



Commonwealth Crier

News from the Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association

Summer 2019

President's Message



The 4th of July is now in the rearview mirror and we are in the midst of the dog days of summer. The three H's are dominating the daily weather forecast. If I had a dollar for every time I heard "hazy, hot, and humid" on the news, I would be able to retire at this point. That being said, I hope everyone was able to take some time over the holiday to be with friends and family while grabbing the beverage of your choice and something to eat off the grill.

This year we again focused on the Rounds 4 Research program sponsored by EIFG. The good news is that we substantially increased what we raised last year. Over \$8,000 was sent back to the VGCSA. By definition this money is used for Research, Education and Advocacy, all areas that we have been trying to enhance for our members. It is great that we are growing this program annually, but there is still plenty of room for more. If you have not participated in the past I encourage you to do so next year. It is a simple, online form that takes just a few minutes, then the GCSAA handles the rest. Thanks to all that participated this year.

The past couple of months have been busy with events going on around the state. All of the local associations are in full swing with regularly scheduled meetings. I highly recommend you attend

as you never know when you may pick up a tip from a speaker or colleague that will pay dividends down the road.

On May 20th Independence Golf Club hosted the 3rd annual Virginia Tech Golf Research Classic. This year's sold out event raised over \$50,000 to support the Tech turf team. Thanks to Dan Taylor and the entire team at Independence for a great day. May 25th was declared "Virginia Golf Day" by the governor's office. This was celebrated at the LPGA Pure Silk Championship at Kingsmill. Many thanks to David Norman and the allied golf associations for pulling this together.

Not all the good golf being played has been by the ladies at Kingsmill this summer. The 2nd annual VGCSA match play event is in full swing. This is a fun event to find a partner and head over to someone else's course and tee it up. On June 18th we descended on the Federal Club for the VGCSA Championship. Cameron Yancey defended his title with a scorching 71, followed by Jeff Whitmire at 74. The assistant champion was Garrison Fowler after firing a 75. Bobby Friend also defended his senior title while James Hockman was this year's affiliate winner. A big shout out to Matt Drayton and his staff for hosting us this year. The Virlina Cup team for 2019 is nearly set. Cameron Yancey, Jeff Whitmire, Scott Cornwell, Matt Zarnstorff, Brent Graham, and

Garrison Fowler qualified through the championship and local qualifiers. These six, coupled with the two remaining captain's picks, will look to defend the cup this year at The Dormie Club in the sandhills of North Carolina. Good luck guys.

What better way to beat the heat than to start thinking of December. Speaking of December, this year's VGCSA Annual Conference will be held in Charlottesville on the 2nd and 3rd. This event return to the grounds of the Darden School, and is a great opportunity for world class education at a wonderful facility with second to none networking opportunities. The board is busy finalizing the schedule and will have to you all soon.

And we always we to recognize the 70 companies that partner with us to support your profession – we could not do it without them!

Be sure to hydrate and wear your sunscreen...



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Annual Tree Trimming to Improve Turfgrass Performance

by Steve Kammerer, Ph.D., USGA Green Section Regional Director

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This large tree has received seasonal pruning over many years to minimize negative effects on turfgrass quality and playability.

Trees and turfgrass can cause issues if not continually managed. In the Southeast, summer is a good time to perform pruning of problem trees to allow better air flow and sunlight penetration. Some tree species, like live oaks, can produce a lot of shade – negatively impacting turfgrass health on putting greens, tees, fairways and roughs alike. Trees that obstruct a large amount of sunlight and never drop all their leaves are especially problematic for turfgrass. Extensive winter shade on bermudagrass that does not go dormant usually results in thin or no turfgrass in the spring.

Trees that are injured by hurricanes or tropical storms often have a latent response to the damage, taking two or three years to begin dying. Pines are a good example of this phenomenon and dying pines attract pine bark beetles, a pest that can extensively damage living trees. Identifying

and removing damaged trees early can prevent greater tree loss later. Read the USGA article, “Hurricane Hangover,” for more information on this issue.

Trees like magnolias and ficus trees – e.g., banyan trees or strangler figs – can be especially troublesome on a golf course. They do not respond well to pruning and these trees have characteristics that do not lend themselves to coexisting well with turfgrass. They also require continuing leaf and debris cleanup.

Ideally, tree trimming should also include pruning, removal or grinding of surface roots. Trees like bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*) produce a preponderance of surface roots – sometimes called “knees” – that can break mower blades, cause cart mishaps, interfere with hitting shots, and potentially injure golfers that strike these roots during a swing.

