

NTGCSA Annual Meeting

The NTGCSA held its Annual Meeting and elections in October at Grapevine Golf Course. Superintendent Merlin Tielkemeier and his entire crew were great hosts and had the course in fabulous condition! Thank you to event and Platinum Sponsor Turf Materials for your continued support of our organization!



Election Results

Congratulations to the following on their election to the NTGCSA Board of Directors.

President

Neil Packard, Dallas National Golf Club

Vice President

Mike Upchurch, Old Bonita

Secretary/Treasure

Coby Morrow, Northwood Club

Appointed by Incoming President

Superintendent Directors

Grant Jones, Sherrill Park Golf Course

Kyle Bunney, PGA Frisco

Affiliate Director

Mike Epps, Turf and Soil Management

Those elected will join the following serving remaining terms:

Superintendent Directors - Monty Ashworth, Mark Claburn,

Trevor Ogden

Affiliate Director - Curt Franklin

Past President - Jason Wiedeman



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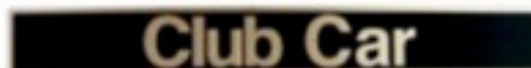
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About Us

North Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association

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President, Jason Wiedeman
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Vice President, Neil Packard
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Secretary/Treasurer, Mike Upchurch
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Past President, Anthony Williams CGCS
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Superintendent Directors

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Coby Morrow
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Trevor Ogden
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Curt Franklin
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Critical Step, Anthony L Williams CGCS, CGM, MG



Upcoming Events

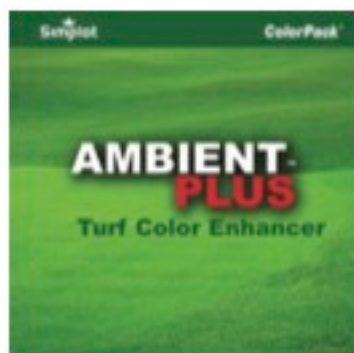
Awards Banquet
January 7, 2023
Dallas Country Club

GCSAA Show
February 6-9, 2023
Orange County Convention Center

February Education
February 23, 2023
BWI

Other Events and Dates to be announced soon!

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President's Message

Awesome. A word overused far too much these days. A word that should be reserved for the remarkable, for events that truly leave a person in a state of “Aw” and amazement. But, over the course of this year, I have found no better word to describe my encounters and experiences in the golf industry. We are the creators of “Aw” on the daily, and this year has been exactly that... Awesome.

I have found “Aw” in the state and expansion of golf in North Texas. We have the opportunity to show the world just how awesome the playground of golf in Texas is as we become home base for the core of professional golf in America. The spotlight only continues to shine brighter on our state and specifically on the DFW metroplex as operations begin to ramp up at the new PGA Frisco property and beyond.

In addition, the role North Texas plays in quality championship golf and golf conditions rivals that of any other state. The PGA, Senior PGA, LPGA, Korn Ferry, and so many others thrive at our courses multiple times a year and help us showcase the quality course conditions that north Texas golf course superintendents provide throughout the year. It leaves me in a state of “Aw” and excitement to continue to see the growth and attention our NTGCSA members so truly deserve.

Over this year, my encounter with so many in our industry has been second to none. The North Texas board enjoyed the opportunity to meet with the national GCSAA board just a few months ago to share ideas and highlight challenges facing all superintendents as we move forward. The obvious challenge we all face in this new era of product and labor shortages carry the most weight, but we also discussed continuing education of those that surround our industry. Self promotion and educating those in the golf industry is important to create understanding of just how “essential” our piece of the puzzle is in making the game of golf successful. Essential is likely a tag line you hear coming from our National organization over the next few years.

This past spring our board had a strategic planning session that identified our path and direction for the next few years. One of the priorities that came from that meeting was to grow our programs and membership goals to include all membership classes within our industry. As a result, we hosted our first shop tour and meeting designed for the Equipment Manager. The quality of the event and turn-out was something else that left me in “Aw”. The education and opportunities we provide for our equipment managers is what makes us successful, not only at the course level, but also as an industry as a whole. “We provide the canvas for our equipment managers and employees to produce art!”

This was a quote and a takeaway that I found absolutely awesome.

