



The BONNIE GREENSWARD

OUR 100TH SEASON

VOL 24-6

A CENTENNIAL SEASON OF ADVOCACY-LAYING THE GROUNDWORK

No better year for the PAGCS to jump back into advocacy at the state level. Held the first week of June, PA Golf Day brought the state's **Alliance for Golf**, formed during pandemic to fight and keep golf open, met in Harrisburg for the first time as a group.

The overall goal is to present a unified formidable voice for statewide golf, while providing opportunities for all facets of the industry to advocate for initiatives impactful to each. Representatives from GAP, PGA Section, USGA, PAGCS and others met with legislators to build relationships and form lines of communication that will impact the future of golf in Pennsylvania. ♦



Representing the PAGCS were President Greg D'Antonio with Treasurer Tim Edwards, and Kristen Liebsch [not pictured]

NGD UPDATE



The PA NGD Team. Representing the PAGCS are Kristen Liebsch and Mike Janzer, along with Katrin Wolfe

For the third year in a row, PAGCS goes to Washington. National Golf Day, like PA Golf Day, brings a united golf industry presence to D.C. to advocate for "asks" that impact all of us. From fighting for funding in the Farm Bill that will allocate money for turfgrass research to raising the H2B visa cap, these are items that impact all of the industry. ♦

>> UPCOMING EVENTS

MEMBER-GUEST TROPHY TOURNAMENT

Monday, August 4

Host: Derek Mohler

Location: Chester Valley Golf Club

[CLICK HERE](#)

PHUN AT THE PHILLIES

Wednesday, August 20

[CLICK HERE](#)

GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP AND BUSINESS MEETING

Monday, October 27

Host: Darren Farrar

Location: Whitemarsh Valley Country Club

Registration Opens in September

PAGCS CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Thursday, October 30

Keynote Speaker: Jay Wright, Two-time Villanova National Champion Coach

Location: Union League Liberty Hill

Start time: 5:30

[Visit the website events tab for more!](#)

PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENT TO APPLY! -DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 1, 2025

Legacy Scholarships are awarded to the children/grandchildren of PAGCS members pursuing secondary education of any kind that fits the criteria:

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more and apply



Turf Student Scholarships are awarded to qualifying Turf Students employed by a AGCS Golf Course Superintendent:

[CLICK HERE](#) For criteria and application

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>> THE PM

We have made it beyond the midpoint of "in season" golf. Is there really an "off season" in this area anymore though? Luckily, our Super Bowl Champs are already back working to defend the title.

Your Board of Directors met with a GCSAA representative to engage in strategic planning, laying the groundwork for the next 100 years. Many of the initiatives discussed are in motion with more to come. As an Association, we must continue to evolve and adjust to the changing desires and trends of our members. Please feel free to reach out if you have any feedback on how we can do better to serve each of you!

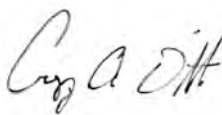
So far, the calendar of events during our 100th Celebration Year have increased attendance and are taking us to gems the PAGCS has not enjoyed in many years. Additionally, we held our first ever Equipment Manager Education event and are about to host our inaugural Assistant Superintendent Appreciation Nine and Dine at Lancaster CC.

Next up: it's hard to remember the last time the Association had an outing at Chester Valley, so we are excited for the upcoming Member-Guest. Phun at the Phils is coming up, too: [CLICK HERE](#)

Come October, we will celebrate with our Golf Champs 10/27 at Whitemarsh Valley, where it all began 100 years ago, followed by the Centennial Celebration at Union League Liberty Hill on 10/30.

- We kicked off the year with our January Education Event, with a line up of speakers that drew **110 attendees**.
- Despite San Diego being the furthest and most expensive location for GCSAA CTS, our joint hospitality event with GCSANJ exceeded attendance goals for the third time, providing the ideal gathering for our members.
- **Seaview** hosted us for War at the Shore, and it did not disappoint.
- Member-Member gave **Springhaven** a chance to show off all the changes and improvements the team has made.
- Scholarship Benefit Scramble ♦

Respectfully,



President, Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents



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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



WHO – CHARLIE MILLER, CGCS, THE SPRINGHAVEN CLUB

Latest Claim to PAGCS fame –
Host of the Centennial Year Member-
Member Tournament

HOBBIES

“golf—though I don’t play much—reading, podcasts, music (fave is Pink Floyd), History channel, exercise, watching Phillies, Eagles, and golf (mostly LPGA) ... Favorite golf event is by far the US OPEN ... can’t stand the bomb and gouge game.”

