TEE TO GREEN

October 2012



In the September issue of Tee To Green, there was a bylaw change proposal to be on the ballot at the annual meeting, stating the Board of Directors go back to the original number of members (from 12 total Board members to 9 total). Because of the number of calls on this item, the proposal has been changed again. See full by law proposal on page 13.

Running for Executive Office are Sean Wilson, CGCS (President), Blayne Sparks (Vice President), Ben Fultz and Chris Lineberger (Secretary Treasurer). Up for reelection in the Board of Directors positions are Ben Fultz and Jeff McCrory. Running for the first time are Randy Samoff and Jeff Smelser. In the affiliate position there will be Brandon Cole running for reelection.

Also on the ballot will be the Superintendent of the Year Nominees.

Please try to attend the annual meeting! It is important that the chapter has a quorum for this meeting in order to elect our officials for next year. If you cannot attend the meeting, you may also vote by proxy online. The proxy ballot can be found on the home page of the website. Just print, fill out and get back to Marian or any Board member. Please make sure you include your name on this ballot.

STGCSA will proudly be kicking off the Rounds 4 Research campaign at the annual meeting. Details will be given at the meeting!

December 7, 2012-Scholarship Awards Ceremony and Christmas Party—High Meadow Ranch GC

January 9, 2013—Pesticide License Training—Bear Creek Extension Office

January 22, 2013—Stephen F. Austin

Map to SFA GC

February 1-3, 2013 Golf Industry Show Golf Tournament

February 4-8, 2013—Golf Industry Show (Education/Conference)

San Diego, CA (more info on page 14)

Register Now for Any Meeting!

President's Message By: Mark Haven



"Golf is so popular simply because it is the best game in the world at which to be bad." A. A. Milne

First and last and everything in between, I want to encourage you to come to the annual meeting October 15th at Brae Burn Country Club. We are electing board members and voting on a couple of changes in the by-laws. We also have a number of items to discuss going into the next year. I would rather launch those in person where we can get immediate feedback.

The trip to Lubbock for the Texas Trophy was long but well worth it, and I didn't even have to drive. Thanks for the ride Cody! The course was great, even though my putting was exceptionally poor. Once again, South Texas was well represented.

I have reserved High Meadow Ranch for the Christmas Party on December 7th. We will get more details out soon. Also in the works is the Past President's Luncheon.

I want to thank everyone for supporting me through the year. In particular I want to thank Marian. She understands us and is the foundation from which the board operates. We do the big picture stuff but she gets the details and makes it happen. Feel free to contact me for any reason. mhaven@rec.tamu.edu @bcsgreenkeeper cell 979-224-0184



In honor...

We Invite you...

South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association's

Past President's Luncheon

October 23, 2012

11:00 am

Riverbend Country Club

1214 Dulles Ave.

Sugar Land, TX

Please RSVP to: 281.494.0094

stgcsa@stgcsa.org

(Cost for members is \$20, our past presidents are no cost)

Central Texas GCSA (Mike Chandler) - 254-681-0725 www.ctgcsa.org Lone Star GCSA (Karen White)-972.307.8162 www.lsgcsa.org

North Texas GCSA (Lori Goodrich) - 817.377.4552 www.ntgcsa.org

Texas Gulf Coast SA (Darlene Curlee)-877.448.9944 www.tgcsa.org

Texas Turf Grass Association (Shirley Duble)-979.690.2201 www.texasturf.com

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BraeBurn Country Club Established 1931

Terry Gill

Superintendent

Brae Burn Country Club

Host, 2012 STGCSA Annual Meeting



BraeBurn Country Club was founded in 1927 at a time when golf was in its heyday in America and especially Texas. A group of businessman raised \$ 100,000 dollars to built a clubhouse and a 9 hole golf course some 10 miles outside the city of Houston. They hired a young Scottish Golf Course Architect name John Bredemus. Mr. Bredemus had honed his architectural skills in the northeast. He was a brilliant college athlete at Yale as he won a silver medal in the decathlon in the 1926 Olympics. He built somewhere around 75 courses just in Texas, the likes of Memorial Park, Colonial Country Club, and San Angelo Country Club. In 1929 due to the stock market crash Brae Burn was closed for about 2 years, then in 1931 a group of investors took control and hired Mr. Bredemus to build the second 9. Over the next 81 years the club had its ups and downs like all clubs.