Lastly, sick or damaged trees and limbs can break and cause damage to the course. If you haven’t done so in a while, conduct a hole-by-hole evaluation of your trees and proactively address problem areas. If you need help with evaluating tree plantings as they relate to turfgrass health, playability, tree quality and aesthetics, a USGA tree evaluation visit is something to consider. Tree pruning or removal will pay dividends down the road, and summer is a good time to conduct this work because it is easy to assess the health of the tree and the turf.



The USGA Green Section develops and disseminates sustainable management practices that produce better playing conditions for better golf.

Virginia Celebrates “Virginia Golf Day” on Saturday, May 25 at LPGA Pure Silk Championship

In an effort to celebrate golf and the many things the sport contributes to the Commonwealth of Virginia, Governor Ralph S. Northam declared Saturday, May 25 as “Virginia Golf Day.” The date coincided with the third round of the LPGA’s Pure Silk Championship at Kingsmill Resort, the largest attended day of the event.



**Governor
Ralph S. Northam**

There are many reasons to celebrate golf in Virginia, including its economic impact, environmental stewardship, health benefits, its role in tourism promotion, and much more. It is a game for everyone, played throughout a lifetime, and its popularity is gaining. Here are key points Governor Northam has recognized about Virginia’s golf industry:

- Virginia has a rich history as a golf destination, with its first course established in

1892 at the historic Omni Homestead Resort in Hot Springs.

- Virginia boasts more than 320 golf facilities across the Commonwealth, making golf a key industry contributing to the vitality of Virginia’s economy.
- Virginia’s golf industry supports \$2.5 billion in economic output, along with nearly 30,000 jobs and \$733.4 million in wage income.
- Virginia golf courses follow best management practices and utilize a written nutrient management plan to ensure environmental stewardship.
- Golf brings visitors to the state, spurs new residential construction, generates retail sales, and creates demand for a myriad of goods and services.
- Golf tournaments held in Virginia that are televised internationally help showcase our state to the world and encourage people to visit.
- Golf provides physical and social benefits to players of all ages and promotes good character in younger players through mentoring.
- Golf has the support of numerous allied



associations who are committed to the promotion, growth and education of the game and who serve and share invaluable resources in every community.

- Golf continues to benefit the economy, quality of life, and culture of Virginia.

As part of the celebration, 1,200 fans at Kingsmill on Saturday received a “Virginia is for Golf Lovers” souvenir ball, perfect for getting autographs of all the top players. The Kingsmill event is known for its friendly access to players for post-round autographs.

A large advertisement featuring a close-up of a soldier's face. The soldier is wearing a helmet and has green and black camouflage paint applied to his face. He is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The background is dark.

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For the third straight year, Virginia Tech teamed up with VGCSA and VTC for the annual Turfgrass Research Classic Golf Tournament and Field Day on May 20th at Independence Golf Club in Richmond.

The day kicked off with the Virginia Tech Field Day and a tour of the research plots on the greens of the nine-hole short course at Independence GC. Dr. David McCall, Research Associate Jordan Booth, CGCS and the Virginia Tech team led over 60 attendees on a tour of the short course, presenting the research conducted over the past year. Having these plots in established central Virginia will prove beneficial to the VT research team, as the climate is warmer than Blacksburg and closer to most of the rest of Virginia.

Following the field day, there was an exciting putting contest sponsored by Syngenta. Over 50 golfers lined the putting green and putt simultaneously to the same hole. The closest one belonged to Mark Vaughan of Goodyear GC, who took home the prize.

The golf tournament was a full field with 120 golfers competing in the 4-man captain's choice. Coming in with the low gross score was the host team comprised of Giff Breed, Dan Taylor, Will Sexton and Randy Fisher. The Low Net score was posted by the VGM/John Deere team- Jeff Whitmire, Jeff McMackin, Jay Wade and Jeff Holliday.

With the help of top industry vendors, net proceeds surpassed \$50,000, bringing the two year total to more than \$160,000 going towards turfgrass research! Landscape Supply and Harrell's renewed the top sponsor level, Hokie Patron - \$5,000, with Virginia Green and BASF at the Dr. John Shoulders Patron - \$4,000. There were twelve \$3,000 sponsors, eight \$2,000 sponsors, two \$1,000 sponsors and twenty-five \$500 hole-sponsors. A special thank you goes out to everyone that helped make this event so successful to include sponsors, the event committee, club staff and everyone that participated in the event.

Thank you!

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VSGA-VIP Scholarship Foundation Announces Scholarship Award Recipients at 2019 VSGA Day



Twenty-nine high-school seniors and two Ph.D. students in the turfgrass research program at Virginia Tech were among 31

scholars honored as the VSGA-VIP Scholarship Foundation announced its 2019 award recipients at Richmond Country Club as part of its VSGA Day festivities.

The Foundation provides grants and gifts for scholarships, scientific and educational research, and other charitable purposes. This year's grants total \$88,000 and since being launched, the program has distributed nearly \$2.4 million to 1,023 students. Funding for scholarships is generated primarily from the sale of the VSGA VIP Golf Card.