FAMILY

Four adult kids: boy-girl twins, age 29, and two older daughters.

“Extremely proud of the adults they have become, and are all excelling in their respective careers. My oldest daughter just had her second son, so only two grandkids at this time.”



FUR BABIES

“I currently have one dog, Nelly, who will be 2 in December, an English Cream Golden Retriever. Plan to get another in a year or so... Had to put down my almost 13-year-old Golden in February of this year.”

QUOTABLES

It’s just grass...we aren’t out here saving lives (gotta be careful who you say that to)

“Work to live” - can’t really say that I’ve done that well. –CM



Tony Gustaitis, CGCS

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WELCOME TO THE NEW PAGCS MEMBERS 2025

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Kimberly Bowling
Affiliate

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Nicholas Mattia
C

Chester Valley Golf Club
Brian Keates
EM

Envu
Jay Long
Affiliate

Five Ponds Golf Club
Robert Hackman
C

Kennett Square Golf & Country Club
Scott Musser
A/B

Manufacturers' Golf and Country Club
Justin Ace
C

Merion Golf Club
Maximilian Pierce
C

Nagle Design Works, LLC
James Nagle
Affiliate

Newark Country Club
Gregary Caputo
A/B

Northampton Valley Country Club
Keri McQuaid
C

Old York Road Country Club
Jared Waldman
C

Omega Turf Solutions
Michael Pelrine
Affiliate

Omega Turf Solutions
Matthew Castagna
Affiliate

Performance Nutrition Fertilizer
Eric Castellari
Affiliate

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Tanner Hotchkiss
C

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Nate Heller
Affiliate

SOX Erosion Solution
Jesse Dorais
Affiliate

Specialty Turf and Robotics
Tyler Jeinnings
Affiliate

Spring Ford Country Club
Tom Philibin
C

St. Davids Golf Club
Wyatt Yashura
C

Talamore Golf
Aaron Simmons
C

The Philadelphia Cricket Club
Luke Kringler
C

Union League Golf Club at Torresdale
Dennis Waugh
C

Union League Golf Club at Torresdale
Eric Melso
C

Union League Golf Club at Torresdale
Jack Blythe
C

Union League Golf Club at Torresdale
Mark Schuhl
C

Union League of Philadelphia: Liberty Hill
Ryan Lynagh
C

University of Delaware
Emerson John
Educator

White Manor Country Club
Justin Taylor
C

White Manor Country Club
Kimberly Donovan
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Affiliate

Willow's Bend
Scott Scherer



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Union League Golf Club at Torresdale



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We are deeply grateful for the continued support of our clients, which has enabled us to grow and expand. Thank you for making us a trusted partner in your most important turfgrass projects. As we look ahead to 2025, we are excited to continue building lasting relationships in the golf industry.



Early Morning Harvest

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>>EVENTS

WAR AT THE SHORE 2025 - TROPHY TO STAY IN NJ

GCSANJ: 247.5
PAGCS: 220.5

SKINS

Joe Kinlen, #15 [Birdie]
 Scott McBane, #10 [Eagle]
 Rob Johnson, #13 [Birdie]
 George Hoopes, #11 [Hole in One]

SKILLS

Grant Bezek, Long Drive #3
 John Baio, Long Drive, #13
 Kelly Kressler, Closest to the Pin #7
 Bill Cimochofski, Closest to the Pin #17

WINNERS

GCSANJ: Joe Kinlen/Donovan Maguigan
 PAGCS: George Hoopes/Ryan Sharp



A presidential foursome: Greg D'Antonio, PAGCS, [second from the left] and Donovan Maguigan, GCSANJ, [far right] with partners Rich Sweeney [far left] and Joe Kinlen.



