



Commonwealth Crier

News from the Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association

Fall 2021

President's Message

I hope everyone is enjoying cooler fall temperatures and shorter days. It appears that most courses came through summer in great shape. That is impressive considering the challenges this year with labor and increased play.

We held the Local Association Challenge during our August board meeting at Country Club of Petersburg. Vince Hankley had the golf course in its usual terrific condition (they even named the golf course after him!). Congratulations to the Old Dominion GCSAA. They took the crown for the second year in a row and remain undefeated.

GCSAA board member Doug Dykstra and GCSAA Mid-Atlantic region representative Katrin Wolfe joined us for the summer board meeting. They updated our board on GCSAA business and toured six Richmond area clubs. It was great seeing the national organization reach out.

The Joe Saylor was held on October 4th at Lakeside Park Club in Richmond. This was the first opportunity for many to see the newly renovated course. Golf Course Superintendent and host Mike Nowicki treated the field to fantastic conditions. The greens were perfect,



and the fairways have some of the best common / Vamont bermudagrass I have ever seen.

Congratulations to our champions Jim Wilson and Matt Drayton. Also hats off to General Manager Jeff Crabbe and the entire Lakeside Park team for a great day of golf and camaraderie.

The Virlina Cup was held on October 11 & 12th at James River Country Club. Our host, Rob Wilmans and his team had the golf course in perfect condition. The golf course and the club received rave reviews from all the participants. Thank you to Rob and the entire James River team who all worked tirelessly to make this a great event. Kudos also to our own David Norman and Tyler Eastham who worked many hours behind the scenes coordinating uniforms, menus, hotels, etc. It takes a lot of work to host this event and it went off flawlessly due to their efforts.

I am happy to report that the Virlina Cup is back in the Old Dominion! It was shaky after the first day, but the boys rallied strong and came home with a victory. It all rested on our

veteran, Scott Cornwell, who birdied the last hole to secure the point needed to bring back the cup! It was truly an exciting finish.

Coming soon will be the Assistants Forum at Hermitage Country Club. Our Assistant representative Jacob Odum has put together a great group of talent for a panel discussion who will share their insights for success. This is a great opportunity for both young and old to come together and learn a thing or two.

Our annual meeting and conference will be back in Charlottesville on December 6 & 7th. Our education committee has done a fantastic job of lining up some great speakers. Please do not miss this great event.

We would not be able to operate as we do without the generous support of our sponsors. Please use them whenever possible.



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VGCSA President



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2021 VGCSA Conference Returns to Charlottesville

Great Networking, Education & Fun on December 6-7



VGCSA Presenting Sponsors



The VGCSA Conference continues to grow in its seventh year, and the event returns to the UVA Darden Conference Center in Charlottesville on December 6-7, 2021. A good deal of education credit will be available to VGCSA members, as the Old Dominion's Education Segment will again be on the first day, followed by the Association's Annual Meeting and Awards Presentations. Dr. Steve McDonald of Turfgrass Disease Solutions will talk about "Solutions Based Review of Golf Turf," Tyler Bloom, a workforce development consultant will discuss "Solutions for Talent Acquisition" followed by Dr. Bill Kreuser of GreenKeeper App discussing "PGR Programming to Maximize



Performance." Immediately following the meeting, there will be a FREE Partner Appreciation Reception hosted by Larry Feller of Syngenta, featuring your favorite beverages and hors d'oeuvres, and plenty of networking time with your friends. The evening will cap off with a Monday Night Football Party at Champions Grill, hosted by Ian Grove of SiteOne.



Then on Tuesday, more education, featuring outstanding speakers, all designed to make your jobs just a little easier and a little better. VGCSA lobbyist, Robb Bohannon of Hunton Andrews Kurth will join us for a government relations update followed by Dr. Steve McDonald, Tyler Bloom, and



Bill Kreuser



Tyler Bloom



Robb Bohannon



David McCall



Mike Goatley



Mike Evans



Steve McDonald

Other VGCSA Sponsors



2021 VGCSA Conference Returns to Charlottesville *(Continued)*



Dr. Bill Kreuser. In addition to the Virginia Tech team featuring Mike Goatley, David McCall and Mike Evans. There will also be fast-paced presentations from VGCSA partners in our IGNITE Sessions

segment.

Thanks to the excellent support of sponsors like Revels Tractor and Finch Services (the John Deere distributors) and

other excellent companies, the conference will be at a reasonable price. The Hyatt Place Charlottesville, just a few miles down the road will be our host hotel and a single guest room will be just \$109 plus tax. The VGCSA is committed to providing value and service to its members.