A word and term that is overused and undeserved... except when it comes to all that I've encountered in this organization this year. The level of “Aw” and excellence that I have seen and been a part of is overwhelming. Thank you all, for all you do; and understand just how awesome your participation in this organization is to all of us that serve you!

Jason Wiedeman
2022 NTGCSA President

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Facility Adoption: The GCSAA BMP's Next Critical Step

By Anthony L. Williams CGCS, CGM, MG

Best Management Practices (BMP's) have been around for a while and I am sure by now you have heard that GCSAA reached its goal of having written BMP Manuals for all 50 states by the end of 2020. I was part of the BMP Steering committee for Lone Star GCSA that partnered with the Radius Sports Group to bring our Texas Golf Industry BMP Guide to life and that work is at the core of Facility Adoption. That's where you come in. We have now moved into the Facility Adoption phase of our ongoing BMP process (BMP's are living documents and programs that should never stop evolving). In order to maximize the impact and value of the BMP's we need everyone to craft their best version of how these programs and strategies impact their operations from day-to-day inputs/actions as well as a planning perspective. Now you are on the tee and it is time to grip it and rip it, it is time for you to complete your Facility Adoption BMP with GCSAA. Remember that the smallest action trumps the grandest of intentions, we need you to add your data to the documents because there is strength in numbers. The collective BMP data helps us advocate and educate beyond golf and ultimately protects our future, your future. I wanted to share a few tips and give some clarity to help you get your Facility Adoption completed and add your voice to the Texas environmental choir to help make the future of golf in Texas and around the world a little bit greener. Thank you in advance for your participation and vision. Our shared goal is to help you check the complete the GCSAA BMP Facility Adoption box off your work list in 2022!

There is a little homework that you should do before you log in and start the Facility Adoption process. Some of this is my personal experience but most of the information is conveniently available in the GCSAA BMP Tool. Seriously it is all there www.gcsaa.org/environment/bmp-planning-guide

Step one: Gather your site information (square footages, soil types, turf types, irrigation water use data, environmental programs/plans, historical data etc.) and a few photos (2 -5 is plenty but there is no official limit to how many you can use). Include strategic plans, capital budgets, completed projects and future projects. There are examples of all these in the GCSAA BMP Builder Tool including State BMP workshops, case studies and samples of environmental policies, principles and objections.

Step two: Review your state (Texas) manual on-line or in print. Note that once you Log in to begin the process the Texas manual will automatically populate into the appropriate sections as you work through the process. You can leave the data as is or edit to your parameters, it is that easy.

Step three: Watch the GCSAA's webinar on facility adoption it has great information on using the tools, BMP Categories, etc. The short Videos are my favorites as they cover so many topics quickly.

Continued on page 8

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Tony Leblang
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Facility Adoption, continued from page 7

Here is the list of short videos that are available, Logging in, Creating a new guide, Steps for navigating the site, Categories and Sub categories, Basic edits, Uploading images, Adding a Table, Using the cover builder, Publishing your BMP guide, Creating a cover in Publisher, Creating a cover in Power Point, Creating a cover in Google Slides. GCSAA has thought of everything and it's easy to access once you are in the tool.

Step Four: Establish a "Green Team". Depending upon your circumstances you may wish to engage stakeholders to build a "Green Team" to be part of the process. Include staff, greens committee members, management, community leaders, local environmental experts, regulatory experts etc. The "Green Team" can help with the development, distribution or both. You do not have to do it alone, recruit the skills needed for success.

Step Five: Decide if there are additional resources or plans that you would like to link to that should be placed within your document. A facility BMP plan can be as comprehensive as necessary. However, plans that incorporate links to other external resources can minimize the size of the plan and related maintenance of the document. This is not mandatory but is a great way to extend the detail and reach of your documents. Make sure any links are working properly in your final documents.

Step Six: Establish a SMART, Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Timed (there is a deadline) Goal to complete the Facility Adoption Process. Can you get it done in 2022? Many break the goal into smaller sectional goals for easier progression and bench marking. The process once you have done your homework goes quickly. Many attend an in-person training or State BMP workshop and can complete the core processes in one dedicated session. The key is to stay committed and check all the boxes.

