

TEE TO GREEN

TOUR 18



The Official Publication of the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association



Scholarship Applications are due May 1st!

If your student is a senior or undergraduate and applying for the 2017 STGCSA scholarship, applications are due by May 1st. [\(Click here to go the application\)](#). The official transcript is due by July 1st and can be sent directly to the STGCSA office. High School Seniors need to have their end of senior year transcript sent to show proof of graduation. The Scholarship Awards Banquet will be held in August this year before the students return to school. If you have any questions, please contact the office or Kyle Brown.

Help Celebrate!

2017 marks the 25th Annual Scholarship Tournament for South Texas GCSA. The first tournament to raise funds to help our members pay for their students college started in 1992. The Scholarship Tournament was started by John Freeman and Don Cole at Greatwood Country Club in 1992 and raised about \$3,000. The Tournament was won by Deerwood Country Club where John Freeman was the Superintendent. They gave 3 - \$500 scholarships that year.

Meeting Schedule

April 25, 2017 Annual Scholarship Tournament and Live Auction Tour 18
May 9, 2017 Eagle Point GC
May 22, 2017 Lone Star Texas Trophy Ridgewood CC—Waco, TX
June 12, 2017 Riverbend Country Club Chapter Championship
We still need hosts for the October, and September (Supt/Pro) Meetings
Register Now for Any Meeting!

Prsidents message: Chris Lineberger



It's Scholarship time!! I hope everyone will join us on April 25th for the 25th annual Scholarship Tournament at Tour 18. We are still in need of auction items to be donated. If you have a donation, please get the information over to Marian as quick as possible. If you have a student that is applying for one of our scholarships, remember, they are due by May 1st with official transcripts due by July 1st.

Thank you to Jerry Huntsman for hosting us last month. Everyone had a great time. If you are interested in hosting, we still have a spot available to host the October meeting. If you have any interest in hosting this meeting, please contact myself or Marian. If you are interested in a certain month in 2018 we can start booking those as well.

I look forward to seeing at Tour 18 this month.



Ridgewood Country Club ***Waco, TX***

7301 Fish Pond Rd, Waco, TX 76710

Host: Travis Moore

2Man Select Drive—\$ 75.00 pp

(members price)

May 22, 2017

Entry Fee is \$150 per team if both players are members of Lone Star Golf Course Superintendents Association and \$200 per team if bringing a non-member. Please note that if you are an industry member of another Texas regional chapter, you still must join the Lone Star GCSA to play as a member.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TODAY!](#)

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T O U R 1 8

Please send in your donations for the live auction ASAP. This will give Marian enough time to put together the slide presentation of those companies that donate.

SCHEDULE

- 9:30—10:00 AM Registration
- 10:00—12:00 Meeting/Live Auction/Lunch
- 12:00—12:30 Range is Open
- 12:30 Shotgun Start
- 5:00—6:30 Awards/Tall Tales/Hot Appetizers

\$440 per 4 man team

\$110 per single (we can find a team for you!)

[Register online here](#)

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Sipes, Scott/Irene	All Seasons Turf	18 pallets if tif with delivery	\$2,000.00
Dailey, John	Arbor Care	20 yd. load of mulch- Delivery Tuesday through Thursday 2 day notice please	\$400
Ducote, Bob	Bayer	Bayer is donating one case of Indemnify Nematicide	\$6,600.00
Freeman, John	Brookside	crew Cook Out-2 meats, beans, corn on cob, fixins, pecan pie and drinks ... up to 40 employees	priceless!
Freeman, John	Brookside	8-10 pound packages of processed wild game. Elk steak, deer loin , sausage, etc	priceless!
Freeman, John	Brookside	8-10 pound package of processed wild game (elk steak, deer loin, sausage etc)	priceless!
Wilganowski, Dennis	Bryan Muni	Hog Hunt	priceless!
White, Kevin	Doggett	I am donating a (1) month rental of a Compact Track Loader (rubber track skidsteer) or mini excavator (rubber track) from Doggett John Deere. This includes delivery and pick up of machine within Doggett Service Area.	\$4500.00
Bryant, Kevin	King Ranch Turf	Truckload of 419l, tifsport, or celebration sod. Bayer to pay freight, forklift charges and tax on those charges?	\$1,400.00
Bowman, Dale	PMC	Pump Station Audit and 10% discount on first service for new customers	900.00
Bowman, Dale	PMC	Spring PM on pump station:Preventive maintenance on all stations on the course	600.00
Tanner, Bill	PTP	One Pump Station PM for a 2-Pump Station	\$650.00
Fox, Bart	Syngenta	2 ½ gallon jug of Secure Fungicide (\$1,470 value) treats 15 acres	\$1,470.00
Fox, Bart	Syngenta	4 boxes of Monument	\$980.00
Fox, Bart	Syngenta	120 oz bottle Provaunt Insecticide (\$828 value) treats 10 acres molecricquets	\$828.00
Watson, Keith	Turf Materials	Rotomolded Sportsman 20 qt. igloo cooler	\$200.00
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**hole
-in-
one**

Congratulations to Carl Tolbert on his 7th (yes 7th!!) Hole In One. Carl used his 8 iron to hit the 147 yard hole in one at High Meadow Ranch on Hole #5!