Hotel Booking Instructions

Hyatt Place Charlottesville

Reservations by Phone: 800-993-4751

Mention Group Code: G-VGD1 or

Dates and Name of Event

December 6-7 / VGCSA

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Select Dates: Dec 6-7

Check Availability

Old Dominion Repeats as Local Association Challenge Winners

Country Club of Petersburg Plays Host



ODGCSA: Chris Roberts (Captain), Brent Graham, Jeremy Waddell, Ryan Dwyer, Matt Drayton

In August, four of the five local associations competed in the second addition of the local association challenge, a four-person team match. The format was two best balls combined gross. After being behind the other three teams by two strokes with nine holes to play, the Old

Dominion GCSA unleashed a barrage of birdies on the back to beat the Greater Washington GCSA by three strokes. Finishing in third was VTA, one stroke ahead of fourth-place finishers TTA. Congratulations to the winning team of Jeremy Waddell, Brent Graham, Ryan

Dwyer, Matt Drayton, and Captain Chris Roberts.

Results

1ST - Old Dominion (142) – Jeremy Waddell, Brent Graham, Chris Roberts, Matt Drayton

2ND – Greater Washington (145)
– Scott Cornwell, Patrick McNamara, David McGregor

3rd – Virginia TA (147) – Cam Shelton, Chip Bass, Damien Beasley, Dave Callahan

4th - Tidewater TA (154) – Jeff Whitmire, Jeff Yarborough, Tim Doran, Ian Grove

Drones, Diseases and Cold Weather

Behind the 'cutting-edge' turfgrass research Virginia Tech is doing at Independence GC



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Virginia Tech turfgrass specialist Mike Goatley hopes the winters reach a certain threshold of extreme cold at Independence Golf Club, where his team conducts field research. Under cold-weather conditions, they can gather the most data about the health of the varieties of grass they've been testing.

But on the flip side, Independence's director of agronomy Dan Taylor knows that if it gets too cold, it could "potentially just wipe out everything." One recent year, they had to replace the greens after a severe winter. It presents a dichotomy that both partners laugh about: The cold can be damaging, but it also provides much-needed data that helps them learn how to prevent damage.

"It gives us a real opportunity to see how our research does relate to the real world," said David McCall, an assistant professor at VT and a member of the research team. Currently, the "cutting-edge" research uses drones to quantify and measure the turfgrass' health. That objective data allows for potential environmental benefits such as limiting the amount of pesticides, fertilizer and water, said Travis Roberson, a graduate research assistant who handles the day-to-day field work and data collection.

And now, they're working to implement a scorecard to collect subjective data — feedback and ratings from Independence golfers who played on the course.

Their research translates to other sports facilities like soccer, lacrosse, football and baseball fields, McCall said. They have 14 acres of research space on "The Bear Short Course," and everything except the work

they're doing on putting greens is applicable elsewhere, he said. It applies to home lawn care, too.

The technology that Roberson uses trickled down

from the agriculture industry. Golf has more funding than industries like lawn care and sports fields, Roberson said, so the research they conduct at Independence will continue trickling down.

Roberson, who's working on his



doctorate thesis, is specifically focusing on limiting water usage and synchronizing that data to automate irrigation systems. That means flying a drone over a golf course — or any other commercial facility — so that it can assess the moisture levels and then set off necessary sprinkler heads.

"You have a drone that'll fly big acreage ... and say, 'This one pocket is dry, let's cut on this head because it's the closest to this spot,' and it waters it with the exact amount that it needs and then it cuts off," Roberson said.

That's the future he's working toward. Currently, he uses a "moisture meter" to take manual readings, and then syncs those results with specific light-reflectance values

that the drone collects. That means the drone can figure out what parts of the course need water, which parts have too much, and so on. He flies the drone, but then has to land it and process the data before he can determine which portions of the course need watering.

"By then, the plant's already wilted, dried out," Roberson said, laughing.

Stronger signal-strength would allow the data to be automatically uploaded and processed in real time. The VT team has a \$40,000 grant incoming that will allow them to buy a larger, more advanced drone, Roberson said. But the hope is that years down the line, drones and technology become cheaper so that other golf superintendents can collect the same data to assess their courses' health — including factors like moisture level, aeration, compaction and whether diseases are present — for a more affordable price.

The drone is useful in monitoring diseases too, Roberson said. They can determine an exact percentage of a plot that has been infected by a disease by uploading drone pictures to digital imaging software. Researchers select a pixel where the disease is clearly present, and the software uses that as a reference to find matching colors.

In particular, the team also is testing different fungicides and pesticides to see how they respond. McCall, who specializes in pathology, said they're measuring how root systems respond to various treatments.

"We're trying to find ways to get the right product where it needs to be at the right time," McCall said.

In one part of the course with the letters "D.R." sprayed in orange paint, Roberson demonstrates how he uses a research roller for "dew removal." If too much moisture accumulates, a fungus called Dollar Spot could thrive, so they're measuring how different plots respond to combinations of fungicides and how often the dew is removed. Factors like mowing height and whether it's in the sun or shade also apply.

