

FOREGROUND

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Lochmor Golf Course
Loch Sheldrake, NY



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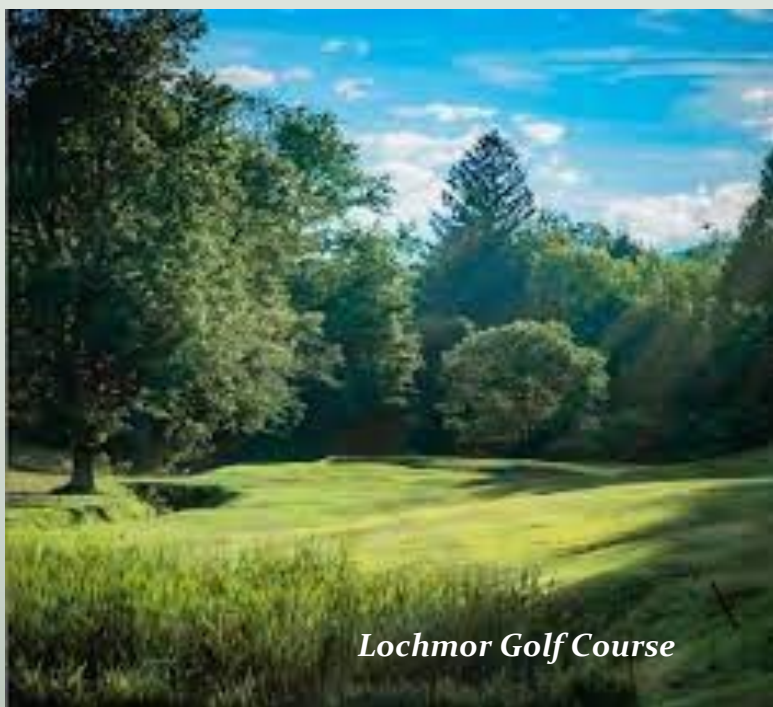
Association Motto

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.



Lochmor Golf Course

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President's Message



Wow, I can not believe it's time for another President's Message. Another month has passed and we are getting into the summer season. Before we know it, it will be fall and it will be time to start preparing for winter.

It was great to see everyone who made it out to Paramount Country Club May 9th for the Hudson Valley Cup. Thank you to all of our sponsors who help make the day great. Matt Kerens and staff had the place playing tough,

good job Matt!

Next up is Lochmor on June 13th, I am certain Pat McNamara will have it playing tough as this will also be the first of three Met Team Championship Qualifiers. I hope to see a strong field out there.

I would like to take a moment to recognize great benefits of the Hudson Valley Chapter. These include two scholarships and the Big Ticket. The July 1st deadline is fast approaching for the scholarship applications, so be sure to get them in. The Big Ticket is a great opportunity to attend the GIS (GCSAA National Conference) at no expense. Please check out the website for more information.

All the best,
Tim

BIG TICKET GIVEAWAY...TRIP TO GIS

Criteria:

1. Must be active within the Association.
2. Must be a Class A, B, or CGCS member of the Hudson Valley and be in good standing.
3. Have not attended the GIS within the past 5 years.
4. Must submit a brief essay as to how the trip to GIS will benefit you and your facility.
Due date: September 30, 2022
5. Must submit a written article outlining your experience at GIS for the Foreground Newsletter.

*Winner will be chosen by the Board of Directors.

*The chosen candidate will not be eligible for another 5 years.

Package Includes:

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LOCHMOR Golf Course to host HVGCSA June Meeting

On Monday June 13th, Pat McNamara and Lochmor Golf Course will host HVGCSA members and their guests for a fun day out on the links. This meeting is also the qualifier for the Met Team Championship. HVGCSA members will compete for the right to represent the association at the annual Met event held every fall. The team will be comprised of eight golfers (4 gross and 4 net participants).

About Pat:

You can't talk about Pat without talking about the legacy of the McNamara family. If you look at the HVGCSA Directory, you'll notice the history. Father Ray, member since 1970. Brother Mike, member since 1978. And Pat, member since 1989. And, let's not forget brother Terry, who also was a HVGCSA member. At one point in time, all four McNamara's were superintendents at golf courses in Sullivan County. Collectively they were known as "McNamara's Band" or, my favorite description, the "Royal Family of the Catskills."

Pat was born in Barea, Ohio. Pat's dad Ray worked in the salt mines under Lake Erie. The family's stay in Berea didn't last long. Ray moved the family to Warren County, PA. so he could work on the construction of the Kinzua Dam. Located within the Allegheny National Forest, it is one of the largest dams in the U.S. east of the Mississippi River. It spans the Allegheny River.