Way to go, Carl!!



CONGRATULATIONS!

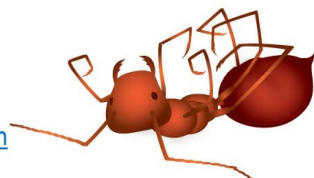


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**The USGA and The R&A Announce
Proposed Changes to Modernize
Golf's Rules**

Highlights of the proposed Rule changes include:

Elimination or reduction of "ball moved" penalties-There will be no penalty for accidentally moving a ball on the putting green or in searching for a ball; and a player is not responsible for causing a ball to move unless it is "virtually certain" that he or she did so.

Relaxed putting green rules- There will be no penalty if a ball played from the putting green hits an unattended flagstick in the hole; players may putt without having the flagstick attended or removed. Players may repair spike marks and other damage made by shoes, animal damage and other damage on the putting green and there is no penalty for merely touching the line of putt.

Relaxed rules for "penalty areas" (currently called "water hazards") - Red and yellow-marked penalty areas may cover areas of desert, jungle, lava rock, etc., in addition to areas of water; expanded use of red penalty areas where lateral relief is allowed; and there will be no penalty for moving loose impediments or touching the ground or water in a penalty area.

Relaxed bunker rules—There will be no penalty for moving loose impediments in a bunker or for generally touching the sand with a hand or club. A limited set of restrictions (such as not grounding the club right next to the ball) is kept to preserve the challenge of playing from the sand; however, an extra relief option is added for an unplayable ball in a bunker, allowing the ball to be played from outside the bunker with a two-stroke penalty.

Relying on player integrity—A player's "reasonable judgment" when estimating or measuring a spot, point, line, area or distance will be upheld, even if video evidence later shows it to be wrong; and elimination of announcement procedures when lifting a ball to identify it or to see if it is damaged

Pace-of-play support—Reduced time for searching for a lost ball (from five minutes to three); affirmative encouragement of "ready golf" in stroke play; recommending that players take no more than 40 seconds to play a stroke and other changes intended to help with pace of play.

Simplified way of taking relief—A new procedure for taking relief by dropping a ball in and playing it from a specific relief area; relaxed procedures for dropping a ball, allowing the ball to be dropped from just above the ground or any growing thing or other object on the ground.

A series of materials have also been prepared to explain the proposed Rule changes

and provide background on the initiative.





Meet, New Member, Dustin Vassar



Dustin Vassar joined SOLitude Lake Management as a Business Development Specialist. Dustin works out of the Texas office and is responsible for helping the team build relationships with clients in the region as SOLitude continues to grow.

Dustin comes to SOLitude with an extensive background in new business development. He worked with Ricoh USA, based out of Dallas, Texas, where he was a top contributor in the marketplace. Prior to coming to SOLitude, Dustin worked as a Business Performance Advisor for Inperity in Irving, Texas. At Inperity, he was responsible for determining ways to help small businesses succeed, such as reducing administrative costs, attracting and retaining top talent, and shaping company culture.

Dustin is originally from Arlington, Texas, and attended the University of Texas at Arlington where he studied Business Finance. Dustin is a member of Toastmasters International where he serves his club as VP Membership and enjoys helping new members with their public speaking skills.

Dustin spends his free time drag racing, playing golf, being outdoors with family and friends and staying active at his CrossFit gym.

Five Irrigation Water Management Tips for the Golf Course Superintendent

By Trent Nelson, Aquatic Specialist and former Assistant Golf Course Superintendent

As the golf season moves in to full swing, it's important to address the irrigation needs of your course throughout the growing season. Turf health is highly dependent on the irrigation source and delivery system. While there are a multitude of management techniques that dictate the amount of irrigation water needed, there are also a handful of strategies that can be used to benefit your turf and help ensure that your waterbodies remain healthy. Healthy lakes and ponds equate to superior, reliable and predictable irrigation water quality.

Conducting an Audit of your irrigation system may be the best place to start when developing techniques to maximize the efficiency of your irrigation water supply. This audit should include documenting and repairing any leaking or malfunctioning irrigation heads, checking and confirming the overall output of the system, and adjusting any site specific needs for dry or wet areas by reducing or increasing the application time of these areas. In addition to conducting an audit of your irrigation system, collecting samples of your water sources and testing the water quality can help uncover any underlying water chemistry problems or nutrient imbalances.