Another putting green has a disease called Fairy Ring, so Roberson explains

Continues on page 11

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VGCSA Awards Nominations Open

Deadline October 30th

Nominations are now open for the 2021 VGCSA awards, which will be presented at the VGCSA Annual Meeting on Monday, December 6th at UVA Darden School of Business. Any VGCSA member may submit a nomination to our committee. Here are the award descriptions:



Ed Eagle, CGCS



Scott Mauldin, CGCS



Jeff Snyder

VGCSA Presidents Award for Lifetime Service - "To honor those superintendent pioneers who were instrumental in state and local affairs but who may no longer be actively involved in the VGCSA.

Qualifications include twenty years or more of

VGCSA Distinguished

Service Award - "Presented to a member who has given his time unselfishly in promoting golf course management and unification of the Virginia Golf Course Superintendents".

VGCSA Environmental Stewardship Award - "Presented to recognize distinguished and meritorious service in the environmental stewardship of Virginia golf courses."

service to the turfgrass industry, ten of which were as a superintendent". This award is chosen by the VGCSA President.

The Awards Committee is chaired by David Walter, and we request nominations be submitted by October 30th. Visit the website or the TTG eLetter for a Nomination form.

Distinguished Service Award Recipients

2020 Ed Eagle, CGCS
2019 Jeff Holliday, CGCS
2018 Jeff Berg
2017 Rob Wilmans
2016 Fred Biggers, CGCS
2015 Ken Giedd, CGCS
2014 Christian Sain
2013 Phil Bailey, CGCS
2012 Stanley J. Zontek
2011 Mark Vaughn, CGCS
2010 Eric D. Spurlock
2009 Cutler Robinson, CGCS
2008 Bob Ruff, CGCS
2007 Steve Burnette
2006 Steve Snare, CGCS
2005 Jeff Snyder
2004 Thomas Dougherty
2003 Peter McDonough
2002 H.T. Page
2001 Jerome Dodson
2000 Dick Fisher, CGCS

VGCSA Environmental Stewardship Award

2020 Scott Mauldin, CGCS
2019 Jay Wade
2018 Mike Augustin
2017 Brent Graham, CGCS
2016 Mike King
2015 Dan Taylor, CGCS
2014 Jeff Berg
2013 Cutler Robinson, CGCS
2012 Donna Pugh Johnson
2011 Peter McDonough

VGCSA President's Lifetime Service Award Recipients

2020 Jeff Snyder
2019 Mark Vaughan, CGCS
2018 Sterling Caudle
2017 H.T. Page
2016 Steve Snare, CGCS
2015 Rick Viancour
2014 Dudley Eames
2013 Bobby Jenkins
2012 David Harmon
2011 Fred Reese
2010 Lee Dieter, CGCS
2009 Tony Montgomery
2008 Mike Burkholder
2007 A. Tildon Hankley
2006 Walter Montross, CGCS
2005 Jack McClenahan
2004 Eugene Sours
2003 Frank Flannagan
2002 Dave Geiger, CGCS
2001 Peter McDonough
2000 Dick Fisher, CGCS



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TORO

National Board Member Visits VGCSA

Dykstra Impressed on Whirlwind Tour



Doug Dykstra with VGCSA President Jeff Whitmire

GCSAA National Board Member Doug Dykstra visited VGCSA this summer, attending a Board Meeting and personally visiting with several top superintendents in Central Virginia. It's part of outreach efforts of the national body to visit different chapters annually.

Dykstra's visit including meeting with Trevor Hedgepeth, Kinloch GC; Chris Harriman, Hermitage CC; Dan Taylor, Independence GC; Matt Drayton, The Federal Club; Dan Sabina, Belmont; and Christian Sain (The CC of Virginia). He also visited with Dr. David McCall and Travis Roberson of Virginia Tech and VGCSA Executive Director David Norman.

Scenes from Dykstra's Visit



Trevor Hedgepeth



Christian Sain



Chris Harriman



Matt Drayton



Dan Taylor, David McCall, Travis Roberson, Doug Dykstra



Dan Sabina



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Greg Austin

with our 8 Territory Managers from Pennsylvania to South Carolina.

