

Scholarship Tournament

Our annual Legacy Scholarship Tournament was held in November and was a great success! We were rewarded with a beautiful day for golf and fantastic playing conditions. Thank you to ALL of our sponsors for helping to make this event possible! Thank you also to Jim Osborne and all of the staff at TPC Craig Ranch for your hospitality!



This year's tournament raised a record amount through our silent auction, 50/50 drawing and mulligan sales. As a result of the success of the tournament we were able to award \$21,000 to deserving legacy high school senior and college students (recipients recognized on page 16).

Congratulations to the team of Landon Lindsay and Drue Thompson on their first place gross finish and to Bryan Brown and John Bailey on their first place net finish. Congratulations also to Neil Packard and Judd Whiteman on their second place gross finish and to Shane Seaborn and Carlos Lara on their second place net finish.

Congratulations to longest drive winner Jordan Roberts. Closest to the pin winners included Wesley Fleetwood, Michael Moore, Chris Swain and Mike Epps. Congratulations also to Mike Epps on his hole-in-one on number 15! More photos and a complete list of sponsors from this year's event can be seen on pages 9 and 10.

About Us

North Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association

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President's Message

It seems impossible that a year has passed since I accepted the gavel (virtually) from KD Davis (Royal Lakes Country Club) to serve as the North Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association President. 2021 has been another year full of challenges and opportunities ranging from weather (record Winter storm in February) to ongoing Covid -19 issues, and looking back I am so grateful for our amazing spirit of excellence and perseverance here in North Texas! We held a full calendar of events even adding quite a few new events and causes to our schedules. To our sponsors and vendors thank you for your ongoing support and to every member who came and supported our events we are in your debt. The one thing that every great association has in common is great members and believe me when I say, "Our Members are the BEST"!



2021 was a year of growth and change for our association and for me personally. We welcomed a new Executive Director, Shannon Phillips, who has been amazing and has made each meeting unique, from the reception desk to the road front logoed flags. We participated in the first ever virtual National Golf Day Advocacy events. We raised money with Rounds for Research and through partnering with the Carolinas GCSA in their virtual education and show. We participated in the first ever Virtual Golf Industry Show and I was honored to bring the GCSAA/Golf Digest Environmental Leaders in Golf Award for Communications and Outreach back home to North Texas. We were able to give away \$21,000 in scholarships to 14 amazing students, and we reconnected with the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children. Even though we physically could not have our event on site, we raised \$1,000 for the children; and I was able to present our donation check "in person". We published the Texas BMPs with Lone Star GCSA and are now working towards Facility Adoption, so be on the lookout for updates and Facility Adoption education and training opportunities in 2022. We held the inaugural Past President's long range planning session with 10 NTGCSA past presidents adding their wisdom to help guide the future of the association. We also hosted Steve Randall from GCSAA to lead a Strategic Planning session for the BOD to work through our mission and vision statements with action plans for the future, including our extensive Standard Operating Procedures document, which improves every year. We did all this in the midst of the Bully Cup, Chapter Championship, Annual Meeting, Scholarship Tournament, Crew Event, Family Social, Texas Golf Hall of Fame Induction Dinner, Texas Trophy and other events and meetings.



I must admit it is bitter sweet to retire as President. I owe so much to the North Texas GCSA and its membership that I feel that I have only scratched the surface of service. However, I know the Jason Wiedeman (Cross Timbers Golf Course) will be an amazing President and the 2022 Board of Directors will continue to raise the bar, and I still have one more year to serve as immediate past president. I will close my time as President with this, thank you all for welcoming me to Texas and setting such a high standard each day, I am honored to have served and God Bless you all and the North Texas GCSA.

Anthony L. Williams, CGCS
Director of Golf, TPC Four Seasons Resort and Club Dallas

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Incoming President's Message

Here Comes 2020 (Too)??

As we usher in a new year, and on many levels, hope to put some portion of the past two years of a pandemic behind us, we have to ask ourselves what this year ahead looks like. COVID numbers have spiked and we hope they will fall again just as fast. What does that mean for the months and year ahead personally, professionally, and in the golf industry?