When that project wound down, Ray moved the family to Ellenville, NY. Ray got a job working as a mechanic on the golf course at Homowack Lodge. In those days,

there were many thriving resorts in the Catskills and most of them had golf courses. And they were jammed packed every summer with guests travelling up from NYC to spend a couple of weeks. The advent of Jet travel kind of doomed the Catskills as a vacation hotspot, but that's a story to be told at a different time.

Ray moved up through the ranks and took over as superintendent at the course. All the McNamara boys ended up working for dad as teenagers. "I started working for my dad at Homowack Lodge when I was 15," Pat reminisced, "it was string trimming and raking bunkers, just like it was for my brothers."

Pat's first superintendent's position was at The Pines Hotel and Resort. "The Pines had a 9-hole course. We took care of that and the ski hill in the winter." Pat stated.

After the Pines, Pat moved on to Swan Lake. It was a brief stay. Pat took a year off from golf to work as a logger. Then it was on to Apple Greens G.C. in New Paltz where he oversaw the opening of the front nine and grew in the back nine. Then it was back to logging.

Pat's next position was as the superintendent at Kutchers Resort where he took care of the course for 16 years. And nine years ago, Pat took over the superintendent's position for both Tarry Brae G.C. and Lochmor G.C. in South Fallsburg, N.Y.

LOCHMOR GC TO HOST JUNE MEETING....cont'd

Getting back to the McNamara family, what sustained them was the fact that they were close and hung together. And they would always pitch in and help each other out, and they still do to this day. "When Dad was still working, the four of us would get together once a week to play golf," Pat laughed, "we'd play in our work boots and drink beer afterwards."

So where are the McNamara's now? Ray is retired. Terry works as a cook in the NYS prison system. Mike is still taking care of the Grossinger's property, even though the course isn't open. And Pat, in addition to his gig at Tarry Brae and Lochmor, also has a company that does spray applications at other golf courses and properties. Mike occasionally will lend him a hand at those jobs.

When not working, Pat loves to ride his Harley Davidson motorcycle.



About Lochmor:

Both Tarry Brae and Lochmor were built in the late 1950's. The Architect for both courses was William Mitchell. He designed and renovated over 200 courses in the Eastern U.S. during his career.

Lochmor is a fun course to play. From the back tees, it's 6550 yards. It's a fair course that won't "beat you up" according to Pat.

Amazingly, Pat maintains both courses with a crew of 11. It's not by choice. "I could use three more guys," Pat laughed.

Pat looks forward to seeing a good turnout for the meeting!!

Kevin

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Community and Golf

On April 29th the Millbrook Golf and Tennis Club was able to host a First Green field trip. WHAT.....A.....DAY! We had about (60) 3rd grade students, 5 teachers, 6 chaperones, all from the Alden Place Elementary School in the Millbrook School district. Also on hand were some distinguished industry personnel including: Kevin Doyle (GCSAA), Mike McCall (METGCSA), Kevin Kline (MGA), Tony DeBonis (local beekeeper) and our HVGCSA guys..... Matt Topazio, Brent Thompson, Brian Bontemps, Ryan Avery, and Chris Kemble. I do have to add that this is a great outreach program for you Audubon Certified golf courses.

The interaction from the students was non-stop, great to see them outside and enjoying what we have to offer on the property especially after what they (we) have been through the past two years. We had five stations set up on the golf course:

- Equipment demos and a putting contest
- Cool Tools from the golf course
- Beekeeping 101
- Water Quality, Irrigation, and Water Testing
- Soils and Cup Cutting

The trip only lasted about 2 hours but the memories that everyone took away will last a lifetime. I can't thank the industry volunteers that helped out, without them, we would not have been able to make it happen. Prizes for the putting contest were given out, and all the kids received a swag bag of GCSAA goodies. Heck, even some of our office and kitchen staffers were out there learning about what we do as well.

If you'd like to give it a shot, hosting a field trip that is, please contact me and I'd be glad to help in any way I can.

Cheers,

Dan Wilber

GCSAA First Green Liaison



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Hudson Valley News of Interest:

By: Kevin Collins



*Metro's Matt Topazio and his girl Beth recently attended a Kentucky Derby party. After Beth finished her second bottle of Pinot Grigio and called him Mark, Matt thought it might be a good time to leave. Matt was a little crushed and lamented, "This happens every time she drinks wine with a straw."