We are also pleased to announce that Cam Shelton has joined joining the Revels Turf and Tractor Team as the new Territory Manager for the Southwest Virginia and West Virginia Territory. Cam has been a superintendent at Tuscarora CC in Danville, VA, for the last four years; before



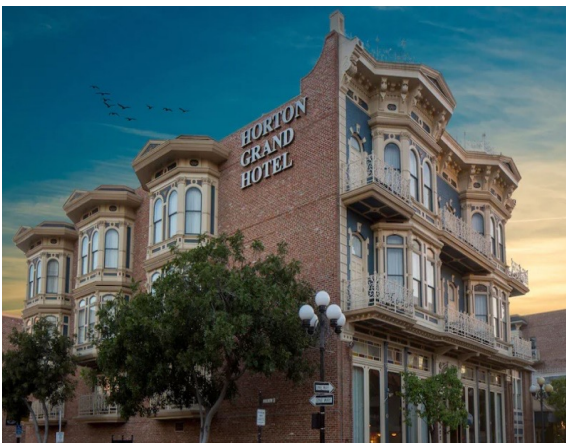
Cam Shelton

that, he attended Virginia Tech, where he received a Master's degree in Plant Pathology, Physiology, and Weed Science. Cam will be a great addition to our

Revels Sales Team, and we look forward to serving our great customers with even more support. Cam's contact number is 434-334-9049, and his email is Cam@revelstractor.com.

GIS San Diego - Hotel Reservations Now Available

Horton Grand Hotel



The Horton Grand Hotel in the Gaslamp District is the official hotel for

VGCSA, MAAGCS, and ESAGCS for the 2022 Golf Industry Show in San Diego. Room availability runs Feb. 6-12. Rates are \$191. This cool New Orleans-style hotel will also host our annual Social Event joint with MAAGCS and ESAGCS on Wednesday, Feb. 9th. More details to follow!

Instructions

Connections Housing offers reservation assistance Mon - Fri 6am - 5pm PST at 702-586-0542, or use

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to access the housing website.

Once you enter the website, please enter your arrival/departure dates in the top right-hand corner to begin making your reservation.

Our social event joint with MAAGCS and ESAGCS will be on Wednesday, February 9th from 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm, so **SAVE THE DATE!**

Continues from page 5

that the team reached out to pesticide company representatives to see if they wanted to test their product. They do the same with seed-breeding companies when they spot dead patches of grass. If the trials reveal something, it could benefit the company, VT's researchers and Independence.

When the partnership originally began, however, Jordan Booth was conducting research about how to keep Bermuda grass, a Southern, warm-weather grass, alive during the winter. (Booth was in Roberson's current role but has since moved on to a position at the USGA).

There's no "perfect" grass for any situation in Virginia, which is a transition zone, but they wanted to experiment with various Bermuda grass species and other grasses, Goatley said. When temperatures dropped below 20 degrees Fahrenheit in

the winter, they tested different types of covers and blankets, McCall said. Those included black ones, white ones, clear ones and double covers, Breed added.

"[Breed] had a lot of questions, and we just didn't have a lot of answers," McCall said. "So the natural option for us is ... let's find out what works and what doesn't work."

Compared to Bent grass, a cold-season grass, Bermuda grass requires less maintenance, especially in the summer, Goatley and Taylor said. The research led Independence to change its 18-hole championship greens to Bermuda grass. Some nearby courses called to ask about the details of managing Bermuda grass and have followed suit, Taylor said.

"Everybody was watching us," he said.

Every year in mid-May, Independence does an annual "field day" where Virginia superintendents are invited to talk with

researchers and learn about the various experiments that are underway. They apply what VT's team found to their own courses to try and improve, Roberson said.

In the long term, the team will be able to draw conclusions about which turfgrasses have distinguished themselves, and why, Goatley said. They've received grass from around the nation: hole No. 1's from University of Florida, No. 6's from University of Georgia, and No. 8's from University of Arizona, Breed said. It's proof that their research is all-around beneficial.

"We were trying to figure out how to make it really a gem, to make it beautiful," Breed said of the par 3 course. "We feel that we've got a responsibility to make our corner of the world good ...

"[This is] how we can be involved in things and advance golf."

Government Relations UPDATE



Robb Bohannon

Although early voting began on September 17th, on November 2nd, Virginians will elect a governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general. Also, all 100 seats in the Virginia House of Delegates are on the ballot.

The most recent polls show the race for governor is closer than it was this summer. Former Governor Terry McAuliffe (D) is working to highlight his record as governor related to job creation and investments in education. Republican Glenn Youngkin has promised to reduce taxes on Virginians, stimulate the economy, and make Virginia safer.

Regardless of the outcome of the lieutenant governor's race, Virginia will elect its first woman of color statewide. Delegate Hala Ayala (D-Prince William) and Republican Winsome Sears are the two candidates – Ayala is Afro-Latina, and Sears immigrated to the United States from Jamaica as a child. The race for governor is expected to heavily influence

the outcome of this contest, as well as the race for attorney general, where Attorney General Mark Herring (D) is running for a third term against Delegate Jason Miyares (R-Virginia Beach).