There is one more thing that I know helped me get our Facility Adoption done and that is the incredible support staff at GCSAA. You can at any point in the process whether you are completely lost or just need a little reassurance call Mark Johnson or Emily Fuger at 800-472-7878. They can work miracles.

I wanted to close with a few numbers and a few more tips. I confirmed that as I write this there are only 65 Superintendents in Texas that have started the Facility Adoption process. We have a long way to go but we are golf course superintendents so I know we will find a way. A few quick tips for a great BMP Facility Adoption manual. Double click the edit button. Save your work every time you end a section. When you have a version, you like "lock it" and build potential edits and additions in a separate clone. There is a size limit for pictures (1mb) so larger images will not upload, most of the time we want high resolution pictures so be aware that you may have to compress some photos. Pick a great photo cover because a picture is worth a thousand words. Call Mark Johnson for help, he can get you across the finish line, I am living proof.

Continued on page 9

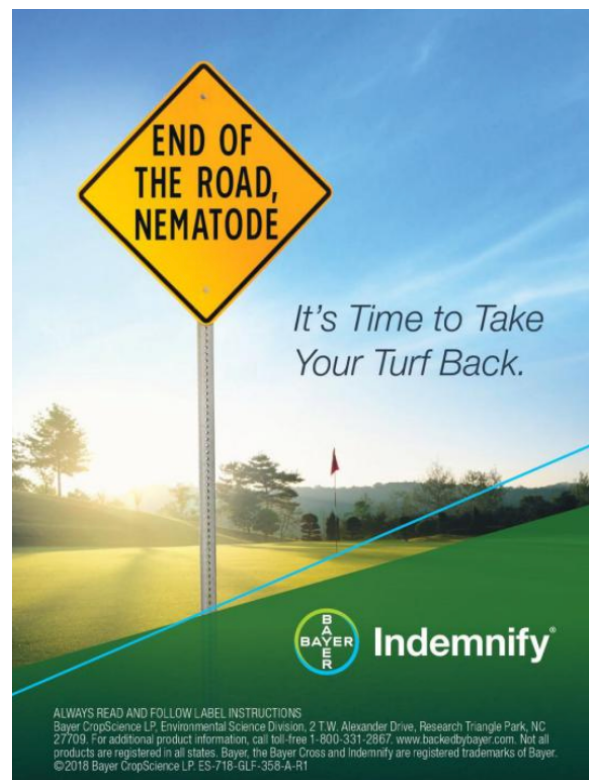
Facility Adoption, continued from page 8

Lastly, we need to complete this work before it is needed so time is of the essence. Complete your Facility Adoption as soon as possible and encourage your peers to also check the boxes and get it completed. There will be more in person opportunities scheduled but all you need is to follow the six steps that I outlined in this article. Contact me if I can help anthony.williams98@att.net . Thanks again for all that you do to make golf in Texas so great!

Photo #1 The Texas Green on #1 Cottonwood Valley was our choice to be the cover of our BMP Manual. Your cover should reflect your property's traditions, special features and environmental programs.

Photo #2 A great Picture of a silt removal project at TPC Four Seasons Golf and Sports Club getting started by literally flying a dredge boat across a fairway. Make sure you capture any unique programs or features within your BMP Facility Adoption Manual.

Photo #3 The entrance sign for your property is always a good choice for any BMP manual.





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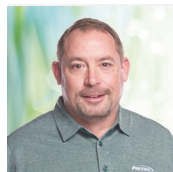
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NTGCSA Scholarship Tournament

The 2022 Scholarship Tournament was held on November 21 at Las Colinas Country Club. Thank you to our sponsors and to ALL that joined us on a chilly day to make this one of our most successful scholarship tournaments yet! Thank you to Superintendent Ed Martinez for hosting us.

Our silent auction raised more than \$6,000, sponsor donations topped \$19,000 and mulligan and 50/50 donations totaled nearly \$2,500. We are thrilled to be awarding \$26,500 in scholarships to 17 deserving NTGCSA Legacies at our Annual Awards Banquet on January 7, 2023 at Dallas Country Club!

Congratulations to Aaron Clary and Charlie Trammel on their first place finish in the gross division and to Ed Martinez and Ricky Palacios for finishing second. The first place net champions were Jeff Smith and Trevor Ogden. Carlos Lara and Todd Dattalo were second. Proximity contest winners were Austin Brown, Cody Butler and Ed Martinez.