Bill Leedom, center, with golf chairs Jeff Haas [PAGCS] and Travis Pauley [GCSANJ]



Lots of winners at WATS!



The Fortunate Foursome: George Hoopes, far left, GCS at Linfield National, aced the 15th hole at Seaview! [name the others]

MEMBER-MEMBER

Location: The Springhaven Club
Date: May 12
Host: Charlie Miller CGCS

GROSS RESULTS

1st: Kachurak/Tristani @ 69
Lear/Bigelow @ 74*
Haas/McClellan @ 74*

NET RESULTS

Molchan/Burd @ 64|
Saunders/Collins @ 67*
Garrison/Chassard @67*

SKILL CONTEST WINNERS

CTP Hole #3: JRice @ 8'3"
CTP Hole #16: SBigelow @ 3'6"
LD #8: NTristani @ 306



The Springhaven Club, another long lost treasure for a PAGCS Tournament!
Thank you, Charlie Miller and team for hosting us.



SCHOLARSHIP

Location: Green Valley CC
Date: Monday, June 30
Host: Matt Herrmann

1ST PLACE
Brad Helcoski
Darren Farrar
Christian Scheller
Tim Kelly

2ND PLACE
Katrin Wolfe
Chet Walsh
Ryan Sharp

3RD PLACE
Tyler Jeinnings
Dan Pagano
Eddie Decke
Eric Hench

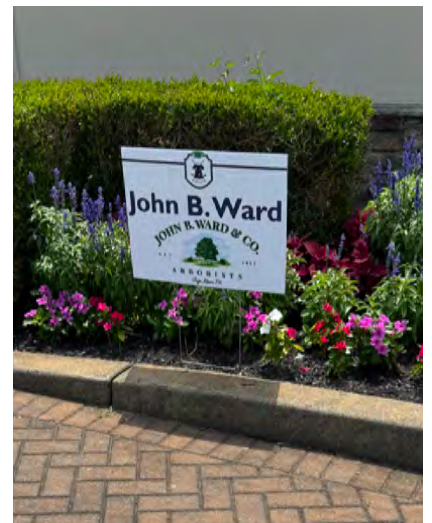
LONGEST DRIVE
Katrin Wolfe

CLOSEST TO THE PIN #4
Eric Hench 3'4"

CLOSEST TO THE PIN #10
Mike Linkewich *HOLE IN ONE



Centennial Switch Up: Matt Herrmann and the Green Valley Country Club went to bat for this year's Scholarship Scramble Benefit. Matt asked our host for numerous years, Alex Lennertz, CGCS at Sandy Run CC, if he could host this year and Alex graciously agreed.



THANK YOU, MATT, FOR HOSTING OUR SCHOLARSHIP SCRAMBLE.

“To be a golf course superintendent is to live with your mind in a hundred places—weather patterns, crew needs, equipment breakdowns, turf health—all at once. Yet in that chaos, you find a rhythm, a quiet focus that keeps the course running. The hours fly by, 8 to 10 in a blink, and still, the to-do list lingers. But that’s the beauty of this life: perfection isn’t in finishing everything today—it’s in showing up again tomorrow, with the same drive, the same heart, and the same love for the land.

-Matt Herrmann, GCS, Green Valley Country Club





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Focus was 249 flags along the road. Another 200 around the property for, just because.

–Bob Jackson, CGCS, Past President [1990-91]



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KENNETT SQUARE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB STUDENT VOICES



Hi Scott,

Our fourth graders had a wonderful time at the Kennett [Square Golf &] Country Club on Monday. The First Green program was such a great experience for all of us.

Below are some of the students' highlights:

- I really like putting golf balls, it was so much fun.
- The mowers were great. I liked the giant one best.
- My favorite part was seeing and learning about the bees. I did not know that to make a new queen bee it had to be fed special jelly. It was also cool how many eggs queen bees lay.
- I liked playing golf and watching the robot that cuts the grass.
- I really liked the part when we got to play gold because I almost got a whole in one!
- The mower spot was my favorite because I have never seen anything so cool in my life. It was fun watching it.
- Everything was great. I had a really, fun time.
- I really liked watching how Jesus took out a chunk of grass to create a whole and then he replaced it, and I couldn't even see where it had been.
- Learning about the bees was interesting. I learned how they made a queen.
- I really liked putting. It would be fun to do this at two stations!!
- Watching the aerator is so fun. I like when it poked holes in the grown and we could see the roots.
- Learning about how the grass is watered was fun. I liked that I got to turn on the sprinklers.
- The BEST part of the day was meeting Sawyer the dog.