From 1936-1942 a young Golf Professional name Jimmy Demaret served as the head professional. During those times he won his first of 3 Masters Championships. In 1942 Jimmy Demaret, Byron Nelson, Bing Crosby, Bob Hope and Johnny Westmuller (Tarzan) put on golf matches raising money to buy bonds for the war effort. The matches cost \$ 1.00 to watch and sometimes raised as much as \$2,000. With the exception of hosting the Houston Open in the late 50's the club changed very little over the next 50 years.

In 1992 the Golf Course was completely redesigned by Golf Course Architect Carlton Gipson (1975 President STGCSA). It was designed in a way to help the Harris County Flood Control District use the course as a retention area during flooding along Braes Bayou. During a extreme flood in 2003 engineers estimated the Texas Medical Center would have had \$40- \$50 million more in damage if not for Brae Burn and other retention areas up stream. In 1996 the club hosted the Texas State Amateur and has hosted several STPGA events.

I have been the Superintendent at BraeBurn just over 13 years. In that time frame we have installed 11 new steel bridges, 3.5 miles of 8' wide cart paths, added rock walls to several of the lakes, rebuilt the tees, fairways and greens. We recently just completed a 900' long by 10' tall brick wall along Bissonnet. It has been a real privilege to work here with such a great membership. Over the years the likes of Sonny Dubose (President STGCSA 1960-65-66), Tom Leonard (President STGCSA 1964), Earle Ahrendt (President STGCSA 1978) and John Braum have worked here as Superintendents.

We are hosting the Annual Meeting here Oct. 15th. I invite everyone to come meet your peers, vote for your new board members, eat some good food, play a little golf and enjoy part of Houston golfing history.







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Welcome New Members

Benjamin Huerta Asst Supt. at Sweetwater

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Billy Rase Supt: Contraband Bayou GC at L'auberge

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Golf Returning to the Olympics?

Not since 1904 has there been an Olympic golf champion. That year, George Lyon, a Canadian amateur, defeated H. Chandler Egan, the reigning United States Amateur champion, 3 and 2, in the final at Glen Echo Country Club outside St. Louis, where the Olympics were held in conjunction with the "Meet me in St. Looey, Looey" World's Fair. After disappearing into decades of debate, golf will return to the Olympics four years from now in Brazil, a nation with only 107 courses and a sports heritage geared more to soccer's Pelé and Ronaldo. Sixty men and 60 women from a yet-to-beannounced format from the world rankings will play 72 holes in separate tournaments on a yet-to-be-built course.

Read the full article by: Sports of The Times/Yet-to-Be Details of Olympic Golf By DAVE ANDERSON

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Houston area superintendent renews professional certification

Michael S. Wilson, GCSAA certified golf course superintendent at The Club at Falcon Point, Katy, Texas, has completed the renewal process for maintaining his status as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).



Wilson has been at The Club at Falcon Point since 2004. A 15-year GCSAA member, he initially achieved his certification in 2002. Approximately 1,600 golf course superintendents worldwide currently hold "CGCS" status.

According to GCSAA Chief Executive Officer Rhett Evans, "25 percent of GCSAA's Class A members have elected to earn the highest level of recognition through the professional designation "CGCS" by completion of the GCSAA Certification Program. This program requires their demonstration of a higher set of competencies in golf course management through testing and practical application. Employers can be confident they employ a career professional who will increase their chances of having consistently superior course conditions."

GCSAA was among the first associations to institute a professional certification program, establishing its program in 1971 to recognize outstanding and progressive superintendents. In 2005, GCSAA completed a restructuring of its certification program in order to raise the level of documented professionalism through comprehensive continuing education. The restructured program was recognized by the National Certification Commission as "one of the most extensive and comprehensive certification programs for any profession."

To qualify for GCSAA's new competency-based certification program, a candidate must have at least three years experience as a golf course superintendent, be employed in that capacity and meet post-secondary educational requirements and/or continuing education points. The candidate's knowledge, skills and abilities are validated through the development of a portfolio consisting of their responses to skill statements, case-study scenarios and submission of work samples; an on-site inspection of their golf facility; and a rigorous six-hour examination covering: equipment, irrigation systems, materials and technology; golf course and grounds; human resources, rules of golf, financial and administrative systems, regulatory and programmatic systems, crisis management, project management and ethics and values.