In the House of Delegates, Democrats have a 55-45 seat advantage. Republicans are targeting two House seats held by Democrats in rural districts, as well as Democratically held seats in the Richmond and Hampton Roads suburbs. Most observers believe Republicans will pick up at least a few seats in 2021, but they will need to pick up six seats if they are to regain the majority they lost in 2019. If Republicans regain the majority, a new Speaker of the House and new committee chairs will be chosen in 2022. Democrats are largely playing defense this year, as most Republican held seats are in solidly Republican districts.

In the year after a presidential election, Virginia's state elections serve as a test of the electorate's mood towards Washington. Given our proximity to the nation's capital, and the influence the federal government has in Northern Virginia, voter's decision making is heavily impacted by their view of the President and the U.S. Congress.

Given the intense focus on the statewide and House of Delegates elections, there has not been a significant amount of attention focused on legislative issues at the state level this summer or early fall.

In late September, the workgroup formed to improve communication between beekeepers and applicators to reduce the risk to pollinators from neonicotinoid pesticides met in Richmond. During the meeting, one stakeholder complimented golf course superintendents for the efforts he has seen by the industry to promote and protect pollinators. No meeting participants identified any problems with golf courses. VGCSA's Environmental Best Management Practices for Virginia's Golf Courses were highlighted for their focus on pollinator protection. A report with recommendations from the workgroup for better communication will be released later this year.

Prefiling of legislation for the 2022 session of the Virginia General Assembly begins on November 15th. We will be monitoring these bills for issues that impact VGCSA members.

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Scholarships Available

Deadline Approaching

The Old Dominion Golf Course Superintendents Association is proud to offer two \$1,000 scholarships to students who are working at a club with a Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association member. The Scholarship program was established in 2016 as a means to support the employees of golf courses that are actively enrolled in an institution of higher learning. Funding comes from the annual ODGCSA Scholarship Tournament.

The Buy Sod VGCSA Scholarship Program was established in 2012 by Buy Sod as a means to support the children of qualified golf course superintendents, who plan to attend an institution of higher learning, following graduation from high school. High School Seniors who are the children of Class A or B members in good standing of the



VGCSA are eligible for the program.

Applications are available online and in the TTG eLetter – the deadline is October 31st for Buy Sod and November 15th for ODGCSA.

VGCSA Assistants Forum

Hermitage CC Hosts October 25th



VGCSA is excited to host another first-class event for the assistant superintendent members at Hermitage in Manakin-Sabot on Monday, October 25th.

The forum provides assistants with an opportunity to receive first-class education along with a fun and competitive day of golf, allowing them to build relationships. This is an important aspect of the association and the future of golf as a whole. The golf match will be a two-man's captain choice. Both players will play each shot, with the team selecting the best ball to play, continuing until the



Jacob Odum



ball is holed. You can sign up as a team or as an individual and be paired you with another single.

VGCSA Superintendent Board Representative Jacob Odum of Hermitage CC is hosting. The education segment will feature the transition to Superintendent, presented by Dan Evers of Indigo Golf



Dan Sabina



Mike Nowicki



Partners. Dan will be speaking on the topic of important things you should know before making the transition to Superintendent and what you should focus on after you enter the role. There will also be a panel discussion, featuring Dan Sabina (Belmont GC/The First Tee) and Mike Nowicki (Lakeside Park Club) and Evers.



Dan Evers

Matt Drayton & Jim Wilson Take Home the Joe Saylor Title

Lakeside Park Club Impresses!



It was the seventeenth year of the VGCSA's staple event, the Joe Saylor Memorial, in honor of Joe Saylor, a Superintendent in the Hampton Roads area for nearly 40 years, and founder of the ODGCSA and charter member. Joe passed in 2005.

Lakeside Park Club played host and Mike Nowicki and his staff had the golf course in exceptional condition. As always, this event was in partnership with the US Marines and the Toys for Tots program.

US Marines were on site to collect over 100 toys donated from attendees, all of which go to under privileged children during the holiday season.

The two-man captain's choice produced some great scores with Matt Drayton and

Jim Wilson coming in with a 64 to take home the title. In the Member-Member Division, last year's overall champions Bobby Friend and Matt Pair won low gross with a score of 66. The team of Chris Roberts and Paul Van Buren won low net with a score of 64.4 barely beating Tommy Adams and Scott Mauldin by 0.2 stroke. In the Member Guest/Open Division, Mike Zelley and Lamont Woodson won low gross with a 67 while Garrison Fowler and Chad Adcock took home low net with a 62.9. Steve Snare and Carl Filipowicz

won low gross in the Member-Pro Division with a 66, Ed Eagle and Billy Sayre had a low net score of 66.5 to finish first.



Jeff Whitmire Feathers a Drive on #16

Scenes from the Joe Saylor



US Marines Accepting Toys for the Toys 4 Tots Program



Mike Williams watching Marshall Hibbs Putt for Birdie

VGCSA Match Play presented by syngenta Finals are Set!