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NTGCSA Updates

NTGCSA Memberships run on the calendar year and will expire on December 31, 2022 - regardless of when you signed up and paid your dues. To renew your membership for 2023, be sure to visit our Web site at www.ntgcsa.org.

All memberships can be renewed and paid for directly on our Web site. If you prefer an invoice, be sure to contact Shannon at ntgcsa@gmail.com.

NTGCSA Sponsorships also run on the calendar year and will expire on December 31, 2022. To view available sponsorship opportunities, to become a new sponsor, or to renew your sponsorship for 2023, visit www.ntgcsa.org.

Sponsorship can be renewed and paid for directly on our Web site. If you prefer an invoice or want more information on opportunities available, please contact Shannon at ntgcsa@gmail.com.

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Member Spotlight - Incoming NTGCSA President

Dallas National Superintendent - Neil Packard

1. What are you most looking forward to in serving as the President of the NTGCSA?

I'm most looking forward to being forced to be more involved with all of our members, events, and all things association related. As president, you have no choice but to engage and put yourself in situations you may not normally be comfortable being in. I'm not the most outgoing person! Hopefully, this helps me not only meet new people, but grow individually, and at the same time help our chapter and industry grow.

2. What do you hope to accomplish in your year as President?

The main goal I hope to accomplish is simply to bring more notoriety to our profession. I feel many people don't fully understand what we do and how important we are to the industry. The more we can educate others on what we do, the better and brighter our profession will be for us and the next generation of Superintendents. As the game of golf continues to grow, it's OUR responsibility to make sure our side of the game grows at the same pace.

3. What is one thing you wish more people knew about the NTGCSA?

It's hard to choose just one. But, one thing that I think is really cool, and we should all be proud, is the amount of money we give away in scholarships and how much support we have given to the Scottish Rite Hospital over the years. I think this speaks to who we are as an association and the individuals who have been involved over the many years.

4. What got you into this industry?

When I was 19, I started working as a cart boy at a public course so I could get free golf. I had a few buddies that worked on the maintenance crew. I would see them going out in the morning on their mowers as I was wiping down windshields on golf carts. I was so jealous of what they were getting to do, so I switched to the maintenance department. After that is when I learned there was actually a career path in golf course maintenance. In 2008, a few years later, Kirt Phillips hired me as an intern at Dallas Country Club, and 14 years later, here I am.

5. Tell me about your family.

My wife Dana, who worked at Dallas Country Club the same time I did, got married in 2014. We now have two awesome kids. Our son Owen is 6 years old and is in kindergarten, and our daughter Andi is 3 years old.



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Member Spotlight - Outgoing NTGCSA President

Cross Timbers Golf Course Superintendent - Jason Wiedeman

1. What did you enjoy the most while serving as the President of the NTGCSA?

My favorite thing about serving the NTGCSA membership has to be the relationships that I was able to develop with members throughout the year. I enjoyed getting to reach out and interact with people at our various meeting and events.

2. What do you believe was your (and the boards) biggest accomplishment this year?

Our biggest accomplishment has to be the introduction of our Equipment Manager education and shop tours, and the success of our first event! I'm excited to be involving and offering something to our new membership classes.

3. What do you hope to see the incoming board achieve this coming year?

I hope to see the new board continue with the development and evolution of new ideas and opportunities for our members. Over the last few years, it has been fun to see new opportunities added as the board tries to address the needs and desires of all of our members. I look forward to seeing the new ideas the incoming board has to expand the reach of the NTGCSA.

4. What is one thing you wish more people knew about the NTGCSA?

We have such a great group of members. I have had the benefit of seeing so much excellence in our organization this year. From course condition, education, and the quality of personalities this year; we just have some of the best folks working in and around our industry and organization.

5. What got you into this industry?

I'm a farm kid from Colorado that found golf in high school. My passion for the game collided with my strong agronomic background... once I realized a 5 hndcp couldn't make the tour... it was time to put the two together and live the dream!

6. Tell me about your family.

I married the most amazing woman three years ago - Amy, and have three wonderful kids - Josh (17), Adrianna (16), and Carter (8). The boys in the family enjoy my humor... while the girls have the eyerolls on standby at all times. But only one of them can be my favorite!

