

## 2025 Scholarship Tournament

Thank you to all that joined us for the 2025 Scholarship Tournament at Shady Oaks Country Club. For the first time since 2021 the weather cooperated, and the event was actually held on the day it was initially scheduled! The tournament was once again a huge success, raising over \$30,000 in funds for our Legacy Scholarship program. Superintendent Justin May had the course in great shape, and although difficult, members enjoyed a great day. We hope you'll make plans now to join us for the 2026 Scholarship Tournament on November 2 at Brook Hollow Golf Club.

### Tournament Results

1st Place Gross - Andy Wright & Don Short

2nd Place Gross - Tanner Westbrook & Chris Rick

1st Place Net - Austin Brown & Bob Smith

2nd Place Net - JK Harrison & Michael Underwood

### Closest to the Pin

Skyler Arnberger, Wes Avance,  
 Graham Johnson, Austin Morrisette,

### Long Drive

James Jensen





# Legacy Scholarship Tournament Thank You Sponsors!



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## About Us

### North Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association

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cody@ridgleacountryclub.com

Secretary/Treasurer, Paul Watkins  
pwatkins@rivercrest-cc.org

Past President, Coby Morrow  
cmorrow@northwoodclub.org

#### Superintendent Directors

Jon Bradham  
jonathanb@plano.gov

Bobby Chesney  
Bobby.Chesney@invitedclubs.com

Stephen Fox  
sfox@kempersports.com

Grant Meredith  
Grant.Meredith@dallas.gov

Robert Snyder  
superintendent@pinecrestcc.org

#### Affiliate Directors

Austin Brown  
brown@proturf.com

Mike Epps  
mepps@turfandsoil.net

#### Chapter Executive

Shannon Phillips  
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2560 King Arthur Blvd., Suite 124-115  
Lewisville, TX 75056

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2026 Calendar

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Membership Updates

## Upcoming Events

Spring Education  
February 24, 2026  
BWI Dallas Conference Room

EM Meeting  
March 2, 2026  
The Nelson Golf and Sports Club

Member Social  
March 26, 2026  
Community Beer Co.

Bully Cup  
April 22, 2026  
Texas Rangers Golf Club

Family Social  
July 25, 2026  
Globe Life Field

Other Events and Dates to be announced soon!



## President's Message

Hopefully everyone has thawed out from the chilly weather we experienced over the past few weeks! I want to begin my final remarks by thanking everyone involved in this great association for giving me the opportunity to serve over the last 14 months. My time as President began quicker than expected, and I hope I made Mr. Upchurch proud of the effort I put forth. I never imagined serving as President of this association, but looking back, I met people I otherwise may not have crossed paths with and found myself in situations that pushed me outside my comfort zone (public speaking!!). Those experiences have ultimately made me better.

One of my goals throughout the year was to continue finding ways to introduce our profession to people who may not have been exposed to it before. I believe we made meaningful progress toward that goal through our work with UTI. In addition, I feel we helped establish several strong initiatives for future boards to carry forward, including the Mike Upchurch Scholarship and the association endowment.

Since my last newsletter, we hosted a very successful Scholarship Tournament, raising over \$30,000 to support the 17 scholarships awarded this year at our Annual Banquet. Thank you to everyone at Shady Oaks in Fort Worth for hosting such a great event—the course, food, and overall experience were top notch. I'd also like to thank Brian Sutton for hosting this year's Crew Championship at Tension. Once again, it was a fantastic day of golf and a well-deserved opportunity to recognize the hard-working men and women who prepare so much acreage each day for the sport we all love. Finally, we enjoyed a great evening at this year's Annual Banquet at the Fort Worth Club. Thank you to Shannon for putting together a wonderful night for our members and guests.

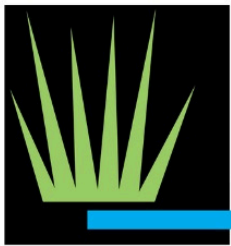
As I close, I would first like to thank Shannon Phillips (especially since she removed this section from my last newsletter "to make it fit") for the tireless work she does behind the scenes to keep this association running year after year. With board transitions, it's not always an easy task, and she consistently steps in to bridge gaps and ensure continuity. Thank you as well to my family, the 2025 Board, the 2025 association sponsors, and my entire team at Northwood.

Thank you all for a fantastic year, and I look forward to the future.

Coby Morrow  
Past President, NTGCSA  
Northwood Club



An advertisement for EarthWorks Construction Program. The top text reads "SAVE FIVE YEARS OF WORK IN THE FIRST MONTH". Below this is a white box with the title "EarthWorks Construction Program" and two bullet points: "Proven Results: Trusted in hundreds of grow in projects, delivering faster establishment, stronger roots, and better water management." and "Custom Solutions: Tailored amendment programs to fit your budget, goals, and long term soil performance." The EarthWorks logo and website "www.EarthWorksTurf.com" are also present. To the right are two photos: one of a person in a green safety vest working on a field, and another of a person in a green shirt working on a field. At the bottom, there are three bags of EarthWorks products: "Eco-Lite", "Renovate", and "ECOLITE". Contact information for Kirk Castner, Sales Manager and Regional Agronomist, is provided: "405.326.5757". A QR code is also included with the text "Visit EarthWorks Construction Page".



