Ryan Emerich, Tim Crane, Bob Dembek, Jim Favreau (photo by Shaun Barry)

After taking a year off due to the Covid-19 pandemic and with some familiar faces back on the team, the Philadelphia AGCS won the 2021 MET Team Championship at Saratoga National Golf Club in Saratoga, NY! This is their fifth title in the past 16 years, shooting a combined score of 4 under, 282! In a tight battle at the top, Philadelphia won by 4 strokes over the defending champions from Connecticut. Great play by all 8 team members helped propel Philadelphia to the top, led by the lowest best-ball gross score of the day of a 3 under 69 by Jeff Haas and John Gosselin. They had a well-balanced team with Rich Sweeney and Jon Urbanski firing the 5th lowest Net score of the day at 67. Philadelphia rounded out the winning team with scores of 74 gross from Darren Farrar and Chet Walsh and an even par 72 from Greg D'Antonio and Nick Lubold.

Fall foliage was peaking at just the right time for host superintendent Joe Lucas. Joe was on hand competing for the newly formed GCSA of New York and had the Roger Rulewich gem in tip top shape after a brutally rainy year. Joe grew-in Saratoga National 20 years ago and has kept the challenging layout in the best courses of

New York ever since with fantastic greens and tee to green conditioning!

Defending champion Connecticut made a good run at Philadelphia, but in the end the title came down to the difficult par 5 sixth, where a best ball of 9 caused some unfortunate heartache! It's believed the unnamed team is sending a case of beer to their other teammates for retribution. In third place the team from the Pocono group edged out New Jersey by just 2 strokes.

Once again after a challenging pandemic, the Met Area Team Championship was made possible by our 7 major sponsors who continue to step up to make this one of the best events across North America! Please join me in thanking Allied Nutrients, BASF, Bayer, Ocean Organics, Plant Food, Syngenta and Toro as they continue to support this fantastic event.

The Met Area Team Championship continues to raise money each year to help those in our industry going through difficult times. Over the past 10 years we have raised over \$10,000 and have supported superintendents, industry representatives and their families in times of need. After the last

event held, we donated \$1,000 to the Tyler Reeb Trust and \$1,000 to the Scott Wiiki Memorial Scholarship Fund and also made a donation to PA PGA professional Justin Riegel who was tragically killed in a violent storm. Thank you to all who support these efforts with the 50/50 raffles! If you know of anyone in need, please let us know.

Thanks again to all our sponsors, Joe Lucas and his entire staff, and all the folks at Saratoga National GC for another successful championship! A special thank you to our local GCSAA representative Kevin Doyle for help with registration and our resident photographer Shaun Barry for the great photos that can be found Here. We look forward to seeing everyone next year, so stay tuned for announcements over the winter! Note: Please save the date for the Nor'easter Ski Day at Killington Mountain on February 15th, 2022!!

Submitted by Andy Drohen

MET TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

2021 MET Area Team Championships

Saratoga National GC Par 72 (288) October 12th, 2021

Team Scores	Par 288 (Ties broken by lowest gross scores (), then net)	Score
$1^{\rm st}$	Philadelphia AGCS	282
$2^{\rm nd}$	Connecticut AGCS	286
3^{rd}	Pocono Turfgrass Association	291
$4^{ m th}$	GCSA of New Jersey	293
5 th	METGCSA	295
6^{th}	GCSA of Cape Cod	298
7 th	Long Island GCSA (72)	300
8 th	Eastern Shore AGCS (80)	300
9 th	Northeastern GCSA	308
10^{th}	GCSA of New York (74)	309
$11^{ m th}$	Hudson Valley GCSA (83)	309
$12^{\rm th}$	GCSA of New England (75)	320
13^{th}	Rhode Island GCSA (82)	320
$14^{ m th}$	Mid-Atlantic AGCS	WD

Skill Events

Closest to the pin hole #5, sponsored by Ocean Organics

Steve Whipple 8'-2"- Hudson Valley GCSA

Closest to the pin hole #7, sponsored by Bayer

Jason Meersman 1'-6" – METGCSA

Closest to the pin hole #12, sponsored by Toro

Mike Hermanson 14'-3"- GCSA of New England

Closest to the pin hole #15, sponsored by Plant Food **Jeff Haas** 4'-2" – Philadelphia AGCS

Long Drive

Hole # 6: Sponsors Division sponsored by Allied Nutrients Andrew Stillwell – BASF Group

Hole # 14: Gross Division sponsored by BASF Rene Vadeboncoeur – GCSA of Cape Cod
Hole # 16: Net Division sponsored by Syngenta Neil Lajennesse – Connecticut AGCS

Low Gross Team

Jeff Haas & John Gosselin from Philadelphia AGCS Score of 69

Sponsorship Team Winner

Joe Perry & **Andrew Stilwell** from BASF Group Score of 67

Skins

Net	Mike Hermanson	Eagle on 12	Gross	Sean Cain	Birdie on 6
	Mark Nichols	Eagle on 17		Chet Walsh	Birdie on 12
	Josh Kopera	Eagle on 18		Jeff Haas	Birdie on 17
	Steve Smith	Double Eagle on 13		Rvan Emerich	Birdie on 18

Jim Favreau Eagle on 5
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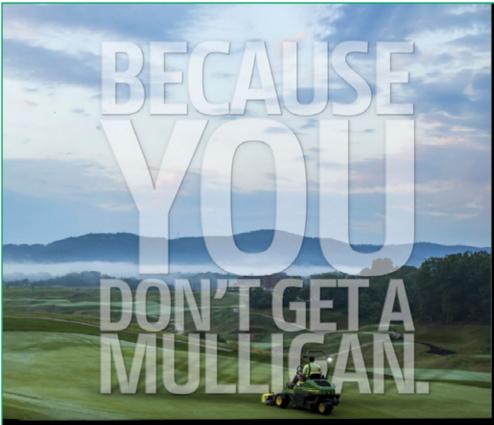
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