Our board convened this month for a long range planning meeting led by representatives from GSCAA to help us focus and develop a road map for the NTGCSA. With any roadmap, it's hard to see the hazards and potholes along the way, but we strive to manage them as they approach to ensure we reach our destination with record time and accomplishment.

Out of it all, the general consensus of our board the past year has been taking our chapter from "Good to Great". That means many different things to every facet of our chapter and our members. Our board has outlined many goals for the upcoming year, and beyond, to continue the progression of delivering great education, development, and value.

I'm honored to lead this chapter into 2022 and am excited about our board's leadership and commitment to making this year a great success. We thank all those who sponsor our chapter and industry to make the events and education a true asset to all of our members. We also want to thank our membership for your participation, growth, and devotion that make our chapter and the golf industry what it is today.

God Bless,
Jason Wiedeman
Superintendent, Cross Timbers Golf Course

CGCS and EMCP Certification

Congratulations to the following NTGCSA Members renewing their CGCS status!

KD Davis, CGCS, Renewed in September 2021
Jorge J. Croda, CGCS, Renewed in June 2021
Timothy T. Muench, CGCS, Renewed in March 2021

Congratulations also to NTGCSA member Anthony Bevolo, equipment manager at Trinity Forest Golf Club in Dallas, Texas on completing EMCP Levels 1 and 2 in 2021.

Equipment Management Certificate Program Level 1 is a series of exams designed to demonstrate proficiency in key competency areas related to turf equipment. This certificate program is available to any and all turf equipment technicians regardless of whether you work for a golf course. The Equipment Management Certificate Program Level 2 is the next step on the career path for equipment managers.

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NTGCSA Updates

2022 NTGCSA Memberships

Membership Options Include:

Emerald Membership for Superintendents /
Assistants (A, B, C) - \$450

Regular Membership for Superintendents /
Assistants (A, B, C) - \$120

Bronze Membership for Affiliates (AF) - \$450

Regular Membership for Affiliates (AF) - \$120

As an Emerald or Bronze member you will get all meetings paid for in advance. This is a discounted rate for paying your meeting fees up front. This does not include the annual banquet or the scholarship tournament.

You can find more information on membership on our Web site at <http://ntgcsa.org/membership-application/>.

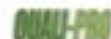
For more information on becoming a sponsor of our association, contact Shannon at ntgcsa@gmail.com.

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Legacy Scholarship Tournament

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Scholarship Tournament Photos



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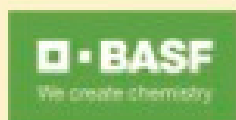
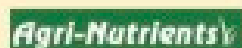
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ColbyJohnson@bwicompanies.com

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GCSAA Conference and Trade Show Updates

GCSAA Conference and Trade Show App

The GCSAA Conference and Trade Show is here! From seminar schedules to networking with other registered attendees, you will find everything you need for the 2022 GCSAA Conference and Trade Show on the app. Download the GCSAA Conference and Trade Show app to put the event in the palm of your hand.

Rounds for Research

Stop by the Member Services Area while attending the 2022 GCSAA Conference and Trade Show and donate a round of golf to support Rounds 4 Research and receive a free gift.

Your donation to Rounds 4 Research helps support turfgrass research and sustains the future of golf.

Facility BMP

Create your Facility BMP while at the GCSAA Conference and Trade Show! GCSAA has made it easy for you to complete your Facility BMP Manual while attending the GCSAA Conference and Trade show in just a few clicks in the GCSAA Member Services Area on the trade show floor.



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Virginia Tech 2019 Field Study - Dr. Zhang

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Crew Championship



The NTGCSA Crew Championship was held on December 6 at Shady Valley Country Club. Though conditions were chilly and windy, a great time was had by all. Thanks to all that joined us for a great day.

Congratulations to the crew from Trinity Forest Golf Club on their first place finish!





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Upcoming Chapter Events

GCSAA Conference and Trade Show
February 5-10, 2022
San Diego, CA

Virtual Education sponsored by BWI
February 23, 2022

Bully Cup
March, 2022

Chapter Championship
June 8, 2022
Texas Rangers Golf Course

Scholarship Tournament
November 14, 2022
Las Colinas Country Club

Other Events and Dates to be announced soon!