*Watching his son getting ready for his first prom stirred up personal prom memories for Storr Tractor's Guy Gurney which he felt compelled to share with the young man. Guy's prom memories, regrettably, made his son gag.

*Patriot Hill's Super Evan Weymouth is seen at Knollwood CC after hitting a hybrid onto 287 West. The shot was so dreadful, Evan got physically ill and spewed.



*After his Orange County house was foreclosed on, Southern Dutchess Super Jeff Newell hooked up his trailer and dragged it over to the club. His new abode is located adjacent to the third green. After work and a few libations, Jeff entertains himself by slurring at and heckling club members.



*Powelton Club Super Vincent Barnaba recently took delivery on a new sprayer. This 75-gallon lightweight beauty replaced the 300-gallon sprayer that Vinny had specified in his 2022 capital budget. When Vinny asked the club why the 300-gallon sprayer was nixed he was told the club was going to "use the savings to buy more jumbo shrimp."



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Friday, July 22, 2022

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS CORNER

ON TOP OF YOUR

HOW TO STAY

WORKLOAD



I hope everyone is doing well with the 2022 golf season now in full swing. As the days get busier I find our workload increasing and our time coming at a premium. We are all well aware of the need for a work – life balance and one of the ways I personally try to achieve that is to focus on priorities and good decision making. Not only prioritizing a personal life, but through planning and solid decision making that leads to an efficient work day.

We all make daily decisions for ourselves as well as our department staff members. Fix the irrigation leak or finish up the pre emergent application? Edge bunkers or catch up on rough mowing? The list goes on, and always will! Sometimes the days never seem long enough however with well timed planning and setting priorities, those days can become more productive. Speaking for myself, when I first started out as an assistant and then head superintendent, I would put in incredibly long hours. (As we all have and continue to do at times) Looking back I can see that there were days where I fell into the trap of putting in those long hours simply out of habit. With some experience and admittedly age, prioritizing daily and season tasks has led to much more efficient days.

Through this efficiency, jobs are still getting done and course conditions still meet or exceed expectations.

Some things are still beyond our control or timing but there is a satisfaction to getting a full day's work done and still having some time at home. The old phrase, work smarter not harder, certainly applies. So with all that said, I wish everyone an enjoyable summer, on and off the golf course.

Reese Wasson





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HV Cup @ Paramount....recap



Let me first start off by stating it's an honor to take the reigns from a Hudson Valley legend, Mr. Bill Luthin. Hopefully, I can utilize technology a little more than Bill did and not take notes on a bar napkin with a borrowed pen. Ha-Ha!

It was a great day and we had a nice turnout for our Annual Fundraiser and HV Cup Tour-

namment. I hope everyone enjoyed the event as much as I did. It was a pleasure to spend the day at Paramount Country Club. Magically the sun came out and graced us all day. Many thanks to Matt and his entire staff for having the course in outstanding condition. Thanks to the rest of the staff inside and outside for assisting with all our needs, including excellent food and drinks. Thanks to all the sponsors for their continued support. Matt may not have been aware of this, but the beverage cart operator needed a property tour and a lesson on where not to go. First day on the job lead to the cart being in a few spots not warranted by any superintendent.

Congratulation to all the winners, especially our host Matt & Team Paramount who took home the trophy with a Low Net of (58).

Results: This was a Net Tournament.

First Low Net & HV Cup Winner: Team Paramount (58)
Matt Kerens | Chris Arkin | Brian Chapin | Ron Meyer

Second Low Net: Team Southern Dutchess | Rotella (59)
Jeff Newell | Scott Estey | Greg Browne | Tim Donnery
(match of cards against Team Brae Burn & Team Beekman)

Long Drive: Mike Scapperotti, Team Dogwood Knolls

Closest to the Pin:

#4 - Will Farnsworth, GC at Mansion Ridge (16'10")
#12 - Brian Chapin, Rolling Green GC (4'8")
#18 - Brian O'Malley, Rivervale CC (3'9")
(Hopefully someone made the putt)

Things are tough right now! Hang in there everyone.

Cheers,
Matt T.



