

# TEE TO GREEN

The Official Publication of the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association



GALVESTON, TX

### Board Members Needed

If you are interested in serving on the South Texas GCSA Board of Directors, please contact any Board member or email the office. We need members that are willing to give up a few hours a month to come to a Board Meeting, volunteer to help at the monthly meeting and continue to help make STGCSA one of the strongest chapters in the United States! It doesn't take a lot of your time and the rewards are significant. You earn GCSAA service points, learn how the association works and have input on how you would like to see it change for the future! We need your help and would love to have as many people as possible to sign up to run for office. It is well worth it.

August 19th is the Superintendent/Pro-Member/Member Tournament at Galveston Country Club. Jeff Smelser has agreed to host this annual event. It falls on a Tuesday, but it would be a great time to bring the family down for an end of the summer last hoorah! [Sign up today by Clicking Here!](#) (Go to page 13 for details).

October is our annual past president's lunch at Riverbend Country Club. Everyone is welcome to come and chat with the one's who made this chapter possible. It's a lot of fun to hear their stories and they enjoy meeting everyone. Sign up online.

September is the Lone Star Texas Trophy and South Texas is the host Chapter. Let's have a big showing of members for this event at The (New) Campus Course at Texas A&M. And November 4th is the Annual Meeting at Cypress Lakes Golf Club. Past President, Wade Warmes, CGCS is hosting this event. See you there!

### Meeting Schedule

August 6, 2014  
TARO Meeting  
Sugar Creek CC

August 19—Supt/Pro  
Galveston Country Club

September 21, 22, 23, 2014  
Lone Star Texas Trophy  
The Campus Course at Texas A&M  
[Click Here for Details](#)

October—(TBA)  
Past Presidents Lunch  
Riverbend Country Club

November 4, 2014  
Cypress Lakes GC  
Annual Meeting

[Register Now for Any Meeting!](#)



### Magnolia Creek golf results—June 24, 2014

Thank you, Brent Schilhab and all the staff at Magnolia Creek Golf Club!!

#### Championship Flight

<b>First Place</b>	<b>Doug Browne</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Second Place</b>	<b>Braeden Riley (scorecard playoff)</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Third Place</b>	<b>Stan Ludwick</b>	<b>79</b>
Other Scores	Chris Webster	79
	Ed Martinez	80
	Joseph Have	82
	Bill Tanner	82
	Jesus Polio	83
	Brian Johnson	84
	Mark Haven	85
	Sean Wilson	85
	Chris Smith	NC



#### First Flight

<b>First Place</b>	<b>Richard Kane</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Second Place</b>	<b>Kent Knowles</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Third Place</b>	<b>Pat Johnston</b>	<b>81</b>
Other Scores	Ben Fultz	85
	Blayne Sparks	87
	Fred Leanord	88
	Jason Burgess	89
	Brent Ratcliff	89
	Jeff Smelser	89
	Phil Taylor	90
	Justin Shulse	93
	Pat Neuendorff	94



#### Second Flight

<b>First Place</b>	<b>Jerry Takushi</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Second Place</b>	<b>Chris Lineberger</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Third Place</b>	<b>Junior Schuette</b>	<b>84</b>
Other Scores	Wade Warms	84
	George Cincotta	89
	Mike Powers	90
	Steve Vaughn	92
	Charlie Rizzo	95
	Kevin Lyles	95
	Dennis Klene	96
	Jeff Smith	97
	John Dailey	100
	Johnny Walker	100
	Daniel Baker	103

#### Third Flight

<b>First Place</b>	<b>Jack Hargrove</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Second Place</b>	<b>Brent Schilhab</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Third Place</b>	<b>Scott Sipes</b>	<b>70</b>
Other Scores	Cody Skarpa	71
	Brandon Cole	72
	Scott Anderson	75
	Jerry Huntsman	75
	Eric Glover	76
	Willy Plowman	76
	Kevin White	77
	Gary Hargrove	80
	Loren Moulder	81
	Kyle Brown	82
	Taylor Havens	84