Thank you so much,
Heather Jernegan
Fourth Grade Teacher
New Garden Elementary

Scott Musser, GCS, KSGCC, hosted another First Green STEAM education event on April.

SANDY RUN COUNTRY CLUB HOSTED INNOVATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL STEAM EVENT FOR LOCAL STUDENTS



ORELAND, PA – The Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents (PAGCS) is proud to announce an exciting environmental education outreach event at Sandy Run Country Club. On the morning of Monday, May 19, golf course superintendent Alex Lennertz will welcome 4th and 5th grade students from Good Shepard School for a GCSAA First Green field trip — a dynamic, hands-on learning experience that turns golf courses into outdoor STEAM classrooms.

First Green, a program of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), introduces students to science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM) concepts in an outdoor setting. The curriculum is designed to connect classroom learning with real-world applications, using the natural environment of a golf course as a unique and engaging backdrop.

First Green field trips are funded by grants from GCSAA and PAGCS.

Event Details:

- **WHEN:** Monday, May 19, 2025 | 8:15 AM – 11:30 AM
- **WHERE:** Sandy Run Country Club, 200 E. Valley Green Rd., Oreland, PA 19075
- **WHO:** 21 students (7 from 4th grade, 14 from 5th grade), hosted by Alex Lennertz, local superintendents, and PAGCS affiliates
- **WHAT:** A hands-on STEM field trip featuring interactive learning stations



The morning will begin with a brief introduction to the club, its history, and its role in the community. Students will then rotate through a variety of learning stations including:

- **Mathematics on the Course** – exploring measurements and calculations used in course maintenance
- **Technology on Course** – learn about and see innovative tools used by superintendents
- **Nature and Conservation** – capturing the course through a creative lens, identifying plants, landforms, and environmental features, learn how to preserve open spaces
- **Exploration/Physical Education** – swing and learn!

This First Green event supports environmental awareness, promotes outdoor education, and introduces young students to potential future careers in turf management and the golf industry — all while having fun.

For more information, contact: Alex Lennertz, host superintendent: darunsturf@gmail.com/215-350-3576
 Kristen Liebsch, Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents: kliebsch@pagcs.org/484-467-5298

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: MADISON STEWART FEATURED IN GOLF JOURNAL

We're excited to share that our very own Madison Stewart, Outreach Coordinator at First Tee – Greater Philadelphia, was recently featured in the Summer 2025 issue of Golf Journal! Now overseeing our Access to Golf initiative, Madison connects students from 16 schools and youth organizations with meaningful golf experiences—complete with transportation, lunch, and life skills. Her story is a powerful example of the full-circle impact First Tee can have. ♦

[Read the Article Here](#)



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UNsung HEROES

Superintendents can be candidates for the classification of “unsung hero.” Moreover, any member of a golf course maintenance team likely qualifies.

The Winter 2024 edition of **GAP Magazine** highlighted four individuals — Matt Fox, Kai Jendrzejewski and Bruce Lusk of Deerwood Country Club in Westhampton, N.J.; Sarah Stanek of Glen Oak Country Club in Clarks Summit, Pa. — as unsung heroes. Here is a peek at each piece.



DEERWOOD COUNTRY CLUB: MATT FOX, KAI JENDRZEJEWSKI, BRUCE LUSK

By Dalton Balthaser

More than 120 acres represent the land housed by Deerwood Country Club’s golf course in Westhampton, N.J. Taking care of that sizable area three hardworking individuals: Assistant Superintendent Kai Jendrzejewski, Equipment Manager Bruce Lusk and Irrigation Technician Matt Fox. While they all have individual titles, they represent the Grounds Crew triumvirate pushing Deerwood forward.

A given morning looks like this: one person cutting the greens, one cutting the tees and one spinning around raking bunkers. Then splitting up after to accomplish whatever else needs to be done.



