



THE NEWSLETTER

May 2019

of the **Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England, Inc.**

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Come Celebrate Summer at The Links at Mass Golf - A Day for the Kids



GCSANE and Mass Golf partner to present “Build a Green Day” on June 26, 2019 at The Links at Mass Golf. The day will feature MAS Golf Course Construction and Renovation as founder Matt Staffieri and his staff will actually construct a putting green. Matt has an extensive background in golf course construction and renovation including “the dramatic changes made to TPC Boston for the 2007 Deutsche Bank Championship.” We are very fortunate and grateful to have Matt contribute his time and resources to this cause.

Along with MAS Golf Construction and Renovation, Kevin Doyle and the First Green program from GCSAA will be in attendance. First Green is an innovative environmental and STEM

(Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education outreach program using golf courses as environmental learning labs. Golf Course Superintendents and/or local golf course representatives host students on field trips where they test water quality, collect soil samples, identify plants, design plantings assist in stream bed restoration and are involved in the ecology and environmental aspects of the golf course. The students are introduced to many other aspects of golf.

This event is free of charge and we would like to encourage all those that attend to bring their children and grandchildren to celebrate the start of Summer at The Links at Mass Golf. There will be a kid friendly optional 3 hole golf round (golf is not required, all ages are encour-

aged to attend) closest to the hole contest, putting contest, T-shirts, hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza and much more. The agenda outline is as follows;

The Links at Mass Golf

330 W. Main Street, Norton, Ma.

June 26, 2019

10:00 AM Registration

10:30 AM Activities begin

- Optional Kid Friendly 3 hole tournament
- Putting Contest
- Closest to the hole contest
- Construction viewing and First Green Learning Table

11:30 AM -1:30 PM Lunch & refreshments

1:30 PM -2:00 PM Prizes and conclusion

We hope that our GCSANE members and the staff at Mass Golf take advantage of this fun filled day and we look forward to seeing you at the event! A notice of the event will be sent out with a registration form June 5. The event information on the Association's website will also have a registration link attached June 5.

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Thoughts From Your Executive Director *by Don Hearn*



D.W. Field Golf Course – site for this year's Bear Cup



From left: Mike Luccini; Keith Tortorella; Ed Gianni; Kurt Calderwood, Host Superintendent



From left: Dave Stott, President GCSACC and Dave Johnson, President GCSANE with the Bear Cup Trophy

This year's Bear Cup, played at the D.W. Field Golf Course in Brockton was a first-class event hosted by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Cape Cod and Kurt Calderwood the host superintendent. From the time we arrived to the end of dinner it was a great day made better by the friendly staff at D.W. Field and the enthusiastic staff at Tommy Doyle's

Restaurant in Brockton where dinner was held. Unfortunately, for the New England Team, Cape Cod took home the Bear Cup Trophy for the next year with a winning score of 26 to 24 in the Ryder Cup format. While the victory by new England wasn't in the cards, the event for the players was a win for all. The course was in tremendous condition, especially when considering the

wet spring conditions. Kurt Calderwood and his team should be proud of what they've accomplished.

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Thoughts (continued)



Mike Carignan of Agresource addressing the group

Agresource sponsored a lunch and learn presentation at the Links at Mass Golf in Norton, May 6. The one-hour presentation featured the composting process, which is entirely different than just creating a pile of leaves and sod and watching it turn into what I used to believe was compost,

was explained in detail by Mike Carignan, Director of Product Sales and Marketing for Agresource. His detailed explanation of how the process is accomplished and the proven value of using composted material on areas of the golf course were of interest. The additional value of this type of presen-

tation is the informality lends itself to back and forth questions and answers. During and after the lunch and beverages provided by Agresource there was time for discussion with all the attendees to learn about their experiences with not only the use of composted material, but general questions about their own courses. The board of directors want to thank Agresource, Mike Carignan, Kevin Crawford, Product Specialist and Dave Harding, President for taking the time to promote and encourage this type of learning process for our members. And Mass Golf for making their facility available to us. We urge other companies and their representatives to make this type of education available to our members. Please contact Ryan Emerich, Education Chair at remerich@vespercc.com if you are interested in pursuing this opportunity.