#### Proximity Contest

**Closest to the Pin (0-12 hcp) – Ben Fultz**  
**Closest to the Pin (All Players) – Jeff Smelser**  
**Long Drive (13+ hcp) – Taylor Havens**

**Closest to the Pin (13+ hcp) – Junior Schuette**  
**Long Drive (0-12 hcp) – Doug Browne**  
**Long Drive (All Players) – Pat Neuendorff**

If you would like to be featured in Tee To Green, please email a short biography along with 3-4 photos for our section, "Member Profiles"



## ALL THINGS CONSIDERED - A USGA STAFF OPINION DAMNED IF YOU DO, BUT NOT IF YOU DON'T

*Bob Vavrek, senior agronomist, North-Central Region*

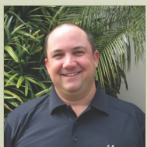


It's going to be a busy Men's Day this afternoon. How long would you wait before mowing a waterlogged green? It is a difficult concept for turf managers to grasp, but sometimes doing nothing is the correct course of action.

We all go through life learning how to do things. You could say we are programmed for action. As a turf manager, you make decisions and take action every day. You hire, you fire and promote personnel. If the grass grows, you cut it. When a sprinkler leaks, you fix it. When grass wilts, you water it. A good superintendent spends a great deal of time learning how and when to do the right things on the golf course in a timely and efficient manner. However, I would argue that great superintendents have an additional skill that is far more difficult to learn. The way I see it, great superintendents have a knack for knowing when to do nothing.

There are times when the best course of action is to not take any action at all. Can you choose the lesser of two evils? Do you have the moxy to not run fairway sprinklers the night after a brutally hot afternoon because your experience tells you that a *Pythium* outbreak is likely to occur and any water applied will only spark and spread the disease? Are you willing to lose some turf to wilt and then defend your lack of action?

[Read Full Article](#)



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July 28, 2014

The Golf Club of Houston—Members Course



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Score 127  
Jimmy Vandergriff  
Kelly Lotton  
Pierce Reid  
Lane Bailey

Second Place  
Cypresswood Golf Club

Score 129  
Collins Bean  
Scott Corie  
Tim Gracie  
Josh Zellars

Third Place  
Houston Country Club

Score 130  
Kevin Borowski  
Ted Borowski  
Braeden Riley  
Martin Riley

Last Place  
Houston Country Club

Score 156  
Gabe Chavez  
Paul Eravia  
Kris Glaubitz  
Derek Olbrick



**New Scholarship Application Criteria**

The Scholarship Committee this year is going to place an increased emphasis on the member participation portion of the selection criteria for all awarded scholarships. Member participation is an integral key to the success of our association and will be defined as a requirement of attending a minimum of two (2) meetings by the member before the 2014 Legacy Scholarship applications are due on September 1<sup>st</sup> retroactive to September 2013.



Going forward, the “Scholarship Year” as it pertains to participation, will be calculated from September 2014 through August 2015. The Board of Director’s ask that those members whose children are applying for scholarships attend at least three (3) meetings during the “Scholarship Year.”

Member attendance will not be the only determining factor in awarding scholarships, but there will be an increased emphasis on member participation that will aid in the determination of amounts to be awarded each recipient. We, as the Board of Director’s, also request that each student awarded a scholarship be in attendance at the Annual Banquet to receive their check. If attendance of the student is not possible, the member/parent of the recipient will need to be present to receive the award on their behalf by no later than the January meeting of the following year. Scholarship checks will no longer be mailed to the recipient.