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## President's Message

It is truly an honor to have the opportunity to serve the North Texas GCSA as the 2026 Board President. I want to thank Coby Morrow for his leadership and service to the association, specifically over the last year and half as President. Those are big shoes to fill, but I am confident that this year's Board can continue to grow this great association.

We saw an increase in overall membership this past year, but specifically Class C Assistants (43) and Class EM Equipment Managers (12). A few other highlights from this past year include partnering with UTI at a job fair event, which we plan to be a part of this spring.

We have some great events lined up over the next few months to be looking out for, starting with our Spring Education on February 24th, hosted by platinum sponsor BWI. In March we have our Equipment Managers meeting hosted by Turf & Soil Management, and a Spring Member Social hosted by Prime Sod on March 26. Registration for each of these events is open on our website.

I want to thank those members who have agreed to host an event this year. We will still need a few facilities to host events, so please reach out to Shannon, myself, or anyone on the board if you have interest in hosting an event in 2026.

Lastly, I want to say thank you to our sponsors for their continued support of this association. Your commitment to our association continues to make us as successful as we are. On behalf of the Board, we cannot thank you enough.

Grant Jones  
2026 NTGCSA President  
Sherrill Park Golf Course



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## 2025 Approved Bylaw Amendment

At the 2025 Annual Meeting at Grapevine Golf Course, the following amendment was approved and added to the NTGCSA Bylaws. The most updated version of the bylaws has been posted to our website at [www.ntgcsa.com](http://www.ntgcsa.com). The approved amendment is also posted here for your review. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to a board member or to Shannon at [ntgcsa@gmail.com](mailto:ntgcsa@gmail.com).

### ARTICLE XV - ENDOWMENT FUND

Section 1. There shall be an Endowment Fund which shall be created by allocating an amount up to 50% of the annual NET proceeds raised from annual NTGCSA business as decided upon by the board of directors until the fund shall be equal to the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$125,000). The fund shall be grown over a period of time required to reach a balance of \$125,000, with no withdrawals. Once withdrawals commence, amounts shall be chosen so that sufficient funds are remaining for the fund to continue.

Withdrawals and the amount of withdrawals shall be proposed and voted on by the Executive Committee of the NTGCSA Board of Directors. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chapter President, Vice President, and Secretary / Treasurer.

Section 2. Use of the Fund: The purpose of the endowment fund shall be to provide a sustainable source of income for the NTGCSA over time. Once the principal amount has been achieved, the earnings will help to support our organization's purpose and ensure financial stability in the long-term. The fund will be used for education/research, reinvestment in the membership such as: scholarships, hardship and or charity as decided upon by the Executive Committee.

In extreme financial circumstances detrimental to the chapter, the executive committee must get full board approval to use these funds, waiving the no withdrawal clause prior to reaching, or after reaching the balance of \$125,000.

Section 3. Management of the Fund: The fund shall be managed by a professional fund manager to enhance financial gains and opportunities with minimal input from the Board.

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PAR® SG applied weekly at 5 oz/acre (right) improved rooting and leaf color in creeping bentgrass turf under drought stress conditions, as compared to a fertilized control with no pigment. The results of this university trial suggest including PAR® SG in a turf management program can be used to improve turfgrass performance and root growth in creeping bentgrass putting greens.

Virginia Tech 2019 Field Study - Dr. Zhang

For more information, visit [www.harrells.com](http://www.harrells.com) or contact:



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jjensen@harrells.com  
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pcooper@harrells.com  
972-440-9689

## 2026 Awards Banquet

Thank you to all that joined us for the 2026 Annual Awards Banquet at the Fort Worth Club! We awarded more than \$30,000 in scholarships to deserving Legacy and Turf Grass Students, and also recognized our tournament and match play winners.

As always, the highlight of the evening was recognizing the 2025 Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of the Year.

Congratulations to our Superintendent of the Year - Andy Wright from The Clubs of Prestonwood - The Creek and to our Assistant Superintendent of the year - Zach Brookner from The Golf Clubs at the Tribute. Be sure to watch for our Spring newsletter for spotlights on these award winners.

Congratulations are also in order for our 2025 Match Play Champions - Jaxson Gregston and Corey Harris, and to our Runners Up - Cody Crowther and Coby Morrow. Congratulations to our Chapter Champion - Stephen Fox; to our Senior Chapter Champion - Charlie Trammell; to our Jim Newkirk Affiliate Champion - Chad Gibson; and to our Assistant Champion - Jose Medina.

The event concluded with our always popular Casino Night and prizes. Thanks again to all that joined us for a great evening and thank you to the Fort Worth Club for hosting us!



Photos continued on page 12.



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# 2025 Board of Director Elections Results

Thank you to all that attended our Annual Meeting and Elections at Grapevine Country Club. