

FOREGROUND

VOL. 59 NO. 6 Published by Hudson Valley Golf Course Superintendents Association December 2022



PATRIOT HILLS

Join Us!!

YEAR END SOCIAL EVENT

Patriot Hills Golf Club

Tuesday, December 13th

12:00 - 2:00PM



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Association Motto

To promote interest and good will in the Association, encourage good relations between members and the clubs they represent.... And to keep up with the current developments in turf and related work.....

Bill Smart

HVGCSA Mission Statement

The Hudson Valley Golf Course Superintendents Association exists to inform, educate and serve members within the Hudson Valley and surrounding areas.



In This Issue

President's Message.....3

Winter Seminar Notice.....5

Worthington Cup Recap.....6

6th Annual Cornhole Classic.....8

Kevin Doyle GCSAA Article.....9

Villa Roma Meeting Recap11

Met Team Championship Recap.....14

Delegate's Meeting Recap.....18

President's Message



It's hard to believe the season is coming to a close for 2022. After the 100+ day drought it was hard to know what day it was. Assumably everyone at this point has blown out irrigation systems and either completed or will be completing snow mold sprays. It is a much deserved "winter break" for everyone.

It was great to see so many families at West Point for the annual Tailgate with the MetGCSA. I look forward to seeing many friends and colleagues at Patriot Hills for the Year End gathering and at Monticello on January 18th for our first **Winter Educational Seminar**. Annual Business Meeting/Elections will also be held on this date and location.

We had a great year of meetings and gatherings this season. The committee is working on 2023 sites and we look forward to seeing everyone next season for great camaraderie and competition.

Thank you to all our sponsors for making our association a success. Please support them in return.

Have a great Holiday Season!

All the best,
Tim



2023



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Hudson Valley GCSA

Winter Educational Seminar

Resorts World Casino, Monticello, NY



Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Agenda

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 7:30 - 8:30 | Registration & Breakfast Buffet |
| 8:30 - 9:30 | Welcome Introduction & HVGCSA Annual Business Meeting |
| 9:30-10:30 | Rich Buckley , Director Diagnostic Services at Rutgers University Plant Diagnostic Lab. |
| 10:30-11:00 | Coffee Break |
| 11:00-12:00 | Carl Schimenti , Cornell - 2022 Recap "What Drought" |
| 12:00 - 1:00 | Lunch Break |
| 1:00 - 2:00 | James Gorman , Aquatic Treatment & Solutions |
| 2:00 - 3:00 | Ken Benoit , New York Golf Foundation: Facility BMP's |
| | Closing Remarks & DEC Credits |
| 3:00 - 4:00 | Cocktail Reception |

Credits: TBD

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, January 11, 2023

Fee: HVGCSA Members: \$75

NYSTA Members: \$100

Non-Members: \$125

THANK YOU TO OUR WINTER SEMINAR SPONSORS



Worthington Cup ...recap



Congratulations to our 2022 Worthington Cup winner, Joe Meyer from Villa Roma with an impressive score of 78 in tough conditions.

What a great day we all had at Mahopac Golf and Beach Club. The conditions were quite intense with temps only in the 40's and a more then steady wind gracing us

all day. The course was in phenomenal shape kudos to Mr. Ferruccio and his crew. The green speed was off the charts hence the closet to the pin winning shot being 23'6". I think it may have been the only ball to hold the green. A big thank you to the food and bar staff. The hospitality was over the top. It was a great time had by all at a great place. I hope we get the chance to return soon.

The winners were:

Joe Meyer - Gross 78

Matt Topazio - Net 70 (I know what your thinking. I still have it once in a while)

Long Drive - Joe Meyer

Closet to Pin (23'6") - Mr. President, Tim Walker

Thank you to everyone involved all year for making our events successful and to all our sponsors for their continued support.

I look forward to next year's destinations.

Cheers,

Matt

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6th Annual DC Cornhole Classic

hosted by Dan Wilber at Millbrook G&T

Another year, another great turnout! We had around 34 guys come out to enjoy some much-needed down time at MGT. 54 degrees, sunny, and no wind turns out to be great cornhole weather! The tournament had its high moments and its odd moments.

Early on it was evident there would be no repeat winner as Mr. Jim Seaman went down. Here is a rundown of the top dogs for the day:

1st - Dan W. and Chris Pogge

2nd - Bill Constable and Ronny J (MGT)

3rd - Brian Kelly and Bill Wilk (MGT)

Other strong contenders were Lucas Butcher and Brian Bontemps, Blake Halderman and Scott Tretera.....and Tom Burns and Jeff Joedicke. We missed some of our friends who were either on vacation, aerating, or blowing out their systems.