Trevor Hedgepeth



Cutler Robinson



Jeff Snyder



Jim Wilson

The finals of the VGCSA Match Play are set with Trevor Hedgepeth and Cutler Robinson facing off against Jeff Snyder and Jim Wilson. The match is slated for late October at Kinloch Golf Club. A special thank you goes out to Syngenta for sponsoring the event, all of the players that participated, and Trevor Hedgepeth and Kinloch GC for hosting the finals.

Joe Saylor Results

Champions (Low Gross Overall) – Matt Drayton & Jim Wilson – 64

Member-Pro

Low Gross – Carl Filipowicz – Steve Snare – 66

Low Net – Ed Eagle – Billy Sayre – 66.5

Member-Guest

Low Gross – Michael Zelle – Lamont Woodson – 67

Low Net – Garrison Fowler – Chad Adcock – 62.9

Member-Member

Low Gross – Bobby Friend – Matt Pair – 66

Low Net – Chris Roberts – Paul Van Buren – 64.4

2nd Net – Tommy Adams – Scott Mauldin – 64.6

3rd Net – Jeff Whitmire – Jeff Yarborough – 65.6

4th Net – Eric Snelsire – Jeremy Waddell – 67

5th Net – Ian Grove – Dan Taylor – 67.5

Contest Winners

CTP #2 – Shawn Gill

CTP #6 – Jeff Whitmire

CTP #12 – Scott Mauldin

CTP #15 – Tyler Eastham (Hole-in-One)

Longest Drive – Matt Pair

Longest Putt – Brandon Grissom

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USGA Green Section

News from Local Associations

ODGCSA News

Hey everyone! I hope you are all well and we finally have some weather we can enjoy! It's been a long summer and I hope we can all unwind and relax and enjoy some football for the next few months.

I would like to remind everyone to please encourage those eligible for the ODGCSA Scholarship to submit their application for consideration. We want to have as many as we can to evaluate and remind you that they do not have to work in maintenance to be eligible, only be employed at a member's club. If you know of any outstanding

youngsters at your club that could benefit, please encourage them to do so, they can email their applications directly to Jeremy Waddell at jwaddell@kempersports.com.

We wanted to thank those of you who were able to make it to the sporting clays event, you can expect that again moving forward as it was well received and a great time. We are coordinating more social events for the remainder of the year, and we will be holding our year end annual meeting in early December. More information to come on these events so keep and eye out for

them and please reach out to any of us if you have the need.

Everyone be safe, I hope we can all get back to normal soon.



Chris Roberts
ODGCSA

TTA News

Now that we are through summer, folks in the Tidewater are enjoying some great weather and already making plans for 2022. Golf demand continues to be strong in our region and superintendents answered the call yet again this summer.

The TTA's end of year event – the Bert Walton Memorial – will be held on November 8th at the historic Cavalier Golf & Yacht Club. This event is in memory of our friend and colleague Bert Walton and allows for a great opportunity to raise money for the Hampton Roads Agricultural Research Center (AREC).

There is still time to sign up to play or sponsor, so please consider joining us for a fun day and great cause.

As we look towards 2022, the TTA board is looking to add new superintendents, assistants, and vendors to our board of directors. Whether you have served previously or are new to the area, we are excited to continue to serve superintendents in the Tidewater and hope you'll consider joining our efforts. Feel free to reach out to any current BOD members to learn more.



Tim Doran
TTA External
VP

News from the GWGCSA

Happy October, the month we wait for all summer long. While the heat has calmed down, operations are still in full swing with labor shortages, 2022 budget season and Early Order Period all while we are just trying to catch our breath from an awful, hot, wet and humid August. I do not know about you but I have a newfound hate for armyworms, mostly because I had never seen one before. Acelepryn earned its keep on the shelf in my chemical building this year that is for sure.

The GWGCSA will be hosting our annual meeting at Evergreen Country Club on

November 1st. (Rain date November 8) it is always a great event and a good way to end the season. As a reminder, you can register and pay for the event using the Greater Washington App. (GWGCSA.COM)

Lastly, please go to the VGCSA website and under member services check out the newly updated Virginia BMP document. On that page, there is also a link to the GCSAA facility guide that I highly recommend using.



David Walter
GWGCSA
External VP

News from Local Associations

VTA External VP Report

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of another year. Is it me, or does it seem like the last couple of years we have all been saying "Glad this year is over, cannot wait until next year". 2019 was the summer that would not end, 2020 all about Covid and 2021...well, that was the weather, Covid and for good measure the fact that labor was hard to come by. The good news this year was having the opportunity to attend some meetings. This year the VTA had a light schedule, but was very pleased with the turnout at all of our

events. Our fundraiser at Ivy Hills in June was a huge success and everyone is still talking about the mini field day we had at the Pete Dye River course. We will be finishing out the season with our Annual Meeting at Goodyear Golf Club in Danville on October 19th. We are looking forward to getting back to taking advantage of the educational opportunities this winter with the VGCSA conference and fingers crossed a trip to sunny San Diego. Look forward to seeing everyone this fall and winter. Stay safe.