Atlantic
golf & turf

Thoughts (continued)

GCSAA will be featuring a new logo for distribution over the next few months that you may have heard or read about. The following Logo Refresh FAQ's should help explain the reason for the change and more. Attached are the old and new logos. As you can see, there isn't a great difference between them. The top logo is the old one. The bottom one is the new one.

Logo Refresh FAQs Why is GCSAA refreshing its logo?

- The logo refresh makes it cleaner, easier to reproduce and more compatible with social media and other digital platforms.
- The branding will be comprehensive and unify all GCSAA brands and entities.
- The unification will make all properties easier to identify as part of GCSAA.
- The branding refresh will reflect the values and traits of the GCSAA members.
- A stronger, unified brand strengthens our connections and increase the visibility of our members.
- A cohesive brand gives us a stronger voice with lawmakers and key stakeholders on the local, state and national level.
- The updated logo allows for more versatility in its use.

When will this take place and what all is included?

It will be gradual, not an overnight event. In the coming weeks and months, you are going to see a refresh of not just the primary GCSAA logo, but also updates to the logos of GCSAA programs, related entities, affiliated chapters, membership classes, partnerships, awards and more so that they have a consistent look and feel.



My chapter uses the affiliated logo, what does this mean for me?

We don't want the refresh of the logo to create any hardship for chapters. GCSAA will supply chapters using the affiliated logo with the graphic files and guidelines for the update. It will be a gradual process, and we encourage chapters to use all materials with the old affiliated logo until they need to be replaced. We will be sending out additional information specific to chapters as the process progresses.

My chapter has a unique logo, what does this mean for me?

GCSAA does not require chapters to use the affiliated logo, but we strongly encourage all chapters to take advantage of the opportunity to be a part of this united brand identity. The primary function of the affiliated chapter logo is to identify the joint relationship between the chapter and GCSAA. GCSAA does not require chapters to use the affiliated logo, but we strongly encourage all chapters to help in our efforts to unite our brand, thus providing continuity and increased recognition for our shared members. For those chapters that would like to take this opportunity to start using the affiliated logo for the first time, GCSAA will be here to support you making the switch.

If I adopt or update to the new chapter logo, can I still use our unique logo on internal items?

Yes. Included in the materials that will be sent to chapters, there will be guidelines for when the affiliated logo should be used.

Will there be assistance available for chapters to update their logo?

Yes. GCSAA will supply chapters with the graphic files and guidelines for the update in May. As we don't want the refresh of the logo to create any hardship for chapters, we will be working with chapters to identify their needs and potential costs for the transition and will provide assistance based on those needs. Until then, we encourage chapters to use up all materials with the old affiliated logo and replace when needed.

Is there anything individual members need to do?

Yes, individual members can also help promote the brand. A member can be a brand ambassador by simply using the logo on his or her golf course scorecard, business card, website, staff apparel and any other visible place where the public can see it.



Fresh off National Golf Day, the mantra that numbers matter could not be any clearer. Speaking to legislators regarding the size of the golf industry, economic impact, and membership numbers helped give our industry perspective to those who are not as knowledgeable as we are. At the 2018 delegates meeting and Annual Meeting, initiatives were undertaken to address these areas.

During the GCSAA Annual meeting, there were a few items on the ballot which required a membership vote. There were two new association membership classes up for vote: Facility Membership and Friend of the Golf Course Superintendent, as well as a bylaw change needed to make those happen.