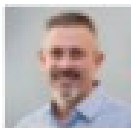


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Annual Awards Banquet

Our annual awards banquet and celebration was held January 15 at Austin Ranch in Grapevine and was a great success! Thank you to all that attended and congratulations to ALL of our award and scholarship winners!

2021 A.C. and Garry Bearden Memorial Superintendent of the Year – Andy Morrisette

2021 Assistant Superintendent of the Year – Austin Welge

2021 Distinguished Service Award Winner – Eddie Clark

2021 Distinguished Service Award Winner – Kevin Nettles

2021 Article of the Year Member Winner - Anthony Williams

2021 Article of the Year Affiliate Winner - Ben Wherley, Chrissie Segars

Legacy Honors Scholarship Winners - Laney Muench, Taylor Hansen, Gareth Jukes, Sydney Freshwater

Legacy Scholarship Winners - Connor Hansen, Katie Stine, Chloe Neely, Ty Ashworth, Charley Ashworth, Jenna Birkhimer, Corynne McCaskill, Carter Stine, Kaleigh Harrison, Haley Moore, Avery Morresette



Annual Awards Banquet



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Member Spotlight - Assistant Superintendent of the Year - Austin Welge

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Q. How did you get into the business?

A. I got into the business by my golf coach suggesting that I should take it up, so I applied at Roman Nose State Park Golf course in Watonga, Oklahoma and instantly fell in love with the business after just a few weeks of working there.

Q. Tell me about your family.

A. I have a very supportive mother and aunt that live back in Oklahoma and love them to death.



Q. What teams do you root for?

A. I for the most part root for the Oklahoma State Cowboys. Other teams I'll root for include the Oklahoma City Thunder, and my fantasy football team.

Q. What has been the toughest obstacle to overcome in your career?

A. Toughest obstacle is going through back to back renovations at different courses. Doing one is great, but another one a month later is definitely a challenge and mentally exhausting.

Q. Who is someone you'd liked to have met?

A. I think it would be interesting to meet A.W. Tillinghast or Perry Maxwell, now obviously that can't happen, but would be awesome to be in their presence.

Q. What is one thing readers don't know about you, that they might be interested to learn?

A. If I could walk mow greens every day, instead of running a crew I would. I find it very therapeutic and like the task of trying to get straight lines.

A white plastic jug of VEXIS Herbicide Granular. The label features the brand name 'VEXIS' in large green letters, with 'HERBICIDE' in smaller green letters below it. To the right of the jug, the text 'VEXIS® Herbicide Granular' is written in white and green. Below that, it says 'A Powerful Weapon Against Sedges And Kyllingas!' in green. At the bottom of the image, there is a black banner with white text that reads 'For more information contact Jim Garrett at jgarrett@pbigordon.com.' and the logo for 'PBI Gordon Turf.com' and 'PBI / Gordon Corporation'.

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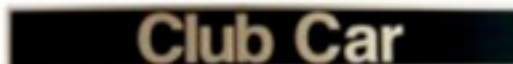
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Member Spotlight - Distinguished Service Award Winner - Kevin Nettles

Q. How did you get into the business?

A. My father was the superintendent at Lakewood CC when I was born. In 1971 he took the superintendent job at DAC and we moved into a house on the golf course where I started elementary school. I worked through the ranks and became superintendent at DAC when my father retired in 1999.

Q. What has been the toughest obstacle to overcome in your career?

A. The political aspect of meeting the members expectations within a budget.

Q. What teams do you root for?

A. The Aggies, LSU, and the Cowboys.

A. Who is someone you'd liked to have met?

A. Johnny Cash

Q. Tell me about your family.

A. I have been married to my wife Jessica for 36 years, and we have one son, Branden, who graduated Texas A&M with a Veterinarian degree.