Maintaining certified status requires renewal every five years after the initial date of certification. To fulfill certification renewal requirements, a candidate must participate in 150 hours of continuing education and professional development.



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Introducing: Texas Water Conservation Advisory Council Savetexaswater.org

By: Brian Cloud, GCSAA Field Representative South Central Region, beloud@gcsaa.org



The historical drought of 2011 convinced many Texans that water conservation is critically important and is now a large part of the life style of every person and business entity in the state. Record-breaking stretches of scorching weather and lack of rain caused nearly every corner of the state of Texas to experience severe or exceptional drought. Golf course superintendents were on the front lines battling these conditions to not only keep their courses alive but to provide good playing conditions to keep their businesses viable. Experienced and young superintendents alike, agree that it was one of the most difficult years ever.

Water conservation is critical to the future economic and environmental viability of Texas. By 2060, more than 46 million people are expected to call Texas home – twice as many Texans as now. Increasing population, increasing demand on water supplies and increased frequency of drought has forced the state of Texas to recognize the vital role of conservation in meeting future water needs.

Recognizing the importance of water conservation, the Texas legislature created the Water Conservation Advisory Council in 2007, a group consisting of 23 experts representing various agencies, political subdivisions, water users, and interest groups. The legislature directed the Council to address several charges and to report to state leadership before every legislative session.

As your GCSAA Field Representative, I took the initiative to recently attend two council meetings held by this group in June and July in Austin. I feel that their activities and efforts will have a great impact on golf course superintendents and GCSAA members and their access to irrigation water in the future

I have been extremely impressed with the professionalism and enthusiasm that this group has for making a difference in this very important cause.

Duties of the Texas Water Conservation Advisory Council:

- Monitoring trends in water conservation implementation
- Monitor new technologies for possible inclusion as best management practices
- Monitoring the effectiveness of the statewide water conservation public awareness program
- Developing and implementing a state water management resource library
- Developing and implementing a public recognition program for water conservation
- Monitoring the implementation of water conservation strategies by water users included in regional water plans
- Monitoring target and goal guidelines for water conservation to be considered by the TWDB and TCEQ

They are truly taking a comprehensive look at every aspect of water conservation in the state and working very hard to provide useful and pertinent guidance and information to the Texas legislature. This council works very closely with the Texas Water Development Board. The Texas Water Development Board is a government agency that is charged with the mission to provide leadership, planning, financial assistance, information, and education for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas. The TWDB is charged to produce a State Water Plan every five years and their most recent plan can be found at http://www.twdb.state.tx.us

The first meeting I attended was on June 20 and was held at the Texas Parks and Wildlife – Austin Field Office. Ken Gorzycki CGCS, Director of Agronomy at Horseshoe Bay Resort and Lone Star GCSA Board Member also attended the meeting. Ken has been very involved with legislative and advocacy efforts and is very informed on the water issues that affect golf course superintendents in Texas. Our priority was to meet council members and to make the statement that the golf industry in Texas appreciated the work that the council was involved with and that we are in support of conservation efforts. Our reception could not have been any better. Ken knew many of the council members from his previous work and they were very appreciative of our attendance. My jaw

nearly hit the floor when a representative of the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club cornered Ken to let him know that her son had recently participated in a golf camp and was in love with the game. Several of the council members wanted to speak with him about the work that superintendents were doing in the effort to deal with the drought.

(continued on page 9)

(continued from page 8)

During this meeting, I was introduced to a representative from the Texas Water Foundation. This group is a non-profit advocacy group dedicated to "to maintain and enhance the quality of life for all Texans by mobilizing Texans to recognize the vital role water plays in protecting human health, supporting economic growth and safeguarding natural resources." She was speaking the next day at an event in Waco called the Brazos Valley Water Conservation Symposium: The Business Case for Water Conservation and invited me to attend. I was able to attend and heard many terrific presentations from municipal water suppliers and water conservation advocates. Once again, the golf industry was portrayed in a positive light based on the great work that superintendents have done during the drought and for many years before. The TCEQ Commissioner, Toby Baker was the Keynote Speaker at this event and gave a great review of the work being done by his agency concerning water conservation.