Both membership classifications were voted through by the chapter delegates and are now official classifications of GCSAA. If you are not familiar with the new classifications, they are as follows:

Facility Membership

To be eligible, a facility must not have had a GCSAA member in the last three years, and the facility's green fee must be below the 50 percent median in their region (regions will be based on GCSAA field staff regions). Dues will be \$200 a year for the facility and its employees, who will have access to GCSAA resources, but will not receive individual membership benefits such as term life insurance, Class A eligibility, board eligibility, voting rights and tournament entry benefit.

Facility Membership is geared towards golf courses across the U.S. which do not currently employ a GCSAA member. The Facility Membership will target lower budget facilities to offer the facility employee(s) limited benefits and privileges. The Facility membership will be in the name of the facility, and not in the name of the individual member.

Friend of the Golf Course Superintendent

The Friend of the Golf Course Superintendent Membership is for individuals who want to support superintendents and the game of golf but do not qualify for any other membership category. Friends will not receive traditional membership benefits such as access to restricted areas of the GCSAA website, voting rights, insurance benefits or tournament entry.

The Friend of the Golf Course Superintendent classification will target golfers, potential advocates, teachers involved in First Green field trips and supporters of the game and industry to name a few. This classification will help create GCSAA brand awareness and allow us to promote the profession to a new audience.

If you have a colleague that might benefit from the Facility Membership or know potential advocates for our profession and game who would enjoy a Friend membership, please visit GCSAA.org and sign them up or contact me for assistance in doing so!

GCSAA Resources and Deadlines you Get Cool Stuff from your Association Already

GCSAA Scholars Competition

These scholarships range from \$500 to \$6,000. Applicants must be enrolled in a recognized undergraduate program in a major field related to turf management, have completed at least 24 credit hours or the equivalent of one year of full-time study in the appropriate major, and be a member of GCSAA. The annual deadline is June 1.

GCM's Most Valuable Technician Award

GCM's Most Valuable Technician Award is designed to honor the best and brightest golf course equipment technicians in the industry, the men and women who play such a key role in keeping the tools of golf course maintenance up and running. The award is presented annually in partnership with Foley Co. Nominations are narrowed to a field of three finalists by a team of industry judges. GCM readers then review the qualifications of the finalists and vote online for their favorite.

2020 Dog Days of Golf Calendar

[Submit your entry today »](#)

Submissions for the 2020 Dog Days of Golf Calendar will be accepted through Aug. 1, 2019. From the submissions, 14 dogs will be selected. Owners of the selected dogs will be notified in September, and the calendar will be distributed with the November issue of GCM magazine.

LebanonTurf has been supporting golf course superintendents and their chapters through the Dog Days of Golf Calendar for more than a decade.

Upcoming Webinars

May 14 @ 10AM: [Building a Bridge, Not a Gap 2.0.](#)
Paul Schell, Eric Schomske, & Jeffrey Wuenstal

June 12 @ 10AM: [Economy vs Agronomy: The Business of Turfgrass Management.](#)
John R. Bladon, PAg, ISSP, & Matthew Gourlay, CGCS

July 17 @ 10AM: [Retaining Your Recruits.](#)
Bill H. Maynard, CGCS

August 22 @10AM: [Topdressing 101: Organic Matter Management.](#)
Roch Gaussoin, Ph.D.

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

Kevin Doyle
GCSAA Field Staff
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May 2019



April 27, 2019

Volume 20:3

Gazing in the Grass

Frank S. Rossi, Ph.D.

A shift in weather pattern is expected this week following a few above normal weeks of temperatures, cooler conditions are expected. The warm soil temperatures are likely to retreat this coming week as well with plentiful moisture expected mid-week region-wide. Over the next few weeks, a strong north to south gradient will establish with cool, wet conditions to the north of NYC and warm and wet to the south NYC to Philly.



Germinating crabgrass seedlings observed in thin turf.

Most soil temperatures will start the week in the upper 40's north to upper 50's to the south. Except for the lack of sunlight due to cloudy weather, these will be excellent growing conditions for most well drained natural turfgrass areas and areas that do not receive regular traffic. However, poorly drained soil will be susceptible to compaction and rutting from maintenance traffic, so use caution when mowing to avoid creating other challenges.