Lusk is a talented mechanic. Fox’s strength is with irrigation systems, and Jendrzejewski brings a cheerful enthusiasm for the property and the craft. Lusk has been at the club for 17 years, Fox for four years. Jendrzejewski joined in March after graduating from Rutgers University.

“There’s a progression to the work we do here, and you can definitely see the work we have been doing,” Jendrzejewski, 26, of Marlton, N.J., said. “Matt and Bruce have been doing a lot of the work, and I have come in on the back end of it. Those guys are the backbone of this place.”

“We do the best we can for the amount of staff we have,” Lusk, 58, of Mount Holly, N.J., added. “We all have to do a lot more than we would normally do at other clubs. The three of us take pride in the product we put out there. You want people to be happy with the conditions, and it makes you feel good to hear you are doing a good job. It is just nice to be appreciated.”

GLEN OAK COUNTRY CLUB: SARAH STANEK

By Tony Regina

Sarah Stanek’s relationship with Glen Oak Country Club originated in 1999.

“I was looking for a job, and my stepdad (John Collins) used to work at Glen Oak when he was younger. He said, ‘You might

like working [on the grounds crew].’ It ended up turning into a career,” Stanek, 45, of Dalton, Pa., said. “I grew up on a horse farm, so I did a lot of farm work during the summer and stuff like that. I’ve always loved to work outside. I did fall in love with the golf course.”

Stanek worked for Glen Oak’s grounds department while studying landscape contracting at Penn State Wilkes-Barre. She left the club in concert with her advancement to Penn State University’s main campus. Stanek briefly worked at Penn State’s Blue Course before moving to Toftrees Golf Resort, where she soon became the facility’s horticulturalist.

In 2010, Stanek transitioned to Scottish Heights Golf Club & Lodge in Brockport, Pa. She spent a decade there. Life, as it tends to surreptitiously do, returned Stanek to her first turfgrass home.

“Honestly, I split up with my fiancée and decided I just wanted to move back home. I came back home and started over,” she said. “I figured I’d go back to Glen Oak because that’s where I started. I do love it there.”

Stanek, within her first year at Glen Oak, became a full-time member of the grounds department. She received a promotion to second assistant superintendent in 2022. Stanek works hand-in-hand with Josh Dixon, Glen Oak’s first assistant.



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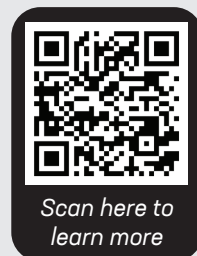


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Did you know DelVal turf students helped prepare Oakmont Country Club for the 2025 U.S. Open last week? Oakmont intern Alex Garcia '26, volunteer and alumnus Lucas Baldinger '25, and volunteer Nate Wooters '26 were hands-on during the 125th U.S. Open. #usopen #oakmont





BEECH LEAF DISEASE IS SPREADING

Over the past several years we have been keeping an eye on the spread of Beech Leaf Disease (BLD) as it has moved into our region. Our arborists are now beginning to see high concentrations of affected beech trees along the Main Line. BLD is a fatal disease caused by microscopic nematodes. Symptoms of BLD first appear as dark-colored interveinal banding on the foliage. Leaves become distorted and may cup and curl before shedding prematurely. Under severe pressure buds are killed outright resulting in branch dieback and the death of the tree in 3-7 years depending on the vigor of the tree. BLD affects all species of beech, including the European cultivars. The good news is there's still time to protect your trees!

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Distinct dark green banding between the veins of Beech leaves—a characteristic early symptom of Beech Leaf Disease.



Microscopic view of the foliar nematode (*Litylenchus crenatae mccannii*) responsible for Beech Leaf Disease in North American Beech trees.



Tony Gustaitis proudly displays trophy awarded to Lawn & Golf: Smithco Dealer of the Year 2024.



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POTENT QUOTABLES

In case you missed it, the PAGCS Centennial was recently recognized in the GAP Magazine. [<https://gap.mydigitalpublication.com/2025-spring>]

“I’m certainly appreciative of the vision and foresight they had in 1925 to form the Association. Hopefully they’re proud of what it is today and what it’s become as golf has expanded in the last five years.”