Sean K.
Baskette
Hidden Valley
Country Club
VTA External
VP

SVTA News

Greetings from the SVTA! It feels like fall is slowly starting to set in here in the Valley! Days are getting shorter; nights are getting cooler and 95-degree days are hopefully behind us! Rounds still seem to be on the upswing which is a wonderful thing for golf and our industry as a whole. I am starting to see more family participation which can only lead to growth of the game. It is a great

thing to see people enjoying the outdoors again.

The SVTA is planning a winter meeting in December. I will make sure I send out details as all are welcome! Hopefully, the fall season is good to everyone. Make sure to enjoy some down time with family and friends!



Eric Ferrell GCS
Caverns
Country Club

Virginia Reclaims the Virlina Cup

Cornwell's Birdie on #18 at James River CC Seals Comeback

In a most incredible comeback effort, the VGCSA Team regained the Virlina Cup over the Carolinas GCSA, by the narrow margin of 8.5 to 7.5 at James River Country Club. It all came down to a 6-foot birdie putt facing Scott Cornwell on the final hole, and he drilled it for the victory! The Virginia team then mauled him on the 18th green, in a massive celebration! Four-down with four holes to play, Cornwell ran the tables to gain a most unlikely halve with Steven Drews of the Carolinas and put Virginia on top.

Cornwell's opportunity was set up by an incredible final hole shot by Jeff Whitmire to win his match against Brad Pope. Facing tree troubles off the tee of the par 5, Whitmire was left with a 230-yard third shot, as he tried to preserve a 1-up lead. He smoked a hybrid to 8-feet, clinching his

match with the birdie.

From day one it was an uphill climb against the visitors. The Carolinas team raced off to a 3 to 1 lead after 4 ball play. Only Cameron Yancey and Brent Graham were able to win their match in the first round. In the afternoon, the Carolinas won first two foursomes matches



L-R: Rhett Martin, Cameron Yancey, Jeff Whitmire, Bill Keene, Patrick McNamara, Jeff Holliday, Jeff Snyder, Scott Cornwell, Brent Graham, Ben Longest.

and took a 5 to 1 lead. Rhett Martin and Scott Cornwell drew Virginia closer by winning the third match. Graham and

Yancey then won for a second time to tie the foursomes matches. The Carolinas led 5-3 heading into the final day.

In singles, the Virginia team needed to be nearly perfect to pull it off. They won five matches (Yancey, Longest, Martin, Snyder, Whitmire) and tied one (Cornwell). It was just barely enough.

Rob Wilmans was the host Superintendent, and the club staged an amazing display of hospitality, to the delight of players and the Syngenta sponsors.

Four-Ball Matches

English-Price (C) df Longest-Martin (V); Pope-Sheffield (C) df Whitmire-Snyder (V), Pennybaker-Watson (C) df McNamara-Cornwell, Yancey-Graham (V) df Drews-Hull (C). Carolinas 3, Virginia 1.

Foursomes Matches

English-Price (C) df Whitmire-Snyder (V), Pennybaker-Watson (C) df McNamara-Longest (V), Martin-Cornwell (V) df Drews-Hull (C), Yancey-Graham (V) df Pope-Sheffield (C). Foursomes tie, 2-2. Carolinas 5, Virginia 3.

Singles Matches

Yancey (V) df English (C), Hull (C) df Graham (V), Pennybaker (C) df McNamara (V), Longest (V) df Watson (C), Martin (V) df Price (C), Snyder (V) df Sheffield (C), Whitmire (V) df Pope (C), Cornwell (V) halved Drews (C). Singles, Virginia 5.5, Carolinas 2.5.

Final: Virginia 8.5, Carolinas 7.5

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Scott Cornwell celebrates after clinching the cup!



Syngenta's Steve Dorer, Dave Ravel, Ben Peters, Mark Brazinski

Virginia Tech Announces Virtual Education Program

13-week Program Starts in November



The VT Turfgrass Team is pleased to offer its 2nd annual virtual Virginia Tech School of Turfgrass Ecology and Management (VT-STEM) beginning the week of November 7, 2021 and running through mid-February 2022. The school features 13 weeks of training in the principles of turfgrass ecology and management through both synchronous and asynchronous learning that works around the student's schedule. The opportunity for 'live' Q/A on the topic

between students and VT instructors takes place by Zoom on Wednesday nights from 7-9 p.m. EST (all Zoom meetings are recorded and posted for later viewing for anyone unavailable at that time). All students that successfully pass all of the post-training quizzes are eligible to sit for the Virginia Tech Certified Turfgrass Professional exams that are offered in a virtual format upon completion of VT-STEM.

