



The Mountain State Greenletter

Volume 9, Issue 2
February 2017

WEST VIRGINIA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear WVGCSA Members,

Here we are in February, with another cold month behind us. But it will not be long before every one will be out running their new equipment(haha) and just trying to keeping up with the fast pace of the grass. Many golfers with their opinion will be on the courses also trying to be superintendents. As for now, it is nice to just walk through the garage and see maintenance being performed on the equipment.

In January, the board met at Wheeling Country Club. Some of the topics were monthly meetings and this year's fundraiser. The spring meeting will be at Edgewood Country Club in Charleston. It will take place in late April. The bids for the fundraiser were sent out and we are awaiting replies from several courses in the state. Also, this year we had a total of 6 scholarship winners. Congratulations to all of them. Jason Hart has become our new Treasurer and I would like to thank Rich Puskavich for his time as treasurer.

As usual I would like to thank the entire board who volunteers their time for the association. Without the board members the association could not represent all the superintendents in the state. In closing, I would like to see as many superintendents and vendors as possible at Edgewood CC April 25th.

Sincerely, Your President
Tony Coppa
Oglebay Resort



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Two Thumbs-Up

By Jim Skorulski, agronomist, Northeast Region

January has been dominated by above-normal temperatures and periodic rain events. The extended period of mild temperatures and rain has eliminated ground frost and snow cover over a large part of the Northeast Region. Concerns about ice cover have been replaced by fears of desiccation. The mild and rainy weather, though beneficial in many ways, has also disrupted tree removal programs and other winter projects in southern parts of the region.

The recent return of colder temperatures reminds us not to become complacent. The remaining weeks of winter can still bring brutal weather conditions such as heavy snow, freeze and thaw events, and flash freezes that can be devastating to turf. The good news is that turf appears to be in relatively good condition and is mostly ice-free across large parts of the Northeast Region. Hopefully, this will help turf survive whatever the remaining weeks of winter have in store.

We wish all of those going to the Golf Industry Show in Orlando a safe trip and encourage you to stop by booth 1325 to visit with the USGA, ask questions and learn about the wide array of resources that are available from the USGA to help manage your golf facility.

Northeast Region Agronomists:

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Paul Jacobs, agronomist – pjacobs@usga.org



Open ponds, frost-free soils and healthy turf in central New York in January brings guarded optimism, but nobody knows what the remainder of winter will bring..



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Help Wanted – Cultivating Young Professionals

GCSAA is often asked what we are doing to recruit new talent in to the field, as well as what value are we providing to Student members. Did you know that a Student member can maintain a Student Membership for up to 24 months after graduation, so long as the student is not in a golf course management role? It's true.

Furthermore, students have access to live and on-demand webinars. They have access to the job board, valuable scholarship opportunities, and an important resume critiquing service which can prove vital in landing the right job.

With regard to GIS, students are entitled to a free full registration, student hotel room block (special rates), 50% discount off member pricing for seminars, access to student booth area, free professional headshots, and a student reception event.

In 2017, GCSAA is taking the following steps to enhance student engagement:

Student Recruitment before college: GCSAA staff will participate at high school, FFA National Conference and Tradeshow, Vocational Tech School career day events to inform students of golf industry careers. We will provide superintendents tools (Marketing packets and Powerpoint presentations) to engage with students at their local career events. GCSAA staff will participate in First Green and First Tee events across the country.

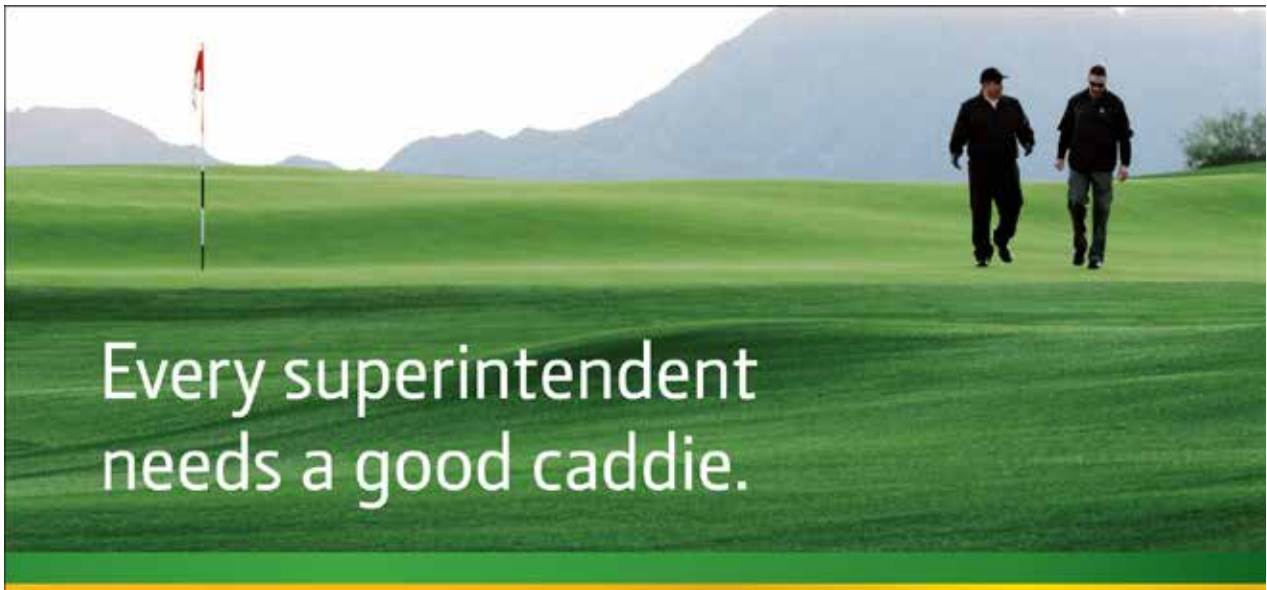
Mentorship Program: By engaging students with Assistant Superintendents and Superintendents this program will facilitate career growth and upward mobility. This will be a software platform that will allow them to engage in a private arena to facilitate open communication.

Internship Program: GCSAA will provide Superintendents the tools to create active learning environments for students. Students will be provided with checklists for a productive internship experience. GCSAA will provide the means for them to communicate and reach each other.

Student Listserve: Students will be supplied with a Listserve communication tool. This will enable them to directly receive information that is pertinent to them. Student events, student internships, and networking opportunities will be communicated through the Listserve. They will also be able to network and engage with students across the globe.

Student Chapter Engagement: GCSAA will be making visits to Universities and Colleges that have GCSAA Student Chapters. We will offer speakers and educational content that they can choose from for their Turf Club meetings. We will be working with the GCSAA Affiliated Superintendent Chapter to engage them with their Student Chapter.

As we look forward, GCSAA will continue to enhance these programs as to guarantee the success of our field heading to the future.



Every superintendent needs a good caddie.

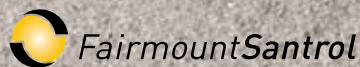
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2017 Membership Dues

Invoices have been emailed and mailed to those who don't have an email address. If you have had a job change or address, phone or email change, please let me know so I have your most up-to-date information for the new Directory. You can notify me by phone (304)391-5000 or email abreed@wvga.org.



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Spring Meeting

April 25, 2017
Edgewood CC, Sissonville

9:30am - Board Meeting
10:30am - Registration
11:00am - Lunch
12:00pm - Golf

*More details to be released
soon!*