–Greg D’Antonio, president

“You would be working in the heat of the summer, just getting beat to a pulp. You would go to a meeting and would be able to share that. You had company there. When you went to work the next day, you felt stronger. You weren’t going through this by yourself.”

–Joe Owsik, Past President [1998-99] and 40-year member

“There was a meeting at Manufacturers’ in the fall last year [2024]. We had 135 people there. It’s a great golf course, but that wasn’t the draw. I don’t see that changing. The key to the Association, and what makes the superintendent so valuable, is the mentorship.”

–Jerred Golden, Past President [1992-93] and member since 1981

“I’ve gotten to meet a lot of people in the Philadelphia market, so when I go to an event for the Association, I feel like I know almost everybody, which has been great. I think we have good participation, good history and a great group of younger people who want to be involved. We have a pretty strong camaraderie amongst us. We have a bright future continuing this tradition of the PAGCS for the next 100 years.”

–Nick Sujkowski, Assistant Liaison to the Board

“I’ve seen the Association double the membership since I started. It’s a young man’s game. I watched the young guys develop from assistants to take over as superintendents, and I encouraged them. I always reminded them that it’s family first. It’s a great business, but your family comes first. That is where it all starts.”

–John Segui, CGCS, Past President of both PAGCS and GCSAA, served as the superintendent at Waynesborough from 1969-96

“If you’re involved in anything on the golf side or the maintenance and sales side, then you joined the Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents because everyone is so interconnected. It is the hub with all of the relationships in our industry. The turf side of the golf world is collegial. A lot of people seem to stick together. There are so many great people who came through the Association, and I feel that you need to give back, especially with how much it’s helped me in my career.”

–Bill Corcoran, Membership Chairman, member since 1995

“My biggest thing was one, making sure the 100th anniversary happened. Two, the history. Three, the map forward. I really think the 100th ... is as much looking forward as it is looking back.”

–Kristen Liebsch, Executive Director



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CLICK link to read more.

<https://bloomgolfpartners.com/have-a-plan-show-up-prepared/> ♦

ASSISTANT NETWORK CAREER – CAMARADERIE – CONNECTIONS

Don't miss out on one of the top membership benefits just for Assistant Superintendents! The Assistant Network, led by Board Liaison Nick Sujkowski, AGCS at Concord Country Club, provides dedicated support, professional growth opportunities, and meaningful networking experiences.

SPRING NETWORKING RECAP

On March 7th, we kicked off the season at the brand-new Jeffersonville Golf Club clubhouse, thanks to generous support from Chris Friel at Pocono Turf and host Rich Shilling, Jeffersonville's Head of Grounds and PAGCS Board Member.

Assistant Superintendents from 11 different facilities (20 in total!) enjoyed an evening of camaraderie, great food and drinks, and some friendly competition on the new golf simulators.

NEXT UP: SUMMER NINE AND DINE AT LANCASTER CC

Our first-ever Nine and Dine event is July 29 at Lancaster Country Club, hosted by Josh Saunders. Enjoy nine holes of golf followed by local flavor from Chellas food truck, with thanks to our sponsors Tom Currie/Genesis Turfgrass and Shawn Moore/Turf Equipment and Supply. ♦

QUESTIONS OR WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Contact Nick Sujkowski at 570-575-9441 or nicksuj@gmail.com



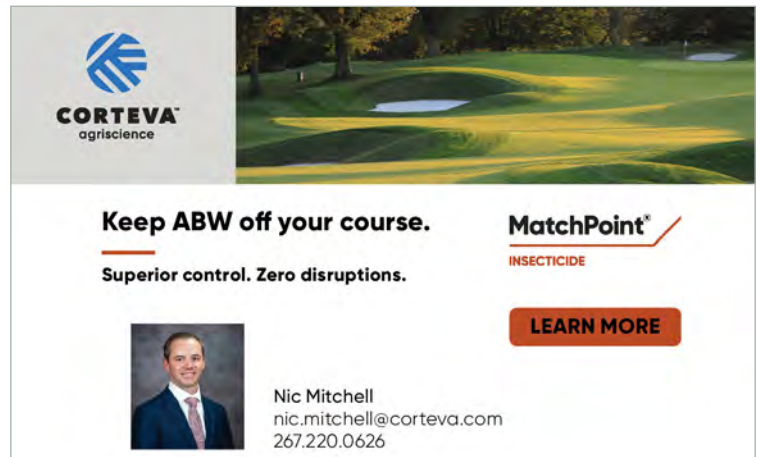
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CUTLINE IS KING AUTHOR MIKE ROLLINS LEADS PAGCS EDUCATION FOR EMS