Timely irrigation can be one of the more overlooked techniques for proper irrigation application. Sometimes tournaments, golf outings, and other member play can interfere with proper and timely irrigation applications. However, by irrigating based on the plant's needs rather than other factors, you can often lower water use and have healthier turf.

Accurate knowledge of lake volumes allows the turf manager to determine precisely how much irrigation water is available at any given time. In a world where fresh water seems to be more and more valuable, it is critical to know how much water is available. Bathymetric studies of the lake are the best way to accurately determine the actual water volume of your irrigation lake. Installing a water level measurement device in the lake combined with the bathymetric data will provide water availability information during all climatic conditions. When combined with an audit of the output of your irrigation system, exact application amounts can be determined as well as the amount of water left in reserve for future applications.

Nuisance algae and vegetation control should be at the top of the list for anyone that has a waterbody on their property, especially if that waterbody supplies your irrigation pump house. Nuisance vegetation, if left unmanaged, can clog irrigation intake screens, damage pumps and valves, and ultimately make its way into the hundreds, or even thousands, of irrigation heads on a golf course. problems.
(continued on next page)

Clogged foot valves, rock screens, and nozzles reduce the overall output of the irrigation head, ultimately reducing the amount of water received by the turf. Continued cleaning of these heads can take valuable time away from other duties around the course and can often times be solved by proper treatment and prevention of nuisance algae and submersed aquatic vegetation.

Many times nutrient imbalances, specifically high nitrogen and phosphorus levels, can lead to these nuisance vegetation and algae strategies have shown to significantly reduce freely available nitrogen and phosphorus levels. This reduction can ultimately lead to lower growth rates of algae and aquatic weeds in nutrient rich waterbodies.

Proper fertilizer and pesticide application is one of those concepts drilled into turf manager's heads in school, during pesticide certification courses, and through real world experience as they learn and grow professionally. Proper fertilizer application allows the turf to perform optimally when growing conditions allow. Over-fertilization can require excess water for the turf to keep up with the available nutrients, yet under-irrigation may leave nutrients unavailable for the plant to uptake. With the price of fuel, labor and fertilizer, it is important to stay in the middle of the fertility scale. Pesticides, including herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides are vital in producing high quality turf. Once again, water plays a key role in the application of these pesticides. However, applying too much water over extended periods of time can lead to disease, requiring the application of a fungicide as well as increasing weed pressure such as sedge growth where water may collect.

The installation of beneficial buffers, beneficial shoreline plantings, and buffer management is one of the single most important things anyone with a waterbody can do. A maintained buffer of dense turf that extends 3-6 feet from the water's edge can greatly reduce nutrients from entering the water during and after heavy rain events. Maintained buffers also help to reduce sediment loss from erosion along the shoreline. Beneficial buffer plantings, or shoreline plantings such as pickerel weed, arrow arum, and or duck potato help to stabilize the shoreline, use available nutrients in the benthic region and attract wildlife to your pond's edge.

Overall, proper water management creates high quality turf and vice versa. While there are so many items that require the attention of the Golf Course Superintendent these days, finding the right balance must include optimization of the irrigation system and application techniques. If you find this balance, you will undoubtedly make your life and the

turf you manage far better.

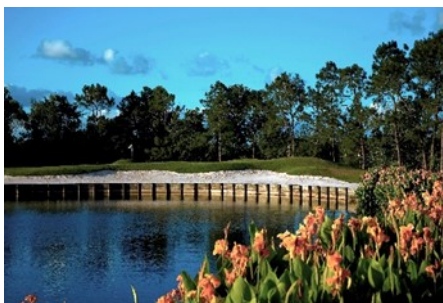


Shoreline vegetative buffers help keep unwanted nutrients from entering the water column by acting as natural filters for storm-water runoff, thus helping to improve water quality in irrigation lakes and ponds

Submersed aeration adds dissolved oxygen and can limit available nutrients in the water column, helping reduce the likelihood of algae and aquatic weeds in irrigation water sources.



Proactive management of lakes and ponds not only helps create reliable irrigation water quality, but also adds to the beauty of the course.



Trent Nelson is an experienced Aquatic Specialist with SOLitude Lake Management, an environmental firm providing a full array of superior lake, pond, and fisheries management services and solutions. He can be reached through the website www.solitudelakemanagement.com.



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May 9, 2017

Eagle Point Golf Club

Host: Jeff Wilson

9:30—10:00 Registration

10:00– 11:00—Education Meeting

11:00-12:0 Lunch

12 pm Shotgun Start

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!