Hudson Valley Cup @ Paramount Country Club



Hudson Valley Cup @ Paramount Country Club



Upcoming Meetings

July 22nd
Nine & Dine
Dogwood Knolls Golf
Course

August 15th
Links @ Union Vale w/
NYSTA

September 22nd
Villa Roma
(Met Team Qualifier)

October 3rd
Mahopac Golf Club
(Met Team Qualifier)

November 19th
Tailgate Party at West
Point
w/MetGCSA

December TBD
Year End Social Event
Billy Joe's Ribworks



HVGCSA June Meeting & Met Team Qualifier Lochmor Golf Course

586 Loch Sheldrake Hurleyville Rd, Loch Sheldrake, NY

Monday, June 13, 2022

HOST: Patrick McNamara, CGS

9:30 Registration

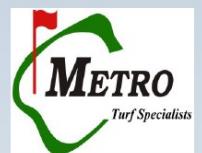
10:30 Shotgun Start - Format: Stroke Play

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GOLF ETIQUETTE & RULES by Kevin Doyle



A lot has happened in the golf industry during and since the beginning of the pandemic. While it would be easy to go off on a diatribe about the many altered aspects, one difference stands out among the rest: Increased rounds have pumped life into many facilities.

With full memberships — and even waiting lists — at some private clubs, to full tee-sheets, reduced outings, and increased revenue at daily fee facilities, golf is revitalized. Conversations with many GCSAA members have proven to me that this much needed increased engagement has come with a notably increased lack of etiquette. It doesn't matter what type of facility, there are more balls in the air. There are more swings being taken. More carts are finding their way on the property. Not all of these are beneficial. What can be done?

Increased rounds don't necessarily equate to more stories of staff under siege by flying golf balls. Simple math would prove that having more golfers and tighter tee-times does increase the number of opportunities for issues. Do the new and returning golfers deserve the blame for seeming additional instances of staff being hit or nearly hit by golf balls? There is no way to know, after all, it's a problem that existed when the game was struggling for players too.

Again, increased rounds mean more swings, more divots, and more ball marks. Some repaired by respectful golfers, many not. Tee markers, divot boxes, golf carts seem to have fallen target to more than their fair share of wayward golf club attacks. Unfortunately, the proper turf isn't always the target of these swings these days. Add to that list, the occurrence of divots taken out of greens and collars seem to be on the rise too. Learning of this unnecessary and unwanted damage through conversations has increased, and the prevalence of such despair on social media mirrors that up-tick too. None of this is new to our industry professionals, but the seeming growth of these occurrences have become alarming.

Golf cart traffic created an agronomic situation in recent years that has been difficult to address, most nota-

bly when they all were driven where they belonged. Wayward carts aren't anything new, yet more vehicles making their way on to the course seems to have increased the number of carts in undesirable situations. Harming turf, ropes, and carts does more than add work to superintendents, it damages the bottom line of the facility. Is the lack of etiquette part of the new golf culture? I sure hope not. It seemed to me that during the lean golf years, facilities were so thrilled to have players that many overlooked indiscretions in favor of revenue. I have heard about facilities now getting more aggressive in tracking down perpetrators of damage and holding them accountable. One facility has begun communications at every interaction point of the golf course. All staff are given scripts to tell every member/customer the expectations and etiquette required during their round, no matter how many times they may have heard them.

Is a full-blown communication program going to fill every divot, fix every ball mark and keep every cart where it belongs? I highly doubt it, yet if it keeps your staff safer, it's a positive result. If the message delivered enlightens even just a few unaware golfers to embrace the etiquette that makes our game special, then it will have made a difference for the better.





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EXCEL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



The EXCEL Leadership Program offers leadership training for personal, career, and community/industry stewardship for assistant superintendents; the future leaders in the golf course management industry. **Applications for the 2022 class are open through June 16.**

The program

The EXCEL Leadership Program features two, two-day education and training sessions and a trip to the annual GCSAA Conference and Trade Show for assistant golf course superintendents. The education and travel for 2022-2023 includes:

- Fall Meeting, TBD
- GCSAA Conference and Trade Show, Feb. 6-9, 2023, Orlando
- Spring Meeting, TBD

Applicants must be:

- Currently employed as an assistant golf course superintendent within the United States (including Alaska and Hawaii) or Canada.
 - A Class C member of GCSAA
- Able to participate for three full years

For more information and to apply, visit the link: [EXCEL Leadership Program | GCSAA](#)

Upcoming Education:

[Best Management Practices for Turfgrass Soil Testing and Application](#) Travis Shaddox, Ph.D. June 16 @ noon
[Irrigation Water Quality and Soil Problems](#) Glen Obear, Ph.D. June 28 @ noon
[Factors that Affect Pesticide Fate & Behavior on the Golf Course](#) Travis Gannon, Ph.D. July 13 @ noon
[Course Marking - Local Rules & Best MARKING Practices for Your Golf Course](#) Todd Stice Aug. 23 @ 2 p.m.

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

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