Applebrook Golf Club's new Brecker Turf Care Center was the site of PAGCS' Equipment Manager Network spring education session. Hosted by Head of Grounds Jared Viarengo on April 2, the event offered Education and CEUs, along with breakfast and networking lunch.

MICHAEL ROLLINS



Mike Rollins is the Eastern Regional Sales Manager for SIP Corporation. He grew up in his dad's repair shop throughout grade school and earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Florida. Known as a diligent individual, Rollins has 14 years of sales & customer service

experience throughout multiple industries. During his tenure at SIP, Rollins has used his mechanical background to help customers solve issues with their cutting units and has helped them establish cutting unit programs, while also providing service and training for SIP's line of Ideal & Peerless grinders. He has also provided tournament support for local GCSA, LPGA, and PGA TOUR events. ♦



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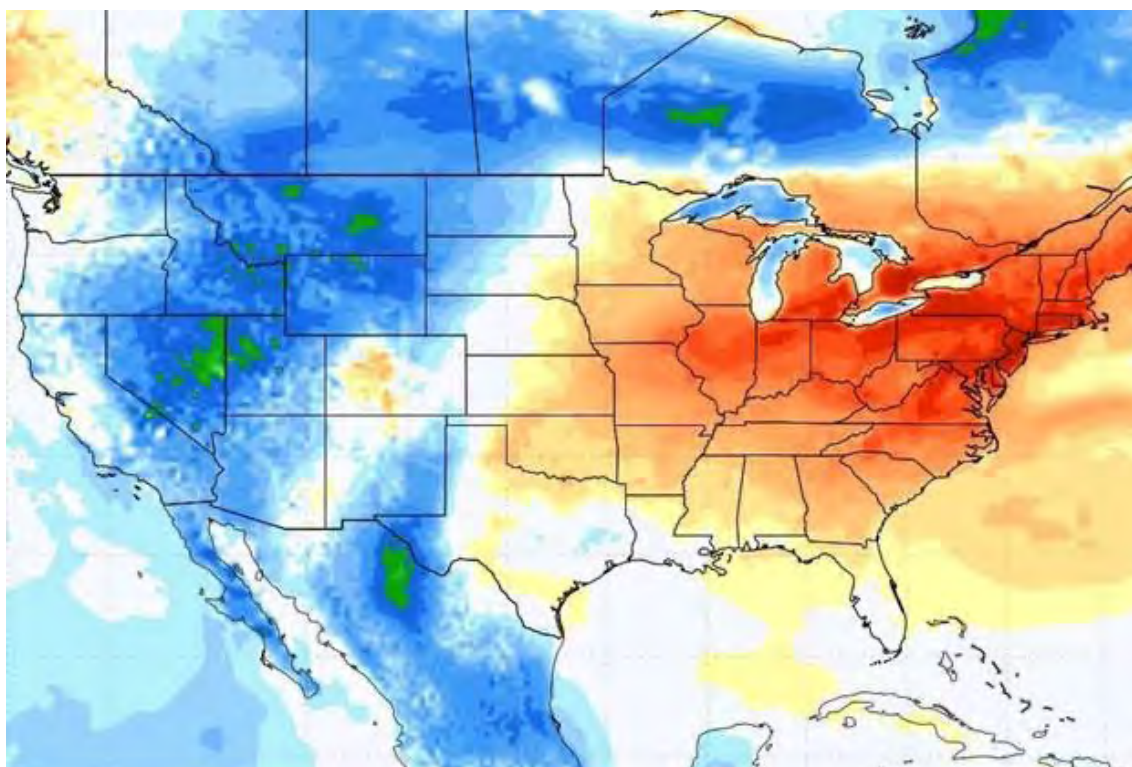
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THE RING OF FIRE AND THE HEAT DOME: SUMMER 2025 HAS ARRIVED

Brian Gietka, agronomist, East Region



Late June brought extremely hot and humid weather to the Northeast and we know more is coming in the months ahead. Be conservative now because we have a lot of summer still to go.