For the Full Scholarship Criteria and Application, visit [www.stgcsa.org](http://www.stgcsa.org)

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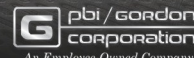
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**Harding Park awarded trio of events**



San Francisco's TPC Harding Park will host the 2020 PGA Championship, the Presidents Cup in 2025 and the 2015 World Golf Championships-Match Play Championship. The trio of events was announced in tandem by the PGA of America, the PGA Tour and the city and county of San Francisco last week. The agreement also includes a continuation of support by the PGA Tour and the PGA of America to The First Tee of San Francisco, which is located at TPC Harding Park. The announcement marks "the first time that the PGA Tour and the PGA have announced a series of events that are coordinated in this kind of fashion," said Tim Finchem, PGA Tour Commissioner, in the article. "It's the first time that these three particular events will be played at the same venue." Kevin Teahan, GCSAA member, is the golf course superintendent at TPC Harding Park.

[Click Here for Full Article](#)



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  - Your link will be emailed to you, whether choosing live or On Demand.
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Sept. 18: Herbicide Resistance in Turf: An Emerging Issue Facing Golf Course Superintendents

Sept. 25: Soil Physical and Chemical Properties – The Analogy Webinar

Oct. 8: Today's Turf is Creeping Bentgrass

Oct. 23: Grow Your Own! The Value in Veggies

Oct. 30: Reducing *Poa annua* on Your Golf Course

Nov. 5: Developing Engaging Presentations in Half the Time

Nov. 13: Niche Applications of Warm-Season Grasses in the Northern Tier of the Transition Zone

Nov. 19: Increase the Precision of Your Nitrogen Application

Dec. 4: Science & Perception: Communicating Environmental Issues with a Scientifically Semi-Literate Society

Dec. 10: Legume Inclusion: a path towards greener golf course management

Dec. 18: From the Trenches to the Trencher: Leadership Transition

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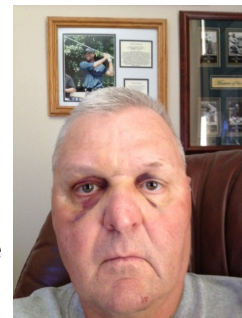
To receive education points for On Demand webcasts, submit an evaluation survey. Points are added to your transcript within 3 to 5 business days after submission.

[Submit a GCSAA evaluation survey»](#)

For sponsored events, listen for the code provided at the end of the webinar, and submit it on your [external education affidavit](#).

### **WARNING TO SUPERINTENDENTS FROM BOB COOK!**

Dear Fellow Members: By now many of you might know I was attacked in my office Saturday morning right after opening up the shop. I come in a 5am each morning open all the doors, turn on the lights and do the board. Sit at my desk with a cup of coffee and check emails, do Randy work and read company facebook. Sound familiar? I am sure it does. Well yesterday a black male came running in the office punching me in the face and dragging me across the desk throwing me to the floor. Thank God a co-worker was here with m. He came running out of the break room screaming. Getting the intruders attention with a sand trap rake giving me time to get to my feet. The intruder fled on foot and the police were called all within just minutes....guys this is a scary, scary ordeal. So we are changing our opening procedure here at Walden. I suggest you analyze yours.



1. Facility will be in lock down until several employees are on site. Doors will not open until this has happened.
2. There should always be a "BUDDY SYSTEM" in place if you need to be there early have someone come in with you
3. Do not think "this can't happen to me", I have been doing it for years...and it DID happen to me.
4. Safety has lots of faces "violence" is one of them.

Not my best photo and my face hurts like hell. I haven't been punched in the face since junior high. Sorry for the negative vibe, but it's real life. Everyone take care.

Bob Cook CTP  
Walden on Lake Houston

## RISE: Public comment period extended for EPA's Clean Water Act

By [Golfdom Staff](#) | June 18, 2014



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is extending the 90-day public comment period for an additional 91 days – until October 20 – for the proposed rule expanding the definition of “waters of the U.S.” under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

This rule would significantly impact how homeowners and professionals treat property near any water by subjecting all waters to regulation, including man-made water bodies, rights-of-way, golf course ponds, ditches and flood plains. The public comment period originally ended July 21.

“The proposed rule is complex and includes many broad definitions of important terms defining what a ‘water of the U.S.’ would be under CWA jurisdiction. The extended comment period gives us the time to provide research and science to form meaningful and fully developed comments,” says Aaron Hobbs, RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) president. “The rule would cause many negative consequences for homeowners and professionals and we are making sure we account for all of these concerns.”