As always, the food was killer, thanks to Fireside BBQ/Nooch's and the Millbrook Deli.

A BIG THANK YOU to our sponsor's for the event, we couldn't have done it without you!!!!

Sponsor's for the event:

Matt Topazio at Metro Turf Specialists, Chad Mathieu at Site One, Brian Goudey at Atlantic Golf, Chris Pogge at Grassland, Ryan Avery at Grassroots, Mike Weber at Fisher & Sons, Jim Seaman/Scott Tretera at Harrell's, Dave Lippman at Westchester Turf, Dick Neufeld at Plant Food Co., Kevin Collins at Ocean Organics, Brian Bontemps at Noble Turf, Greg Moran and Steve Puvogel at Valley Green.

SEE YA NEXT FALL!!!!!!

Cheers,

Brian and Dan



Upcoming Meetings & Events

Year End Social Event

Patriot Hills GC

December 13, 2022

MetGCSA

Winter Seminar

Westchester Country Club

January 11, 2023

HVGCSA

Winter Educational Seminar

Annual Meeting/Elections

Resorts World Casino

Monticello, NY

January 18, 2023

Golf Industry Show

Orlando, FL

February 6 - 9, 2023

Nor'easter Ski Day

Killington Mountain, VT

March 2, 2023

Kevin Doyle, GCSAA - Northeast Rep

With thermometer readings sliding off summer highs and into fall lows, calendars will also change from meeting and event golf season to indoor education season. Chapter education, vendor events, regional conferences, and of course GCSAA Conference and Show in Orlando are being announced and updated almost daily now. As a quick add: Don't miss the NEW interactive facility Learning Tours in Orlando where hands-on activities will be highlighted! This year's conference offers more opportunities for staff including assistant superintendents, equipment managers and staff members. With our often-understaffed teams, it's critical to arm everyone with the education needed to maximize their skills.

GCSAA, along with so many other education providers, learned how to deliver online education during the pandemic. The online 2021 conference and show was the first opportunity your association took to target education for maintenance team members outside of superintendents and assistants. The resulting feedback was excellent! The ease of use regarding the online platform and level appropriate information were noted by many members. The more eyes that are trained to alert of potential issues, the better.

Equipment manager (EM) education and resources continue to grow. More local associations are building education days specifically for member EMs. Add in the long-time running, full-day agenda offered at the New England Regional Turfgrass Show in Providence, and there are several resources available in the Northeast Region. Education at the GCSAA Conference and Trade Show continues to be robust and growing, including EM specific receptions developed for connecting EM peers and growing their network. With the GCSAA Equipment Manager Certificate Program and now EM Certification opportunities, the ability to educate, develop, and recognize this critical part of the golf maintenance leadership team is growing in importance and easier than ever to accomplish.

Educating assistant superintendents seems to always have been an integral part of building a successful

team. Local and regional resources are widely known and utilized. As a reminder, the GCSAA Assistant Superintendent Certificate Series is a targeted learning opportunity developed by assistants for assistants to offer these up-and-coming professionals the chance to differentiate themselves among their peers. Agronomy, business, leadership and communication, and environmental stewardship education will assist in building the skills needed for success in the future.

There is little doubt that education can be costly, and travel hasn't gotten any cheaper either. Have you had the opportunity to discuss the value continued education brings to your facility? If any member of your staff can keep one issue or pest problem from becoming more costly to correct, is that a value? With the supply chain struggling to provide timely parts deliveries (if at all), would a more highly trained and connected EM be in a better situation to develop a fix and get equipment back on the course?

Finding and keeping talented staff is an industry-wide concern. The ability to offer education to your staff at every level can only help in developing your team and benefit your facility. It might take time, funding, and lots of communication with decision makers at your facility to make this important investment in your people. If your staff is valued as the asset they deserve to be, educational opportunities will bring both tangible returns to the club and your team. A true win-win situation.



Kevin Doyle GCSAA Field Staff
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Villa Roma Meeting....Recap



It turned out to be a wonderful day at Villa Roma. The day didn't start out that way with pouring rain and miserable conditions. Many thanks to Will and his staff for dealing with the elements to set the course and get it playable. Also, thanks to the food staff for the last minute changes and making it work for us. The effort was certainly appreciated by all who attended.