June 12, 2017

***Riverbend Country Club
Chapter Championship***

Host: George Cincotta

8:30-9:30 Registratation

9:30 Shotgun Start

2:00 pm Lunch/Scoring

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GCSAA is offering live demonstrations of the new online BMP Planning Guide and Template.

We will walk step by step through the tool and demonstrate how easy it is to use and to develop state BMP manuals. Each demonstration is the same so you only have to pick one of the scheduled opportunities and not all four. The demo will be about 40 minutes and we'll allow time for questions about the tool. Also, please note that access to the tool is currently intended for and limited to each state's BMP steering committee members. Superintendents will be able to access their state BMPs

Here are the live demo opportunities: Please note that there is no landing page, if you click on the link prior to a demo, there's nothing much to access.

April 5, 11:00 a.m. CST

April 12, 11:00 a.m. CST

Access the live demo on the date and time:

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First GoToMeeting? Try a test session: <http://help.citrix.com/getready>

Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Steve Randall | Director – Chapter Outreach

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AUCTION



TOUR 18

The Scholarship Tournament is coming up quickly!

Please email Marian with your generous donations for the live Auction. Bill Freeman will again be our auctioneer at Tour 18 on April 25th!

[Click here to email your donation!](#)



"Who's Who"

Welcome to our new and returning members!

- Kyle Larson: Owner of Larson Golf Services
- Doug Wright: Project Manager at Heritage Links
- Dustin Vassar—SoliTude Lake Management



[Click Here for All Job Postings](#)

[Click Here for GCSAA Job Postings](#)

(Superintendent Positions, Asst. Positions, Technician Positions, Affiliate/Sales Positions, Special Supt Positions, like ranches and sports fields are also listed on the website!)



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New Rounds 4 Research Auction Dates!

We are excited to share that GCSAA will be partnering with The Golf Channel to promote Rounds 4 Research through their new week-long program – “Golf in America.” This is during the first week of May; therefore, we are moving the auction dates to May 1-7 to align with their programming. This will help us reach the avid golfers and introduce them to R4R. They truly believe in what we are doing for research nationwide. Please donate your round ASAP! This benefits research as well as our Chapter! Contact bcloud@gcsaa.org for help!



NATIONAL GOLF DAY

The pinnacle event of the year for WE ARE GOLF is National Golf Day, which will be held April 26, 2017 on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

WE ARE GOLF, a coalition of golf's leading organizations, will host its 10th annual National Golf Day on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. "We look forward to celebrating the 10th anniversary of National Golf Day by educating our country's lawmakers about the game's significant impact," said Steve Mona, Chief Executive Officer of World Golf Foundation, administrator of WE ARE GOLF. "As we await a new Presidential administration this month, we are optimistic about the momentum for golf in 2017 and also pleased with the strides our industry has made on Capitol Hill in the last decade to ensure that golf's interests are effectively represented."

Attending National Golf Day for South Texas is Board Member, Willy Plowman.

DID YOU KNOW?

- 77% of 18-hole golf facilities have taken steps to conserve energy.
- 91% of acreage on an 18-hole golf course is considered "green space" that provides benefits to the ecosystem.
- Golf courses account for more than two million acres of green space in the U.S.
- An average 18-hole course comprises 150 acres including 50 acres of rough, 30 acres of fairway, six acres of greens and tees, 24 acres of forest and 11 acres of water.

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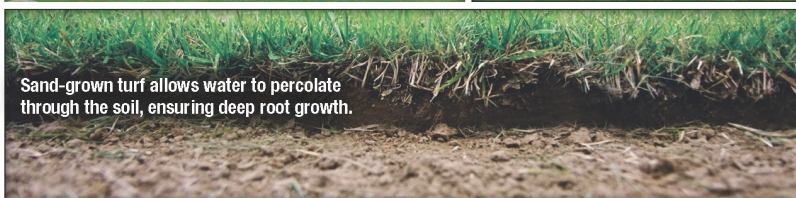
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New Scholarship Procedures for 2017

Read Carefully!

The Scholarship Awards ceremony will now take place in late July / early August. This will allow the Christmas Party to be more informal and give more emphasis on the award winners at the awards ceremony. This will also allow the funds handed out to students to be used for the fall semester.



The new application deadline is

May 1, 2017 with transcripts due July 1, 2017.

[Click Here for the New 2017 Scholarship Application!](#)

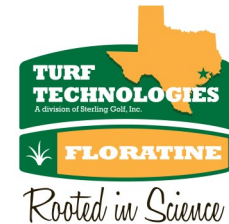
(After opening, click "save as" to your computer, then you can fill out the fillable form and submit). Send all other documents by email or snail mail. Transcripts can come directly to:

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