Q. You've been involved with the NTGCSA for quite some time, what has been the most rewarding?

A. Networking with other professionals in the industry.



An advertisement for PPS Precision Pumping Systems. It features a large map of Texas as the background. In the top left, there is a yellow star with the text "THERE'S A NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN". In the top right, the PPS logo is displayed above a list of services: "Complete Pre-Packaged Pump Stations", "Existing System Upgrades & Retrofits", "Automation & Water Management", and "Integrated Control Panels". In the center, there is a detailed illustration of a pump station with various pipes and tanks. In the bottom left, a silhouette of a cowboy on a horse is shown. In the bottom right, contact information for Jeff Bine, Director of Sales, is provided: "208-323-5300", "Jeff@ppps.us", and "VISIT: WWW.GOPPS.COM". At the very bottom, the tagline "Turning water into communities ... one pump station at a time." is written.



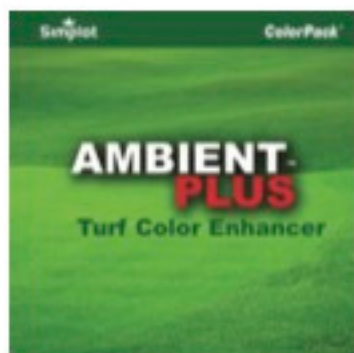
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An advertisement for product line partners. It features the text "Our Product Line Partners" at the top. Below this, several logos are displayed in two rows. The first row includes "spio" (a green cube logo), "trimax" (a circular logo with a stylized 'T'), "Uredo" (a red script logo), and "imants" (a blue script logo). The second row includes "CAMPEY" (a blue square logo with white text), "turf-tec" (a green and white logo), "International" (a green and white logo), "SGM" (a logo with a stylized 'S' and 'G'), and "TB 220" (a logo with a stylized 'T' and 'B').

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What Will the Golf Course Industry Look Like in 2022?

Editors Note: First appeared in January 2022 edition of Golf Course Trades

<https://www.golfcoursetrades.com/golf-course-industry-in-2022/>

When baseball legend Yogi Berra said, “The future ain’t what it used to be,” he wasn’t addressing the golf course industry. But Berra’s observation is a spot-on reflection of the state of golf as a business today. And for anyone connected to golf at any level, the news that the previously struggling golf industry re-energized and booming feels almost too good to be true. (Read: Welcome Home to the Golf Course)

Can The Golf Course Industry Exhale Yet?

As the world first emerged from isolation and social distancing in 2020, quarantine-weary golfers found their way back to the golf course in near-record numbers. Despite new protocols for cart use, bunker rake, flag management, and a host of other pandemic-related challenges, golf course operators, golf course superintendents, and hard-working course maintenance crews found ways to accommodate the welcomed surge of golfers. Until 2020, the golf industry, however, had experienced decades of course closings and dwindling rounds of golf. With this memory still painfully fresh in the minds of many in the business, no one has been overly quick to declare that golf’s positive pandemic trends are the industry’s guaranteed new future.

The year ahead looks to be another strong year for golf, with the potential to sustain the levels of play reached in 2020 and surpassed at some venues in 2021. Golf course superintendents, however, won’t be taking anything for granted. They are ordering ahead of schedule or buying locally in the face of the still unstable supply chain. They know that weather always brings risk and that an inflationary economy is a potential ticking timebomb.

Reality Check: There Will Always Be Golf Course Closings

Regardless of how much or for how long the game continues to enjoy its current resurgence, the truth is there will always be golf course closings. Golf courses, like any other business type, can fail from bad management or poor decision-making. Small and mid-size businesses of all types go under every day, and their collapse may have nothing to do with the pandemic or the demand for their service.

Another factor that contributes to a baseline number of golf course closings actually stems from positive circumstances for the course’s owners. Certain facilities, including many that are well managed and successful, may simply afford the course’s ownership greater value and fewer headaches when sold as real estate. (Continued on page 25)



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Continued: What Will the Golf Course Industry Look Like in 2022?