In July, I attended a second council meeting in Austin and was again received well by the members of the group. Included in the meeting was a presentation by a representative of the Houston Public Works & Engineering Department who described the incredible work that is being done in this city to assist their business and residential customers to manage their water use and costs. Soon, Houston water users will be able to monitor and manage their water use online or on their smart phones with truly remarkable technology. After the meeting, I met with the council members who represent Industrial Water Users and Landscape Irrigation / Horticulture sectors. Golf is considered a hybrid sector and falls within these two groups. Both were very encouraged that the golf industry was committed to the efforts of the committee and wanted to learn more about the work being done by golf course superintendents.

I learned at this meeting that the council will focus their efforts on these high priorities - Water Use Metrics and Methodologies: Existing measurements for conservation are inconsistently used and create confusion and inaccurate information. Currently there are very limited uniform metrics in place today for water conservation programs. The Council will continue to work towards developing uniform metrics for all sectors of water use. The Council plans to work closely with the Texas Water Development Board, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, and other key stakeholder groups and state agencies to evaluate current metrics and methodologies for the analysis of water use and conservation. Public Awareness and Recognition: The Council will continue to work closely with stakeholder groups to document efforts and impacts of public awareness efforts and programs throughout the state. Library Website: The Council will continue to participate in a cooperative effort with the Alliance for Water Efficiency in the development of a national water conservation reference clearing house. Water Conservation for Energy: The Council plans to work with the State Energy Conservation Office to identify water conservation opportunities associated with energy consumption and to identify the energy savings that are associated with water conservation Best Management Practices. Best Management Practices Guide: A large majority of successful water conservation programs identify and implement best management practices as strategies for using water more efficiently. The Council plans to increase its efforts to improve and promote the Best Management Practices guide. The Council intends to work closely with stakeholder groups to actively communicate requests for revisions, additions, or deletions to the Best Management Practices guide.

As you can see, there are considerable advocacy and legislative actions being taken in Texas that will affect your ability to capture and use water for irrigation. I compliment the hard work and dedication that has been done by industry leaders such as Ken Gorzycki, CGCS and several others. But, there is much more work to do. It is everyone's responsibility to learn more about these issues and get involved. Please visit savetexaswater.org for more information about this very important organization. As your field representative, I will continue to build this relationship and will work to share developments. For more information about water related subjects and other issues that the GCSAA is involved with, please visit: www.gcsaa.org/community.





Get to Know your fellow Member.....Sue Rinehart

I grew up in California- before it got crazy! We lived in San Bernardino, Riverside, and the San Fernando Valley. My favorite memories of San Bernardino were riding my bicycle up and down the hill on our street, feeding hay to the horses just down the road and eating the deer meat Dad got each year. The other is the gun Mom had to carry all the time outside to kill poisonous snakes when we were out in the yard. When they went to sell the house, Dad grabbed a gopher snake and said "This comes with the house", needless to say the lady screamed and the couple left – fast! Next stop was Riverside. We moved there so my Dad – Bill Herbold – could start his journey with Club Corp. I crossed the fairways of Riverside CC each morning to catch the bus for school. I enjoyed going to Riverside Raceway with my Dad. We had one bad year when the whole course flooded. It was in the newspaper, all you could see was the top of the giant tree that sat in the middle of the course. Next was the San Fernando Valley. Dad was at Braemar CC then. Switchboard, Snack Shop and Golf Bags was my to do's there. I attended Birmigham High. It was in the 70's, so guess what; we had a streaker at our graduation. During high school I did go to Malibu Beach every now and then. I attended some classes at Valley State Univ. My parents moved to Kingwood in the early 70's. I went the other direction to Hawaii for a while. I moved back to Kingwood in 1980. Dad put me to work in Food & Beverage and handling the Golf Outings. I attended what is now called Lone Star Community College while working at Kingwood. I met a great number of people who I am still friends with today. Some I spent time with at the Deer Lease with my parents and family. After marrying Ed, we started working with golf courses in the late 80's. I have two children – Sharon and Will – who luckily still live close. Will was an Assistant Pro at Bentwater while attending SHSU. He now works for Hisco. Sharon works for the County. Ed

became Commissioner, we parted and I stayed with the business. I am now married to a wonderful man Tom. We share in the enthusiasm of work, fishing and fixing up old cars. My Dad passed



away in November and I miss him very much. I am sure many of you knew him or knew of him. Galveston CC was kind enough to put up a plaque by the putting green in his honor. My Mom just passed away in July. It's hard to lose your parents so close together. My Dad has been a big influence on my life. I keep his spirit with me as I continue working each day. He always said work hard and keep improving.