"Being able to positively impact the educational pursuits of more than 1,000 students is extremely gratifying," said Michael Millen, president of the VSGA VIP Scholarship Foundation. "The Foundation has come a long way since 1985 when \$4,000 was awarded to our first three students. Many generous VSGA member clubs have supported this initiative for a long time along with thousands of loyal VIP cardholders from throughout the Commonwealth. We are truly grateful for their support."

Virginia high school students with an interest in golf (ability not important) are eligible to apply. Students are evaluated based on academic achievement, character, community involvement and an essay on the impact of golf on the applicant's life.

"This year's class may be our strongest yet," Millen said. "I think six of our award recipients were ranked #1 in their class and several will be playing golf collegiately next year."

2019 grants include Spencer-Wilkinson awards, which draw from a fund formed by Debbie Spencer and Mary Nell Wilkinson. Since its formation more than 20 years ago, 53 young women have received



(L-R) Michael Millen, John Brewer, Jordan Craft, Lindsay Wortham

Spencer-Wilkinson scholarships. This year's awards went to high school teammates from the Maggie Walker Governor's School – Lisa Qin of Glen Allen and Virginia Adams of Henrico.

Other named scholarships include the 19th C. Dan Keffer Award, which goes to an individual in honor of the former VSGA-VIP Scholarship Foundation Committee Chairman. This year's recipient was Vienna's Aaron Liu. The

Red Speigle Award, named in honor of the late longtime teaching professional from the Peninsula area, was given to Norfolk's Rebecca DiNunzio. The David A. King Award, which the senior amateur golfer established in 2002, went to Leslie Lytle of Alexandria. The Richard Smith Award, given in remembrance of the VSGA's longtime director of championships and supporter of junior golf, went to Jimmy Taylor of Alexandria.

TURFGRASS RESEARCH AWARDS

John Brewer (Blacksburg/Virginia Tech) – \$1,500: Received undergraduate and Masters degrees from University of Tennessee - Martin. ... Is doing Ph.D. research on optimizing Topramezone and other herbicide programs for weed control in Bermudagrass and Creeping Bentgrass turf.

Jordan Craft (Newport/Virginia Tech) – \$1,500: Received undergraduate and Masters degrees from Mississippi State University. ... Is doing Ph.D. research examining factors that govern zoysia grass response to herbicides during green-up.

The VSGA-VIP Scholarship Foundation has a program in place to accept gifts and memorials. Anyone interested in funding a named scholarship or contributing to the VSGA-VIP Scholarship Foundation should contact the VSGA.



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Virlina Cup Team Taking Shape

VGCSA Looking to Defend on Foreign Turf at The Dormie Club

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The VGCSA will have strong team when the Virlina Cup Match heads to The Dormie Club in Pinehurst on October 27-29.

Six spots have been claimed, and all six qualifiers have competed on winning Virlina Cup teams in the past.

First it was Scott Cornwell winning the local qualifier at Dominion Valley CC to earn his spot on the team. Jeff Whitmire earned his spot on the team by winning the TTA local qualifier at his home course, Williamsburg Golf Club. Then at the VGCSA Championship, Cameron Yancey of Nottoway River Country Club, Matt Zarnstorff of Creighton Farms and Garrison Fowler of Two Rivers Country Club punched their tickets after tremendous play at The Federal Club. Most recently, Brent Graham of Two Rivers Golf Club won the final qualifying spot at Roanoke Country Club. The team will be rounded out by two spots reserved as picks for the Captain and Sponsor.



Matt Zarnstorff



Jeff Whitmire, CGCS



Scott Cornwell



Cameron Yancey



Garrison Fowler



Brent Graham, CGCS

Syngenta returns as the sponsor, headed by Larry Feller, Sam Camuso and Mark Brazinski. The Virginia Team looks to win

the cup for the second year in a row and three out of the last four.

Virginia's Rounds4Research Auction Raises \$8,400

Proceeds Up 50% over 2018

The 2019 Rounds 4 Research fundraising program in Virginia raised 50% over its 2018 mark, with proceeds of over \$8,400. The program is administered by the Environmental Institute for Golf (EIFG), the philanthropic organization of the GCSAA.

It was no surprise that Kinloch Golf Club, Virginia's #1 course, led the way with the highest bid. Primland's Highland Course was the second highest bid. Other top bids

were for Creighton Farms, The Federal Club, Potomac Shores and the Pete Dye River Course.

"We are very pleased that some nice country clubs stepped up this year," said Bill Keene, VSGA President. "This is a wonderful program that allows golfers to help support the future of the game while playing the courses they love."