(Continued from page 23) These golf courses are often built in areas of the high-density population where the land the course is built on becomes more valuable than the business it supports. Nevertheless, the good news for the golf course industry is that golf course closings are down significantly. Although the final numbers for 2021 were not available at the time this article went to print, the mid-year closings of 18-hole equivalent golf courses, reported by the National Golf Foundation, (NGF) were down 46 percent year-over-year from closings in 2020. While there were, as of July 2021, still 3,631 fewer courses operating in 2021 than in 2006, there were 2,025 more courses operating last July than there were in 1991, which indicates, the golf course industry might have been overbuilding for a number of years and is now simply finding its sweet spot.

Greens Fees and Membership Fees are Likely to Go Up

Golf country club membership fees or the cost of a round of golf are likely to increase at many properties in 2022 if they haven't already. Joe Beditz shared NGF data that more than one-third of public golf courses increased their peak-season weekend green fees in 2021. The average amount of increase was 11 percent above the courses' previous rates.

Inasmuch as no one is eager to greet the wave of new and returning golfers with price hikes, the cost of doing business may make this increase unavoidable. Projections regarding the Consumer Price Index for 2022 range from a 2 to a 6-plus percent increase, and many prognosticators feel these numbers are too conservative.

The need to increase membership fees at golf country clubs or daily fees at public play facilities in 2022 can also stem from decisions made in the past. Fearing they could drive their already dwindling business or membership away during the pre-pandemic years when rounds of golf were declining almost everywhere, many course managers avoided price increases they justifiably should have been making. Now, with rounds of golf increasing, these same decision-makers have found that they cannot serve more golfers without also raising rates to cover their higher operational costs.

Consumers may be fighting their own battles with rising inflation, leaving course management hesitant to do anything that could potentially deter rejuvenated enthusiasm for the game. On the other hand, courses that don't raise fees could be forced to cut maintenance and labor costs. Golf course superintendents often already struggle to maintain optimal playing conditions in the face of inadequate budgets for chemicals, equipment, and workforce, especially at small facilities.

The Bigger You Are in the Golf Course Industry, the Brighter the Future May Seem

Last summer, CNBC TV interviewed Chip Brewer on "Closing Bell," a show devoted to day trading, money managers, and investor news. Brewer has been President and CEO of Callaway Golf since 2012. Interviewer Morgan Brennan asked Brewer to go to his crystal ball and look at the near-term future of the golf industry. Brewer spoke optimistically, pointing out that more people are joining golf courses, there are more new consumers, and that Callaway as a company thought long-term trends would be attractive. One of his most profound takeaways was that the golf market is larger coming out of the pandemic than it was going in. Brewer acknowledged that Callaway Golf Company benefits from multiple areas of business, including golf clubs, balls, and other equipment, sports apparel, and the company's merger and exclusive ownership of sports entertainment giant, TopGolf. (Continued on page 26)

What Will the Golf Course Industry Look Like in 2022?

Continued from page 25) “Describing a “shift in consumer spending from goods to services,” Brewer identified the synergy of Callaway’s distinctive business components by saying the elements of the business all work together. We have the largest audience in golf now of any publicly-traded, available competitor and the competitive advantage ... reaching all types of golfers from TopGolf golfers to people using a Toptracer Range to the company’s legacy business in the golf equipment space.

“They all work together. And they also kind of support each other as TopGolf is going to be providing a great growth boost to the game in the future.”

Big golf companies with a diversity of products and services to sell have every reason to approach 2022 with great enthusiasm. Equity markets have been strong. Even if the markets roller coaster in the short term, no one is predicting the kind of market plummet we saw between 2007 and 2009 in the Great Recession.

But the stock market and the economy don’t move in tandem. While large organizations may continue to thrive, smaller businesses, golf country clubs, and mom and pop golf courses or golf ranges may succeed, or they may struggle. Businesses on the frontline of the economy, Main Street not Wall Street, will want to tread carefully as continuing inflation in the new year has the potential to impact both their cost of doing business and the discretionary spending of the market based on which they depend.

One big positive, however, prevails across the entire golf industry. The golf market is larger, with a higher percentage of new and returning golfers today than it has been in a long, long time. This fact alone justifies popping a champagne cork and celebrating a new year in which, thankfully, the future of golf “ain’t” what it used to be.”