Following the persistent and troublesome weed pressure from 2018, planning for summer weed management is critical. Historically, crabgrass has been the focus of summer weed management programs, primarily through a well-timed application of pre-emergence herbicides. Many crabgrass control programs were suspected of failure last season, and much of that failure is due to applications made too early in the season. These products do not remain active while crabgrass is germinating later into season. Also, failure of the programs could be related to excessive moisture or overall weak cool-season turfgrass.

A dense actively growing turf has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of crabgrass pressure but it will not always eliminate the threat. Studies from the 1980's have found fertilizing a thin turf can provide as much as 70 percent control of crabgrass. This of course is a driving factor behind the efficacy of corn gluten meal, a common organic pre-emergence crabgrass control product. This product supplies very high rates of N that increase turf density, however under normal crabgrass pressure in Northeast CGM often fails.

Crabgrass

plants begin to germinate when the average daily soil temperatures reach 57 to 64 °F at a one-inch depth although large quantities of crabgrass seedlings will not start germinating until soil temperatures increase to 73 °F or above at a one-inch depth. Phenological indicators suggest active germination will occur at forsythia bush flower FULL bloom. Population studies have found that about 20% of the crabgrass will germinate until mid-June through much of the Northeast, then about between 70% of remaining plants will germinate until mid-July then the last 10%, round out the 12-14 weeks of persistent germination. A single crabgrass plant can grow into a large available bare spot, producing many tillers and seed heads. However, if many crabgrass seedlings were to emerge in that same bare spot, the individual plants would be very crowded by their neighbors, but in total, the same number of seed would still be produced. This allows plants to compensate for variability in germinating seed population and still produce sufficient number of seed to overwinter.

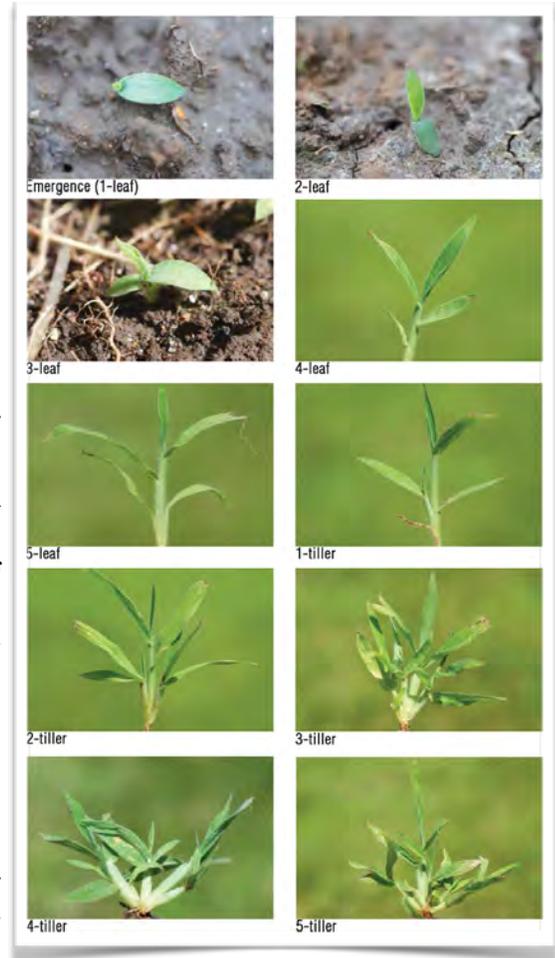
Small plants in dense turf areas develop very slowly and are very susceptible to early post control programs using sprayable Dithiopyr or Tenacity. These products offer excellent early to mid-post control of emerged crabgrass plants but have some caveats. First, delayed dithiopyr applications can persist into September and reduce seeding windows. In contrast, Tenacity offers excellent mid-post and only 6-8 weeks of pre-activity on crabgrass. Additionally, cool season turf can be seeded into the applied herbicide barrier. The Tenacity will “bleach” the existing crabgrass plants, as well as any creeping bent grass in the turf. This might warrant some communication with clientele or the use of triclopyr in a tank mix combination that has been shown to reduce bleaching.