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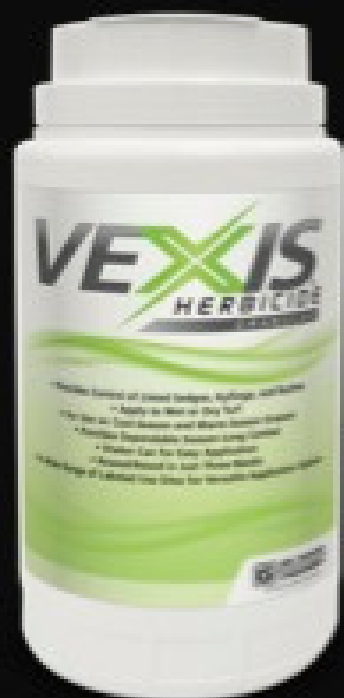
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Volunteers Needed!

As we approach the beginning of a new year, we need help from all members to grow our association and to help it be successful. To volunteer to serve as a meeting host, to author a newsletter article or to serve on one of our committees, reach out to Shannon at ntgcsa@gmail.com.

Available committee options are listed below:

- Annual Awards Banquet Committee
- Annual Meeting Committee
- Assistant Superintendent and EM Committee
- Awards and Recognition Committee
- Chapter Delegates Committee
- Education Committee
- Finance Committee
- Golf & Events Outings Committee
- Government Relations & Advocacy Committee
- Lone Star GCSA Committee
- Past President's Long Range Planning Committee
- Scholarship Committee

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Superintendent of the Year Nominees

Congratulations to the 2022 Superintendent of the Year Finalists:

Mark Claburn, Tierra Verde Golf Club
Jim Osborne, TPC Craig Ranch
Neil Packard, Dallas National Golf Club

Special congratulations to all of those nominated for this prestigious award!

Jeremy Adkins, Stonebriar Country Club
Justin Allen, Lake Arlington Golf Course
Russell Birkheimer, Golf Clubs at the Tribute
Mark Claburn, Tierra Verde Golf Club
Ryan Coffman, Robson Ranch
Scott Fuller, Trophy Club Country Club
Craig Loving, Canyon Creek Country Club
Jim Osborne, TPC Craig Ranch
Neil Packard, Dallas National Golf Club
Willie Wallace, Denton Country Club



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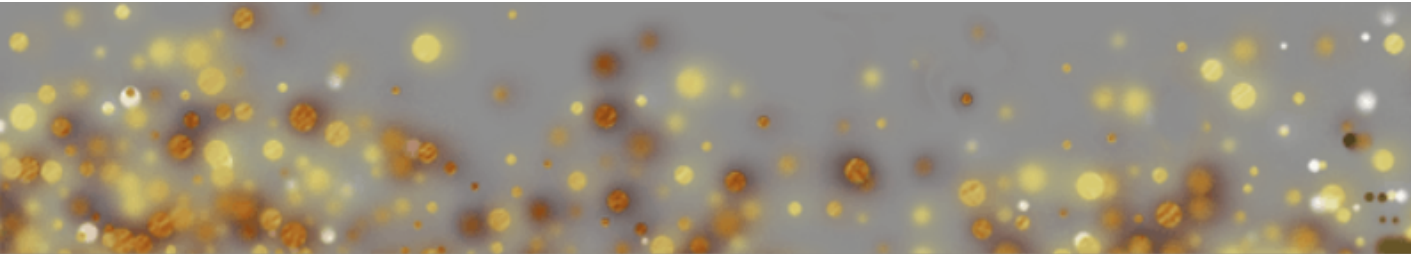
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Please join us for NTGCSA's Annual Awards Banquet



Saturday, the 7th of January, 2023
Registration and Cocktails at 6:00pm
Dinner and Program Beginning at 6:45

Dallas Country Club
4155 Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, TX 75205

Celebrating:
Superintendent of the Year
Mark Claburn

Distinguished Service Award Winners
John Colligan
Duane Janssen

Assistant Superintendent of the Year
Ron Readell

2022 Legacy Scholarship Winners

And Many Others!

Please Register by: January 2, 2023