The course was quite the test of golf in a spectacular setting. I had the pleasure to play with Dan Wilber who had quite the day. On the other hand, Guy Gurney another playing partner of mine was so distracted by all the deer seemingly stalking him and knowing he could not harm them was pure entertainment.

The winners of the day were:

Gross: Joe Meyer, Villa Roma

Net: Dan Wilber

Closet to Pin: Grover Alexander

Long Drive: Dan Wilber

On a finishing note, in the history of the Hudson Valley meetings I've never saw an open bar where nobody drank. It must have been a long drive home for all.

Cheers,
Matt



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September Meeting at Villa Roma





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Met Area Team Championship

The Long Island GCSA wins at Lehigh Country Club

By: Andy Drohen



HV Team: Left to right - Joe Meyer, Grover Alexander, Jay Werbalowsky, Will O'Brien, Dave Lippman, Dan Wilber, Steve Whipple & Tim Walker

For the first time since the MET Area Team Championship was expanded to 15 different associations 19 years ago, the team from Long Island wins The MET Area Team Championship! John Chassard hosted this year's event at the famed William Flynn Lehigh Country Club in Allentown, PA.

John was a great host this year, having to deal with our largest field of 136 players and all 15 chapters that made the trek to eastern Pennsylvania, along with some untimely rain during the middle of the round that dumped over an inch in a short amount of time. Unfortunately, by the time the rain stopped, and the course became playable again, we ran out of daylight to finish the 18-hole championship, so we had to cut this year's event to a 9-hole shoot out!

No matter! John had Lehigh in tremendous condition with greens smooth and fast and fairways pure and tight! Perennial competitors are familiar with the MET Team Championship's challenging, yet fair setups and Lehigh was no different! William Flynn created a gem in the rolling hills of Lehigh Valley with dramatic topography and changes in elevation, with great green complexes that demand good shots!

John Chassard has been at Lehigh for 39 years now and over the recent years has done a ton of tree work and also did a bunker restoration and some approach

expansions with Ron Forse Design. Flynn designed some great par 4's at Lehigh allowing players to use every club in the bag and challenge all types of angles off the tees. The par 3's at Lehigh can make or break your round and it seems like they were the deciding factor this year, with 4 holes of varying lengths and shot selections!

The rain shortened event did not dampen spirits of anyone playing in this year's tournament and all are asking when we can go back and compete on the rest of the course! It's in the works my friends!

Long Island was the only team that had all 4 teams shoot even par or better! Led by one of the low net scores of the day, Ken Lochridge and Daniel Wolf shot -2, followed by the second lowest gross team of the day at -1, Shamus O'Connor and Tom Weinert. Rounding out the team, both with even par scores were Shawn O'Sullivan and Luke Knutson on the gross side and Jon Semmig and Graig Patti on the net side.

Coming in 2nd place was the Pocono Turfgrass Team with the day's best gross score of -2 by Brad Helcoski and Jim Lanza and the best net score of -3 from Les Lear and Duane Schell. Teammates John Polak and Ron Garrison also had a red number on the net side at -1 with Steve Dosialk and Tom Height rounding off the



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Met Team Championship at Lehigh Country Club

Photos by Shaun Barry



Met Team Championship.....continued

gross side of the team. Just one shot back in third place at +1 was the team from Hudson Valley and rounding out the top 4 was the newly combined team GCSA of New York at +3. Defending team Philadelphia edged out Connecticut in the tiebreaker at +4.

With the rain-shortened event, we decided to raffle off the skill prizes, because half the field had not played all the holes. After hearing the tragic news of Chris Strehl's untimely passing of his son Jack, it was unanimously decided to pass along all skins money and 50/50 money to Chris's family to support them in this time of need. Please keep Chris and his family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Once again, the Met Area Team Championship is generously supported by our 7 major sponsors who continue to step up to make this one of the best events across the country! Please join me in thanking Allied Nutrients, BASF, Bayer, Ocean Organics, Plant Food, Syngenta and Toro as they continue to support this fantastic event.