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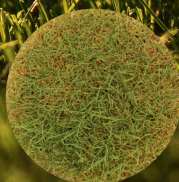
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4th Old Dominion GCSA Scholarship Tournament a Success at Kiskiack Golf Club



Champions: Mark McCaughan, ODGCSA President Chris Roberts, Robbie Rasmussen

ODGCSA conducted its fourth annual Scholarship Tournament at Kiskiack Golf Club on Monday, April 22nd. Host Superintendent Josh Grimes had the golf course in excellent condition and with the recent warm temperatures, the bermudagrass was popping.

In the two-man best ball format, Mark McCaughan of Harrell's and his partner Robbie Rasmussen of Cypress Point Country Club took top honors with a gross score of 71. First place in the net division went to the team of Todd Cowing and Blaine Oxyer of Genesis Turfgrass, Inc. with a net score of 62.

For the fourth in a row, ODGCSA is proud to be able to award student

scholarships. These scholarships are available for anyone that works at a golf course that has a current VGCSA member in good standing, regardless of their position at the club.

Visit <http://vgcsa.org/-old-dominion-gcsa> to download the scholarship application.

Thank you to our sponsors for helping to make this important event a success – Smith Turf & Irrigation, Harrell's, Target Specialty Products, Buy Sod, Syngenta, Helena Chemical Company, Revels Turf & Tractor, Southern States, VGM Club, Virginia Sand & Stone and GCSAA.



Participants enjoyed the social event

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Government Relations Round-UP

Golf Industry Comes Together for 12th Annual National Golf Day

Event Brings Stories of Positive Economic and Community Impact to Washington D.C

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) – Golf industry leaders participated in a record-high 244 meetings with members of Congress representing 41 states to discuss the game's economic, social and environmental contributions to the United States during today's 12th annual National Golf Day on Capitol Hill.

Coordinated by a coalition of the game's leading associations and industry partners under the banner of WE ARE GOLF, National Golf Day brings together more than 300 industry leaders from across the U.S. to support the game's \$84.1 billion economy, nearly \$4 billion annual charitable impact, close to 15,000 diverse businesses and two million jobs impacted.

National Golf Day, May 1, 2019: Record-High 244 Meetings with Members of Congress from 41 States Showcase the Game's Value & Importance Across U.S.

"The game of golf is growing and evolving, and it is important that we come together collectively in Washington to share stories of impact the game is having on business and communities across the United States," said Greg McLaughlin, CEO of World Golf Foundation, the organization that coordinates WE ARE GOLF activities. "From athletes from every corner of the world competing each week on the PGA TOUR and LPGA, to global companies investing billions of dollars in and around the sport, to healthy participation in traditional and emerging ways, the game of golf is a strong and vibrant part of American culture."

"We are here to educate our elected officials that the golf industry is made up of many small businesses that contribute to our national economy," said Jay Karen, CEO of National Golf Course Owners Association and Chair of the WE ARE GOLF Board. "The importance of fair and good taxation policies is paramount to the success of our businesses."

"Sports have always been an important part of American culture, and in my hometown of Augusta, Georgia, golf is at



National Golf Day, May 1, 2019: Record-High 244 Meetings with Members of Congress from 41 States Showcase the Game's Value & Importance Across U.S.

the heart of our town's traditions and identity," said Rep. Rick Allen (R-GA). "On National Golf Day, we renew our commitment to ensure Americans not only play the game for decades to come, but also ensure golf's economic, social and charitable impacts are effectively communicated and protected."

"So many golf courses in the US, including courses in my district, are public facilities operating as small, locally owned businesses," said Rep. Bill Keating (D-MA). "National Golf Day highlights the industry's importance to American society, including business, recreation, hospitality and tourism. Anything that brings people together is great, and golf brings people together."

On Tuesday, April 30, the third-annual Community Service Project featured more than 200 participants demonstrating the industry's commitment to collaboration on beautifying and preserving historical landmarks between the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument. Golf industry leaders, coordinated by Golf

Course Superintendents Association of America, volunteered to lay sod, rake, edge, overseed, aerate, mow, mulch, brush walkways and spruce gravel pathways across 17 projects along the National Mall. The four hours of work saved the U.S. National Park Service nearly four months of labor costs.

Numerous golf courses and industry businesses are celebrating and recognizing National Golf Day in their own communities through activities and special offers. Included is Topgolf, which is offering complimentary group golf instruction lessons at 50 locations across the U.S.

To join the social media conversation, use #NationalGolfDay and tag @wearegolf on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to support the industry as well as share why golf is more than a game to you.

More information: www.wearegolf.org.

2019 Event Previews

VGCSA Conference Returns to Charlottesville December 2-3, 2019

Presented by



The VGCSA Conference continues to grow in its sixth year, and the event returns to the UVA Darden Inn in Charlottesville on December 2-3, 2019. The event will feature a similar format to the 2018 event.

A good deal of education credit will be available to VGCSA members. The Old Dominion GCSA is the presenter of the education segment on the first day, running 1-4 pm, then followed by the Association's Annual Meeting and Awards Presentations. A new pre-con event is planned.

Immediately following the meeting, there will be a FREE Partner Appreciation Reception, featuring your favorite beverages and hors d'oeuvres, and plenty of networking time with your friends. The evening will feature a Monday Night Football Party presented by Ian Grove of Target Specialty Products.

Then on Tuesday, a Networking Breakfast will run 7:30-8:30 a.m., followed by more education, featuring outstanding speakers from the fields of turf and business, all designed to make your jobs just a little easier and a little better.

"We polled our members after last year's event, and we got some good ideas. We are



Paul Van Buren and Scott Mauldin enjoy last year's reception

committed to continual improvement of the program," said VGCSA President Bill Keene.

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, and a single guest room will be just \$99 plus tax. The VGCSA is committed to providing value and service to its members.

VGCSA Assistants Forum Heads Back to Spring Creek on Oct. 30

VGCSA is excited to host another first class event for the assistant superintendent members at Spring Creek GC in Gordonsville - SAVE THE DATE - Wednesday, October 30th.

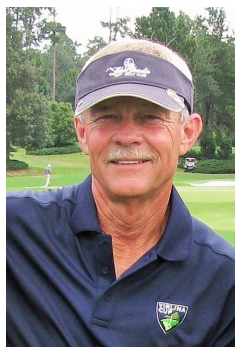
Providing the assistants with an opportunity to receive first class education along with a fun and competitive day of golf helps shape the future of the industry

and allows for them to build relationships. This is an important aspect of the association and the future of golf as a whole. VGCSA Assistant Superintendent Board Representative Josh Nunn of Salisbury Country Club is putting together a great event. Stay tuned for more information!

Save the Date!



Boonsboro Country Club to Host the Joe Saylor Memorial **Fisher to be Honored**



Dick Fisher

The VGCSA is pleased to announce that Boonsboro Country Club in Lynchburg will host this year's Joe Saylor Memorial Tournament on an earlier new date, Tuesday, August 27th. Steve Vessels

is playing host to the most fun event of the season, which will continue its tradition of friendly competition with plenty of refreshments and a little golf!

As always, this event supports the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program so don't forget to bring a gift to donate!

A new feature of the event is to honor a longtime member of the VGCSA at the Saylor, in similar fashion to that of the PGA Tour's Memorial Tournament. This year's honoree is Dick Fisher of Lake Chesdin GC. Dick was the first winner of BOTH the VGCSA Distinguished Service Award AND the VGCSA President's Award for Lifetime Service, awarded in



US Marines collect toys for deserving children.

2000. Dick's favorite course is Boonsboro Country Club.

This event is a tribute to Joe Saylor, the honoree of this annual memorial event. Joe was longtime superintendent at James

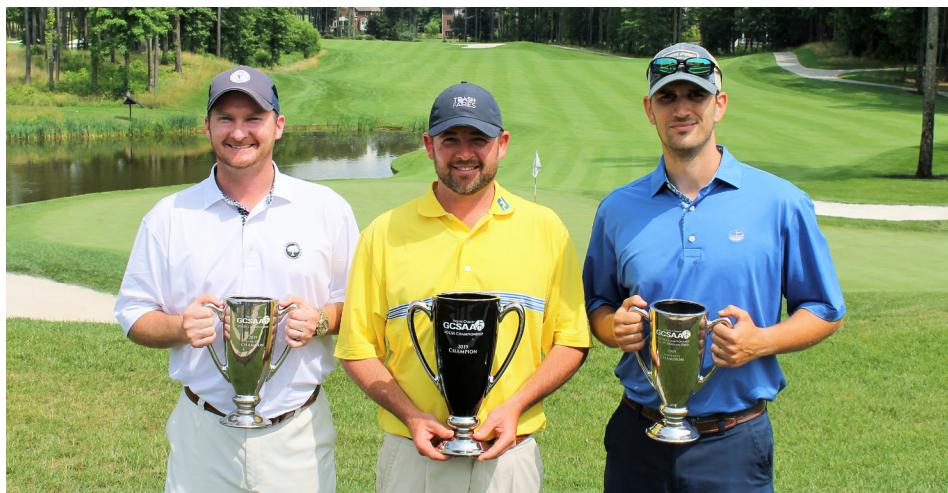


Billy Sayre and Ed Eagle will defend their title.

River Country Club, and a leader in state and regional affairs for the superintendents. Joe passed away in 2005. Defending the title will be host Superintendent Billy Sayre and Ed Eagle.

VGCSA Championship

Yancey Repeats, Fowler & Friend Win Three in a Row!



James Hockman, Cameron Yancey, Garrison Fowler

Congratulations go out to Cameron Yancey for winning his second VGCSA Championship in a row and his fourth to date. Equally impressive was Garrison Fowler winning the Assistants Division for the third year in a row and Bobby Friend taking home the Senior Division for also the third straight year.

It was a warm day at The Federal Club, and thanks to our host Matt Drayton and his staff, the golf course was in superb condition. A 71 for Cameron Yancey was enough to edge out former champion Jeff Whitmire by three strokes. Matt Zarnstorff finished third with a 75 that included an eagle from 80 yards on the



Scott Mauldin, Mark Merrick, Dan Sabina

par 5 thirteenth hole. Garrison Fowler's 75 was enough for a four shot victory over Dan Sabina, who won the low net prize in the Assistant Division with a 69. James

Hockman won the Affiliate Division with a 75 and Mark Merrick won low net in that division with a 69, his second straight victory.

RESULTS

Superintendent Division

Champion Cameron Yancey,
Nottoway River CC 71
Runner-Up Jeff Whitmire
Williamsburg GC 74
Low Net Scott Mauldin,
The Foundry GC 71

Assistant Division

Champion Garrison Fowler, Two
Rivers Country Club 75
Low Net Dan Sabina, The
Federal Club 69

Affiliate Division

Champion James Hockman,
VGM Club 75
Low Net Mark Merrick, Genesis
Turfgrass 69

Senior Division

Champion Bobby Friend,
Brookwood GC 81

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Commonwealth Sports Turf
Earthworks
FAIRWAYIQ
Graden USA Inc.
Growth Products
Harmon Turf Services, Inc.
Helena Chemical
Noble Turf
PBI Gordon Corporation
Plant Food Company, Inc.
PondHawk by Linne Industries

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SiteOne Landscape Supply
SOLitude Lake Management
Southern States
Turf & Garden
Vereens
VGM Club
Virginia State Golf Association
Virlina DryJect
Yamaha Golf Cars of VA

Bronze

Aqua-Aid
Aquatrols
Better Billy Bunker
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SePro
Sunbelt Rentals
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The Andersons

Golf & Assistants

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The Drone Co. RVA

Golf

Arborscapes
IGM
M&M Consulting

Annual Conference

Geoponics
Trinity Turf

Nonprofit

ESAGCS
Keep Virginia Beautiful
MAAGCS
MAPGA
USGA Green Section
Virginia AgriBusiness Council

News from Local Associations

ODGCSA News

Summer has finally reared his ugly head! After what had been the most “normal” Spring that I can remember, we have settled into a hot and dry spell.

On April 22, the Old Dominion held it's 4th Annual Scholarship Tournament. This continues to be a well-attended event and a great fundraiser for college students that are a part of Virginia's golf industry. A huge thank you to Josh Grimes and all the staff at Kiskiack Golf Club for hosting this great event! This event wouldn't be nearly as successful as it has been without the support

of our sponsors! Make sure to remind all your staff at your course to apply for a scholarship this year.

Last week several members and their families attended a Richmond Flying Squirrels game. It was a hot and steamy day at the park, but everyone in attendance had a great time! Thank you to Luck Ecosystem for sponsoring this event!

Be on the lookout for information on our fall meeting coming soon. I hope everyone has an enjoyable, stress-free summer! See you on the course!



Jay Wade
ODGCSA
External VP

TTA News

Summertime in the Tidewater is great for so much – afternoons on the beach and plenty of music and festivals to have fun at. It's also the best season if you like to hand water cool season greens and mow warm season grass! We enjoyed a beautiful spring in 2019 with cool nights and rather timely rains. June and July have allowed Superintendents to earn their stripes for the year – showing what great managers of turf – and people – we have in the region. TTA functions slow

down this time of year, although the addition of social events for the golf majors have been a great way to stay engaged with other members. It's safe to say we are hunkering down for the next few months as summer rolls along. Just remember – football is right around the corner and leaf season will be here before we know it!



Tim Doran
TTA External VP

News from the GWGCSA

I'm not sure if everyone feel this way but, how the heck is it July already? Wasn't it just March yesterday? I hope everyone is having a great season and surviving the start of summer. If it's not going well, make sure you reach out to a neighbor for help, it's amazing what a fresh set of eyes will tell you. No one is in this alone, that's the beauty of this industry.

Summertime is always light on events but there is a few. On July 17th we have the

Annual Maintenance Open at Forest Greens Golf Club. This is always a great event; my crew keeps bugging me about it. We had a blast last year and I highly recommend you bring your staff out for it. We take the month of August off from any events and then we have the Glow Ball Event at Stonewall Golf Club on September 19th.

I wish everyone the best and I look forward to seeing everyone at the Maintenance Open!



David Walter
GWGCSA
External VP

News from Local Associations

VTA News

I guess there is no way to avoid it, but looks like summer is here. As of the first week of July we have already had our fair share of 90 degree days. Thankfully, nighttime temperatures have still been somewhat "normal", whatever that means anymore.

This year we moved our Bob Ruff Scholarship tournament from May until June in an effort to avoid the busy tournament schedule in May. It did not disappoint. Ten teams gave it a whirl at the Pete Dye River Course hosted by Mark Cote. Golf course and the weather were great and a great time was had by all.

This summer we are also trying something a little different with our "9 and Whine" series. We figured it is hard for people to get away during the dog days of summer, so we have opted for 9 holes of golf and a chance to get together with our peers and see what is tormenting them during the hot summer stretch. Always nice to know that you are not the only one out there dealing with issues.

We are still trying to get our hands around a meeting sometime in late September, preferably somewhere in the higher elevations. Then in October we finish out the calendar with our year end meeting at

The Water's Edge.

Stay cool, hydrated and safe as we trudge through another Virginia summer. Look forward to seeing everyone throughout the year.



Sean K. Baskette
Hidden Valley
Country Club
VTA President

SVTA News

The SVTA met on June 20th at Waynesboro Country Club. We had an open forum where many relevant topics were discussed. The next meeting is on

September 26 at Shenandoah Valley Golf Club. Details will be coming soon. In the meantime, I hope to see you at the Joe Saylor Tournament at Boonsboro on August 27th!



Ed Eagle
SVTA External VP



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www.vgcsa.org

GCSAA launches final certificates for Assistant Superintendent Series

by Chase Rogan, GCSAA



Chase Rogan

GCSAA has been working to create greater opportunities and engagement for the career development of Assistants, and that effort has come full

circle with the release of the final two certificates within the Assistant Superintendent Certificate Series (ASCS). The latest certificates to be added to the program include Principles of Golf Course Environmental Stewardship, and Principles of Golf Course Leadership & Communications.

Previously, the program included Principles of Golf Course Agronomy, and Principles of Golf Course Business, which round out the program to include 4 certificates in all. Unlike the first two certificates that launched in 2018, the two

new certificates will be earned by watching a series of webinars, taking short quizzes, and then doing outside activities that demonstrate the proficiency in the competencies covered by the certificates. These will be done through the Learning Hub. Details can be found by logging in to your account at gcsaa.org Education Certifications and exams Assistant Superintendent Certificate Series

Like the other certificates in the ASCS, these are stand-alone certificates. A participant can earn just one or work towards completing all of them, working at their own pace. In speaking with members who have engaged this program, I can say that these certificates are certainly not a cake walk, even for experienced assistants who have a wide breadth of knowledge in these areas. These certificates were designed to be challenging, which makes them more valuable and powerful when leveraging

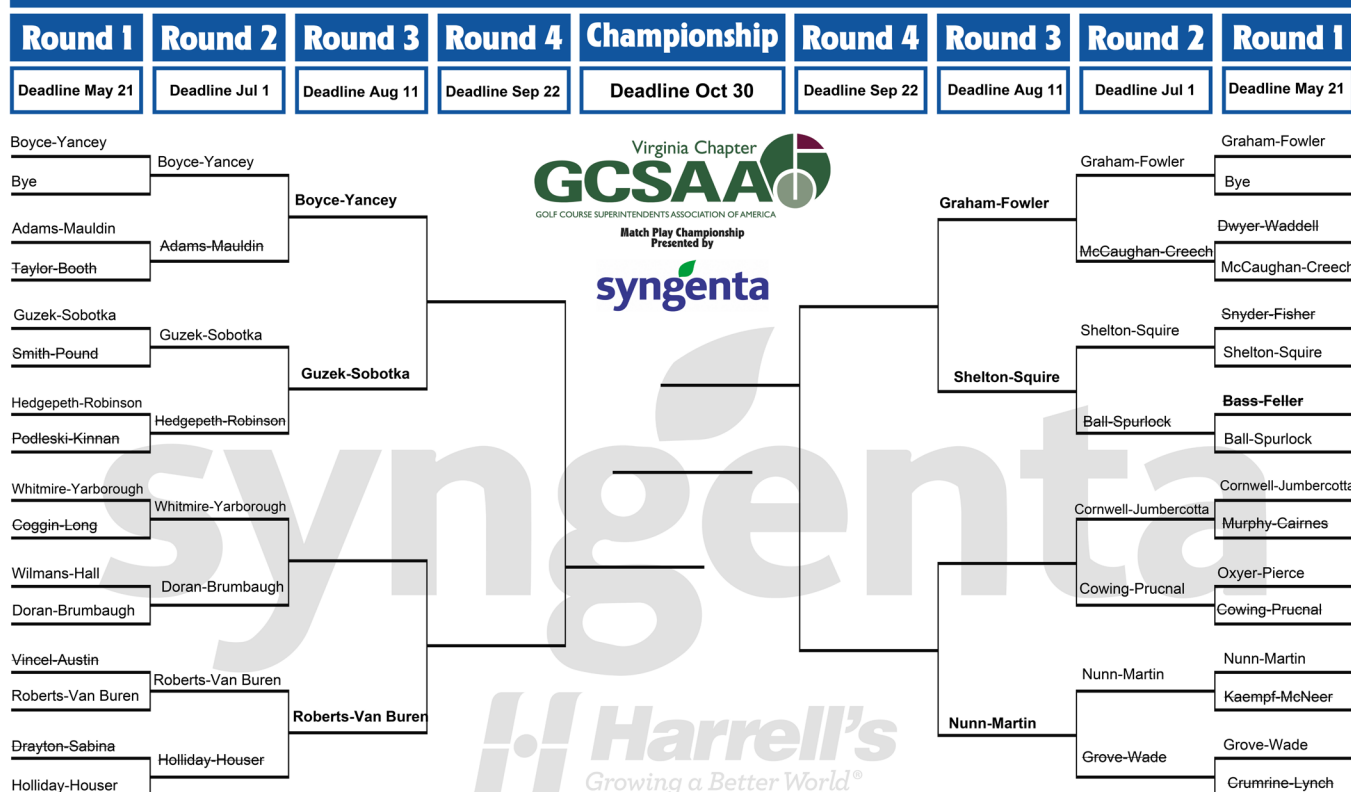
them in the marketplace.

We offer member and non-member pricing. Member pricing is \$50.00 per certificate, and non-member pricing is at \$75.00 plus the price of the webinars (\$60 per webinar). Remember, access to webinars is free of charge for GCSAA members. In all, it is much more economical to complete these certificates as a member vs being a non-member.

Currently, we are offering an incentive to complete all four certificates in 2019. Koch is offering GCSAA gift certificates to the first 150 participants who complete all four, and this program is set to expire on 12/31/2019.

Diana Kern is the Manager of Education Certificates and Program Validation at GCSAA HQ, and she can be reached at dkern@gcsaa.org with any questions pertaining to this program.

VGCSA Match Play Championship



2019 VGCSA Schedule

July 16	VTA Inaugural Mid-Summer "9 and Whine" – Bedford CC
July 17	GWGCSA Maintenance Open – Forest Greens Golf Club
August 8	VGCSA Board Meeting – Keswick Club
August 20	VTA "9 and Whine" – Ballyhack GC
August 12	Joint Meeting with CMAA/NGCOA – Willow Oaks CC
August 27	VGCSA Joe Saylor Memorial – Boonsboro Country Club
September TBA	VTA Meeting – Site TBA
September 19	GWGCSA Glow Ball Even – Stonewall Golf Club
September 26	SVTA Meeting – Shenandoah Country Club
October TBA	GWGCSA Match Play Championship – Robert Trent Jones Golf Club
October 8	VTA Annual Meeting – The Water's Edge CC
October 17	SVTA Fundraiser for VTF – Caverns CC
October 27-29	Virgina Cup – The Dormie Club, Pinehurst, C
October 30	VGCSA Assistants Forum – Spring Creek Golf Club
November 5	GWGCSA Annual Meeting/Elections/End of Year Classic – Evergreen Country Club
November 14	VGCSA Board Meeting – Hermitage Country Club
December 2-3	VGCSA Annual Conference – UVA Darden Conference Center, Charlottesville

2020

January 27-31	GCSAA Conference and Golf Industry Show – Orlando
January 29	GIS Social Event – Orlando

Employment Corner

As a service to members, the VGCSA provides complimentary posting of jobs to VGCSA members and Partners. Please visit www.vgcsa.org/-employment for a complete listing and details of available positions. Here is a sampling:

- Blacksburg CC Seeks Assistant Superintendent - Salary Upgraded
- Salisbury Country Club in Midlothian, VA seeks Assistant Superintendent
- The Cannon Club in Lothian, MD seeks 2nd Assistant Superintendent
- Talbot Country Club on the Eastern Shore seeks Assistant Superintendent
- Tuckahoe Landscaping in Richmond Seeks Irrigation Tech
- Rain Bird seeks Golf Sales Specialist - Mid-Atlantic
- Chockoyotte Country Club in Weldon, NC Seeks Superintendent
- Norbeck Country Club in Rockville, MD seeks Assistant Superintendent

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