This is a great opportunity for golf superintendents to engage and reward their employees that are looking to grow professionally in the golf turf industry, while working around busy work and family schedules over the winter months. The cost is \$515 per person. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/VT-Turfgrass-School>. Questions? Contact Mike Goatley at goatley@vt.edu.

2021 VCCSA Schedule

October 14 - VTF Fundraiser, Blue Ridge Shadows GC, Front Royal

October 20-22 – GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting, Lawrence, KS

October 30 – Deadline to Submit VGCSA Award Nominations

November 8 – TTA Bert Walton Memorial, Cavalier Golf Yacht & CC, Virginia Beach, VA

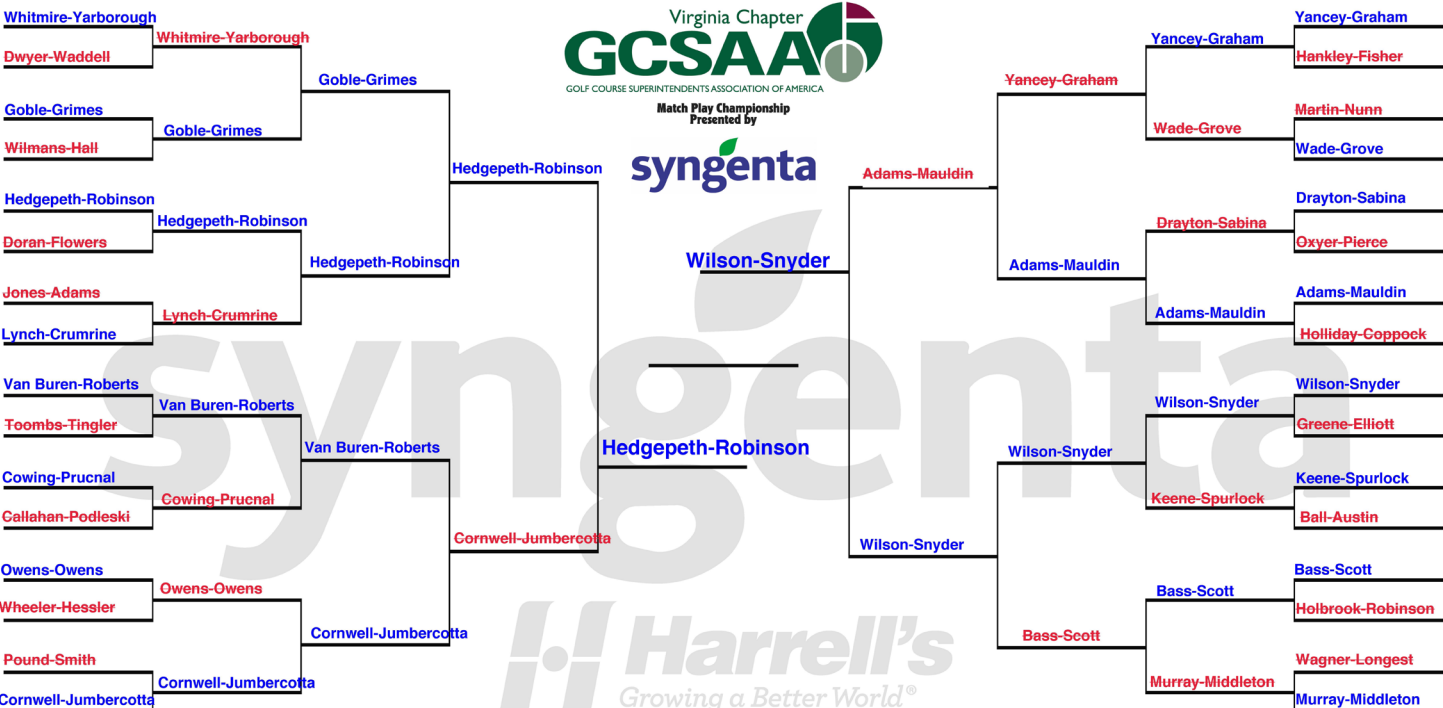
November 18 - VGCSA Board Meeting, Hermitage CC

2022

February 9, 2022 – VGCSA-MAAGCS-ESAGCS Social Event, The Horton Grand Hotel, San Diego, CA

VGCSA Match Play Championship

Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Championship	Round 4	Round 3	Round 2	Round 1
May 12 - June 15	June 16 - July 15	July 16 - Aug. 15	Aug 16 - Sept. 15	September 16 - October 15	Aug 16 - Sept. 15	July 16 - Aug. 15	June 16 - July 15	May 12 - June 15



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