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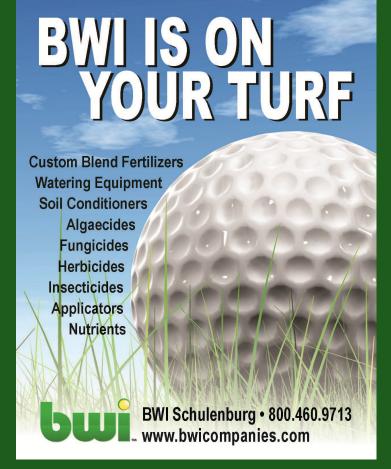
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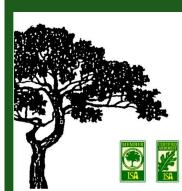
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Grants support Conference & Show attendance

Melrose Leadership Academy applications available

GCSAA Class A and SM members have the opportunity to attend the 2013 GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry thanks to the Environmental Institute for Golf and a grant established by Ken Melrose, retired CEO and Chairman of the board of the Toro Co.

Up to 20 individuals will be selected to participate in the Melrose Leadership Academy, which includes numerous activities at conference and show, Feb. 4-8 in San Diego. Covered in the grant will be a full package registration, education seminars and leadership sessions, four nights lodging, airfare, a \$200 stipend for incidental expenses, and regular communications including tools and resources.

Those eligible for the grant are GCSAA Class A and SM members who have been unable to attend the education conference in the past five years or more, have a desire to advance their careers, and seek to develop their leadership skills.

Members can apply for the grant <u>online</u>. For more information, contact <u>Mischia Wright</u>, GCSAA senior manager of development at 800-472-7878, ext. 4445. Recipients will be contacted in mid-October.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our members and we are certainly appreciative of Ken's support of the golf course management profession," GCSAA CEO Rhett Evans said. "I encourage anyone who fits the criteria to apply for the grant. The conference and show experience is invaluable in itself, but to get the additional professional development resources is truly a bonus that will pay dividends for a career."

The GCSAA Scholarship Committee will select up to 20 individuals to participate in the academy in 2013. The criteria takes into account qualifications, interest and financial need, and to the extent possible, will be focused on less experienced superintendents who will benefit most from the educational opportunity. Each class will be selected so that it represents a cross-section of the golf course management profession.

The event will also allow opportunities to network with GCSAA leadership, industry leaders and certified peers at various roundtables, receptions and events. The academy will offer education in the areas of: risk management (health, safety and environmental compliance); efficient operations (agronomic, equipment maintenance, etc.); key business elements, including communication; and environmental stewardship. Following the conference and show, grant recipients will continue to receive communications recommending education, tools and resources offered by GCSAA to keep class participants engaged.

About EIFG

The EIFG is the philanthropic organization of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, and has as its mission to foster sustainability through research, awareness, education, programs and scholarships for the benefit of golf course management professionals, golf facilities and the game. With respect for the game and the environment, the EIFG inspires environmental, social and economic progress through golf for the benefit of communities. Collaboration between the golf industry, environmental interests and communities will lead to programs and services beneficial to all who come into contact with the game of golf. Visit the EIFG at www.eifg.org.

About GCSAA

GCSAA is a leading golf organization golf organization and has as its focus golf course management. Since 1926, GCSAA has been the top professional association for the men and women who manage golf courses in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to 19,000 members in more than 72 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. Find GCSAA on Facebook, follow GCSAA on Twitter, and visit GCSAA at www.gcsaa.org.



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Schedule

What's new for 2013

New condensed event schedule

In response to attendee feedback, you can now participate in the tournament and the conference and show from Monday to Friday, and still be back home in time for the weekend!

New one-day fun event at the tournament

New this year, join your peers on Monday for a day of fun in the sun playing the game you love. And you don't have to be signed up for other tournament events to participate.