Thanks again to all our sponsors, John Chassard and his entire staff, and all the folks at Lehigh CC for another successful championship! A special thank you to our local GCSAA representative Kevin Doyle and Kristen Lieb-sch from the Philly Association for help with registration and our resident photographer Shaun Barry for the great photos that can be found at <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjAbPss>. 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 March 2nd, 2023!! Housing information soon to follow.**

Team Scores Rain Shortened Event – 9 hole scores (Ties broken by lowest gross scores (), then net)

1 st	Long Island GCSA	-3
2 nd	Pocono Turfgrass Association	E
3 rd	Hudson Valley GCSA	+1
4 th	GCSA of New York	+3
5 th	Philadelphia AGCS (+1 low gross)	+4
6 th	Connecticut AGCS (+2 low gross)	+4
7 th	GCSA of Cape Cod (+3 low gross)	+7
8 th	GCSA of New Jersey (+4 low gross)	+7
9 th	Eastern Shore AGCS	+9
10 th	METGCSA	+11
11 th	Mid-Atlantic AGCS (+2 low gross)	+16
12 th	Central Penn GCSA (+3 low gross)	+16
13 th	Rhode Island GCSA (+5 low gross)	+16
14 th	Northeastern GCSA	+19
15 th	GCSA of New England	+27

Skill Events

Due to Rain – all skill prizes were raffled off and skins monies were donated to Chris Strehl family

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DELEGATES MEET AT GCSAA HQ/KANSAS CITY

By Steve Randall

67 delegates representing 72 chapters meet in person at GCSAA Headquarters and the Kansas City Airport Marriott

After a virtual session in 2020, delegates from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America met in-person during a two-day event at GCSAA Headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., as well as the KCI Airport Marriott Hotel October 21-22, 2021.

The annual event brings delegates together from GCSAA's 98 chapters to discuss initiatives, provide insight on moving the association forward, and to begin discussions on electing board members and officers at the February 2022 annual meeting.

Highlights of the meeting included a new delegates orientation session at GCSAA headquarters. New delegates were given an overview of expectations for the event, toured headquarters and heard from department leaders how GCSAA is moving the association forward.

Members also heard from President Mark Jordan, CGCS, and CEO Rhett Evans. Both discussed GCSAA's influence in the world of golf, facing difficult times during a global pandemic, and the importance of the delegates to lead outward. GCSAA continues to showcase the organization and its members as the global leaders in golf course management.

A member dues discussion also took place. GCSAA follows a dues adjustment process created in 2006 from input and approval from chapter delegates. The process is tied to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and equates to smaller and more frequent adjustments in dues rather than infrequent, but larger adjustments. This year's proposal is the following:

- 6.6% adjustment in CPI since 2019
- \$30 adjustment for A and B (\$430) and \$15 adjustment for C (\$220) is being proposed
- Approval rates for dues adjustments using this process has ranged from 87% - 96%

The GCSAA Board of Directors will consider delegate feedback as they discuss the proposal. Delegates are encouraged to communicate the proposed dues adjustment with their membership and provide chapter feedback to GCSAA.

The delegates offered their thoughts on a variety of industry issues during breakout sessions. Questions on labor, professional development and best management practices were of focus.

Wednesday's town hall session allowed delegates the chance to ask questions of the GCSAA Board. The interactive session focused on processes with the annual meeting and allowed further discussion on items discussed dur-

ing the two-day event.

Candidate breakout sessions concluded activities. The delegates were awarded ample time to interact and ask questions of the candidates. Those running for the GCSAA Board in 2022 are:

- For President – Kevin P. Breen, CGCS
- For Vice President – Kevin P. Sunderman, CGCS
- For Secretary/Treasurer – Jeff L. White, CGCS; T.A. Barker, CGCS
- For Director (electing two) – Douglas D. Dykstra, CGCS; Steven J. Hammon; Christopher A. Reverie; Marc E. Weston, CGCS; Richard Wit, CGCS

As Dykstra and Weston are at the end of their director terms, there will be two (2), 2-year director terms up for election. Both Barker and White are in the middle of their two-year director term and will remain on the board as a director if not elected Secretary/Treasurer. The membership will also elect a one-year director seat to fill the vacancy left by the winner of the Secretary/Treasurer race.

GCSAA's Annual Meeting will take place Thursday, February 10 from 8-10 a.m. at the San Diego Convention Center.

Welcome New Member

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Retired Member

Congratulations to Mike Maffei who will be retiring at the end of December after 51 years in the golf business.

Condolences

Our condolences to Chris Strehl and his family on the passing of his son Jack on October 14, 2022.

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YEAR END SOCIAL

Patriot Hills Golf Club

19 Club House Ln, Stony Point, NY

Tuesday, December 13th

12:00pm - 2:00pm

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