False-Green Kyllinga

Recently, in addition to intense crabgrass pressure in 2018, two other summer weed issues have emerged, goosegrass and false-green kyllinga (in the same Genus as yellow nutsedge). These plants generally thrive under warmer conditions than crabgrass species and are both becoming harder to control as many of our existing pre-emergence herbicides do not provide control. Additionally, post emergence control of false-green kyllinga has only one option in New York State, Sedgehammer. Other states with Dismiss, or Echelon have a few other options, all in the same herbicide family, sometimes mixed with pre-emergence for

broader control. A significant amount of research is underway on both of these weeds at Rutgers University with Professor Matt Elmore. <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/fs1290/>



Crabgrass Growth Stages
Image Courtesy: Aaron Patten





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May 2019



New England Regional Turfgrass Foundation, Inc. May 15, 2019



2019-2020 NERTF Executive Board: (l to r): Robert Searle (Secretary), Peter J. Rappoccio, CGCS (President), Jeffrey M. Urquhart (Past-Pres.), Mark Mansur (VPres/Treasurer).

The New England Regional Turfgrass Foundation recently held its 22nd Annual Meeting on May 9, 2019 where a new Executive Board was elected. Peter J. Rappoccio, CGCS, Golf Course Superintendent of the Concord Country Club in Concord, MA has been elected as the 23rd President of the Foundation, succeeding Jeffrey M. Urquhart of GreenSight Agronomics, Inc.

Peter has represented the Golf Course Superintendent Association of New England on the NERTF Board since 2014. Mark Mansur, of Wintonbury Hills Golf Course representing the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents

(CAGCS), will serve as the vice-president/treasurer for this upcoming year. Robert B. Searle of the Abenakee Club of the Maine GCSA has been elected to serve as secretary for a second year. Jeff will continue to serve on the board as the Immediate-Past President. The foundation consists of 2 delegates from each of the 7 GCSAA Chapters located in New England, 1 delegate from the Sports Turf Managers Association of New England (NESTMA) and 1 delegate from the Massachusetts Association of Lawn Care Professionals (MALCP). Advisory board members are invited from state universities in Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

The 22nd Annual Conference and Show was held in Providence, RI on March 5th through March 7th, 2019. The winter weather cooperated nicely with better weather the first week of March than what we are seeing in May! Tuesday seminar attendance was at its second highest number in 22 years. Many new changes and improvements were added to the show in 2019 including a trade show lunch on Thursday. 76 total hours of Education for all attendees were available during the 3 days and the trade show was open a total of 13 hours. The 2020 show dates for the 23rd Annual Show are March 3-5, 2020 in Providence, RI. For more information on the show and New England Turfgrass Research please visit our website: www.nertf.org or call 401-841-5490.

In other NERTF news, the 8th annual Tee-Up New England rounds of golf auction took place April 15-22, 2019. 108 lots of golf across New England and one day of tennis at the Longwood Cricket Club were auctioned off along with a couple of sets of Red Sox tickets. Rounds were collected for the auction by the NERTF and ATG (Alumni Turf Group). All rounds were sold, and over \$31,000 was raised towards turfgrass research in New England. We greatly thank all courses who participated in 2019 and wish to extend that to every auction participant for supporting turfgrass research. A complete list of courses that participated is located at www.tee-up-newengland.com.

Gary Sykes, Executive Director

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Thank you to all donor courses and participants of the 2019 Tee-Up New England Live Auction! We continue to exceed 100 courses participating each year. The funds generated will help to ensure the future of turfgrass education, research and the game of golf in New England. Your support and donation have the potential to benefit the industry, the environment and all outdoor sports for generations!