New day and times for some popular events

Be sure to check the schedule for updates to the Welcoming Reception, Opening Session, Celebrating Certification, and Annual Meeting and Election.

16 new seminars

Sixteen new seminars have been added to the lineup for San Diego, including new offerings from some of GCSAA's most popular faculty members.

Tales of a Survivor: The Wit and Wisdom of David Feherty

Thursday, March 1 8 am - 9 am, Las Vegas Hotel, Paradise South

David Feherty

Who knows what will come out of the mouth of David Feherty? After all, even he doesn't know.

Golf's premier funnyman pays a visit to the Golf Industry Show and will spin stories like no other. A former assistant greenkeeper, the Northern Ireland native turned professional golfer at 17.

Today he is a commentator for CBS and the Golf Channel, and the host of a widely acclaimed weekly show on the Golf Channel. He is popular on the speaking circuit and the author of six books, including his latest "The Power of Positive Idiocy."

Feherty has 10 worldwide professional wins to his credit and despite his self-deprecating style, was considered a solid player, especially in team, match-play competition. But it is off the court where Feherty has captured his biggest wins.

Afflicted with depression and battling alcoholism, he has persevered and reached out to others to help them in their struggles. He is also a supporter of and a volunteer for wounded Special Forces, Green Berets and other U.S. heroes.

Come early to experience all that is David Feherty.



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281.392.6573



Affiliate:
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<u>Director: Cody Spivey</u> High Meadow Ranch GC 281.356.7700



Director: Jeff McCrory
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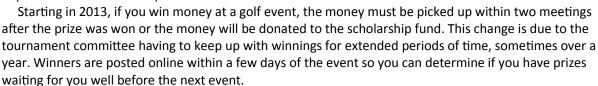


Past President: Wade Warms, CGCS Cypress Lakes Golf Club 832.969.7976



Attention all Members!

To all of you who golf at the monthly meetings and tournaments..... all monies leftover from skins and prizes awarded at meetings in 2012 must be claimed by the October 15th Annual meeting or it will be deposited in the scholarship fund.





Proposed By Law Change for 2013

Current:

Article VII. Government:

- Sec. 1 The conduct of affairs of the association shall be vested in the Board of Directors consisting of twelve (12) members, Past President, President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and six (6) Directors, and two (2) affiliates in a non-voting capacity. A majority of the voting members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee (Past President, President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer) shall be Class A Superintendents or Superintendent Members of the GCSAA.
- Sec 2. Three (3) directors and one (1) affiliate shall be elected for two (2) year terms each year. The affiliate directors are limited to two (2) consecutive terms of office, and are elected by the Affiliate Membership.

Proposed:

Article VII. Government:

- Sec. 1 The conduct of affairs of the association shall be vested in the Board of Directors consisting of twelve (12) members, Past President, President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and six (6) Directors, and two (2) affiliates in a non-voting capacity. A majority of the voting members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee (Past President, President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer) shall be Class A Superintendents or Superintendent Members of the GCSAA. By majority vote of the Board of Directors up to two (2) Director Positions may be left vacant in a given year.
- Sec 2. Three (3) directors and one (1) affiliate shall be elected for two (2) year terms each year. The affiliate directors shall be elected by the Affiliate Membership.



CONGRATULATIONS, SOUTH TEXAS GCSA.... WAY TO "BRING IT HOME!"

Texas Trophy—September 23-26, 2012

The Rawls Course—Lubbock, TX

Thank you to West Texas GCSA, The Rawls Course in Lubbock, and Lone Star GCSAA for hosting a great event!

Of course, great job, Karen White for all your hard work that goes in to getting this event organized. Once again, a huge success!

South Texas Winners!

Championship Flight Gross—2nd Place: Adam Hess Championship Flight Net—2nd Place: Alan Hess

1st Flight Net-4th Place-Terry Gill

2nd Flight Gross-4th Place-Johnny Walker

2nd Flight Net-1st Place-Kent Knowles

2nd Place—Cody Skarpa

3rd Place—Randy Samoff

4th Place—Cody Spivey

Affiliate Flight Gross—1st Place—Brad Fryrear

Affiliate Fight Net—1st Place—Harry Yewens

3rd Place—Carl Tolbert

4th Place—Jack Hargrove

More photos at:

www.stgcsa.org/texastrophy-2012.html