During [USGA Course Consulting Service](#) visits throughout the Northeast this spring, conversations focused on frequent rain as many areas endured 7 to 9 inches in just a few weeks. These conditions inhibited deep, robust root development, which was concerning. However, June is normally a mild weather month that is favorable for growth. Unfortunately, summer arrived early and we entered the “ring of fire” and “heat dome” that gave us a stretch of temperatures well into the 90s with high humidity, leading to turf stress that’s more typical for August than June.

Turf managers were already trying to keep up with mowing and managing the impacts of heavy play, then the weather made things even tougher! There are many resources on [managing summer stress](#) but what is actually happening? We see the thinning turf canopy, yellow leaves and short roots, but as the great turf pathologist Dr. Peter Dernoeden would say, summer decline may be more of a physiological response rather than a pathological problem.

Of course, pest problems are more significant when the turf is stressed, but why? Heat stress creates an imbalance with energy production and consumption in the turf. Respiration is high and the ability to photosynthesize is low, so stored carbohydrates

are consumed leading to noticeable root depletion. When spring aeration is skipped or extended periods of poor weather lead to limited rooting, the turf’s ability to perform and defend against pathogens is weakened. Combine high temperature stress arriving early with weak roots and exercising caution now for better turf later becomes critical.

Summer stresses arrived quickly this year, so the play right now is to increase photosynthesis and carbohydrate production by maintaining more leaf surface through practices such as rolling instead of mowing on occasion and/or slightly raising heights of cut. Reducing soil temperatures, watering to what the turf needs, minimizing mechanical stress and increasing the frequency of plant health applications should be prioritized to protect the playing surfaces. We cannot predict the future, but we can be cautious. Sometimes doing nothing is better than doing something. Reach out to your [regional USGA agronomist](#) if you want to discuss plans for the months ahead – or if you just need a little reassurance! ♦

NORTHEAST REGION AGRONOMISTS:

Darin Bevard, senior director, Championship Agronomy – dbevard@usga.org

Elliott L. Dowling, regional director, East Region – edowling@usga.org

Brian Gietka, agronomist – bgietka@usga.org

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“She will get to about 80-90lbs.”



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JUSTIN BAILEY, ASSISTANT GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT IN TRAINING, WHITFORD COUNTRY CLUB, EXTON, PA.

“Thank you again to GCSAA for choosing me to volunteer at the 2025 Farmers Insurance Open at Torrey Pines. It was a great experience, and I had the opportunity to network with leaders in the industry. This was very informative, and I found it to be incredibly insightful, gaining new experiences and being able to gain a different perspective on how other courses run their operation.”

Now, we invite you to join the conversation and share your own story! How has GCSAA impacted your career and professional growth? Whether GCSAA helped you land a job, make an industry connection or solve a problem on the course or in the shop, we want to hear from you. No story is too small. Reply to this email or post your experience on social media using #MyGCSAAStory. Your story could inspire others and showcase the power of our community. ♦





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- 3 Download and follow the ABW assurance program sheet



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*Survey of 258 golf course superintendents conducted via TechTrends in Sept. 2021.
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Thank you to all of our industry partners who support Nutrien, looking forward to a prosperous 2024.

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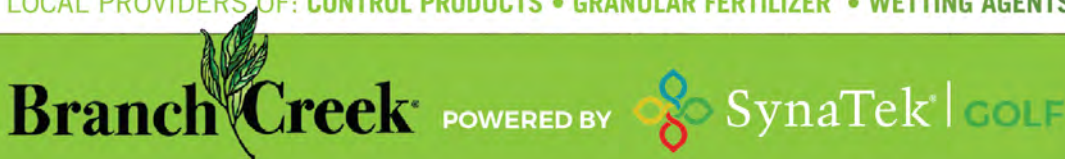
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