Linda Parker has been writing professionally since the 1980s. With clients in finance, sports, technology, resorts, and nonprofit global initiatives, Linda helps organizations communicate their stories in meaningful ways to the people they most want to reach. She has authored, ghostwritten or contributed to more than a dozen nonfiction books. Linda is a member of the Authors Guild and the Golf Writers Association of America. You can connect with her at linda@glindacreative.com

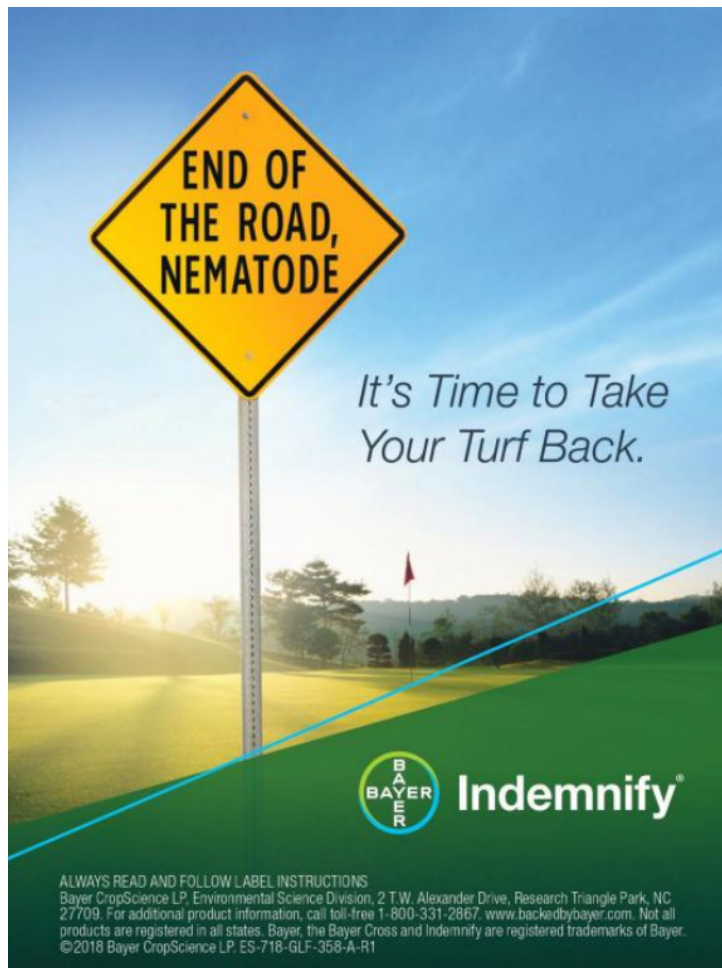
GCSAA Legacy Awards

Applications are now open for GCSAA's Legacy Awards. The GCSAA Legacy Awards competition offers education aid to the children and grandchildren of GCSAA members. Awards of \$1,500 each are funded by Syngenta and the GCSAA Foundation.

Applicants must be enrolled full time at an accredited institution of higher learning, or for high school seniors, they must have been accepted at such an institution for the next academic year.

Applicants will be notified of their status by mail by June 15 of the year submitted. All scholarship award checks will be made payable to the applicant and his/her educational institution.

In addition, award winners are ineligible to apply the year following their award, but can reapply after a one-year hiatus. Applications are due by April 15. Applications and more information can be found at <https://www.gcsaa.org/education/scholarships>.



Volunteers Needed!

Interested in serving the North Texas GCSA? We're looking for volunteers to serve on our committees and to host events! Please contact Shannon if you're interested at ntgcsa@gmail.com.

Committees include:

Annual Awards Banquet Committee
Annual Meeting Committee
Assistant Superintendent Committee
Awards and Recognition Committee
Bylaws and Procedures Committee
Chapter Delegates Committee
Editorial Committee
Education Committee

Finance Committee
Government Relations and Advocacy Committee
Industry Relations and Communications Committee
Lone Star GCSA Committee
Member Relations and Communications Committee
Golf & Events Outings Committee
Past Presidents and Long Range Planning Committee
Scholarship Committee