“Pesticide and fertilizer applications provide many benefits, including protecting our communities from vector-borne diseases, controlling the growth of noxious weeds and invasive species, and controlling harmful pests on public and private property. Under the proposed rule, these important applications could be jeopardized by costly permits,” says Hobbs.



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## Surfing to a course near you

By [Seth Jones](#) | July 8, 2014



Bubba Watson has his hovercraft, but surfing legend Laird Hamilton thinks the GolfBoard is the next big mode of transportation on the golf course.

Voted Best New Product at the 2014 PGA Merchandise Show, the GolfBoard takes the idea of a skateboard or a snowboard and applies it to the golf course. Details on the product can be found at [GolfBoard.com](#).

For superintendents who wonder what the aftermath of a foursome “surfing” down a steep, wet fairway would look like, former superintendent Jim Black assures them that they have nothing to worry about. The boards have 4-wheel-drive posi-traction, 9-inch turf tires and apply a quarter of the pressure of a normal golf cart.

“The GolfBoard was on the drawing board for two years, and they always kept the superintendent involved,” says Black, media director for GolfBoard and a former contributing editor for Golfdom. “It’s built with turf tires. Any superintendent who sees it is just going to say, ‘Wow.’”

Production of the GolfBoard began last month with an initial run of 500 boards retailing at \$3,995. That run was sold out before they even came off the line.

Black believes that the GolfBoard could be a product that would draw a new crowd to the golf course.

“It has a ‘wow’ factor. And the pro shop can charge \$10 to \$15 more per rental,” he says.

The GolfBoard can travel 15 miles on one charge, or 36 holes with a 180-pound passenger on a normal golf course. Black believes that one day, superintendents might even look into getting their own GolfBoard.

“I could see, as a superintendent, going on my morning run, searching for disease, checking irrigation,” Black says.



[Watch the video!!](#)

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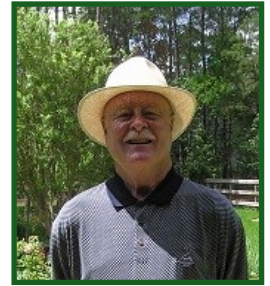
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## *Congratulations!*

Longtime member, Carl Tolbert made his sixth (yes....SIXTH!!) hole in one on July 21st at High Meadow Ranch Golf Club. The shot was made on hole 16. He used a 6 iron and hit it 153 yards. Congratulations, Carl!!



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## STGCSA Annual Supt/Pro-Member/Member Tournament

August 19, 2014

### Galveston Country Club

14228 Stewart Road, Galveston Texas 77554

Club House (409)737-9800

12:30 Shotgun start (registration will begin at 10 am)

Host: Jeff Smelser, CGCS

\$275 per 2 man team

(Tee Gifts, 2 Drink Tickets, Dinner and Prizes Included) - [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!!](#)

#### Superintendent

Jeff Smelser—Certified Golf Course Superintendent

Donnie St. Germain—Golf Professional

Knute Lund—General Manager

Gustavo Vega—Executive Chef

#### Course Designer

Scotsman Mungo Parke 1898 (Original location near 53rd Street)

Ralph Plummer 1947 (Current Location)

Jacobsen – Hardy 2003 (Redesign)

#### Course Facts

Oldest Private club in Texas, established 1898

Tee Boxes – 4.5 acres .375 cutting height - Sea Isle Paspalum

Greens – 2 acres .090 cutting height - Sea Dwarf Paspalum

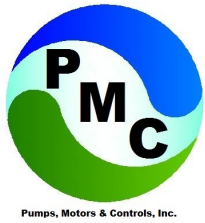
Fairways - 29 acres .450 cutting height – Sea Isle Paspalum

Roughs – 65 acres 1.75 cutting height – Sea Isle Paspalum & Common Bermuda

Source of water – Effluent/Well/City



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