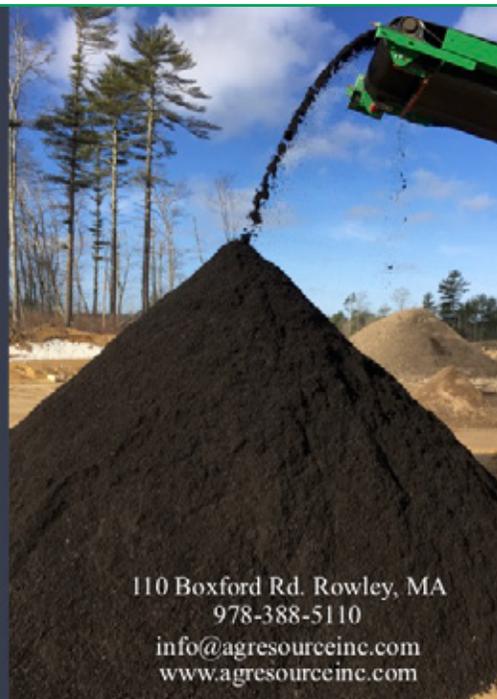
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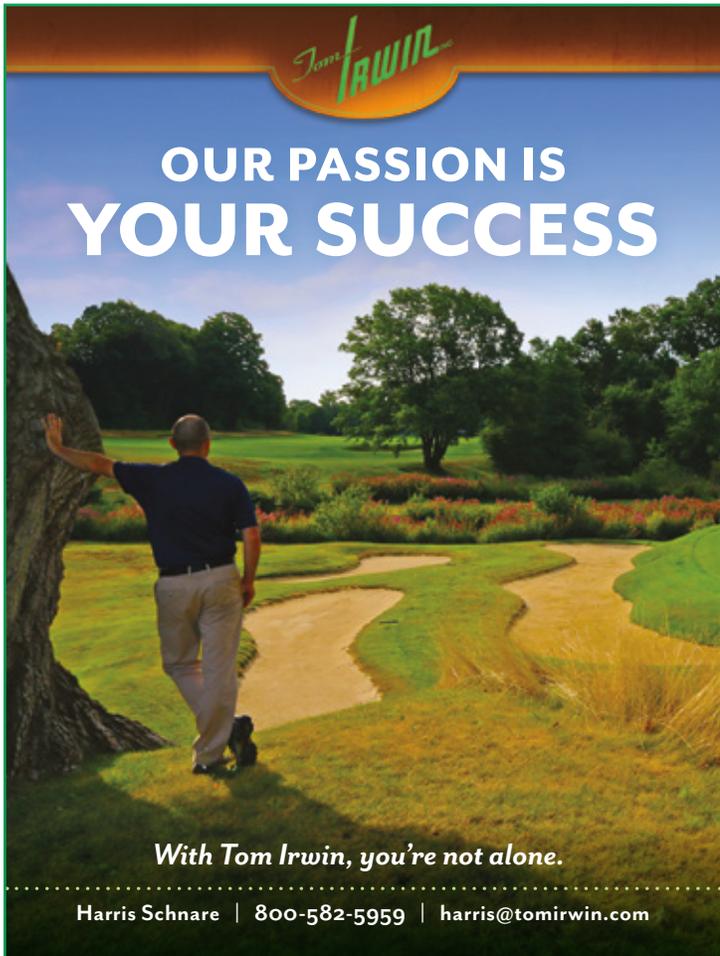
CONGRATULATIONS TO

Steve Thys on his recent appointment as Director of Agronomy at the Metacomet Golf Club. New ownership has renamed it from what was the Metacomet Country Club.

As a reminder to our Friends and Affiliates you are welcome to write a 1 page article in the Newsletter to tell other members of the association about yourself and your company. Please send all submissions to our Newsletter Editor, Greg Cormier, CGCS by email at gregcormier@tomirwin.com



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Back Issues!



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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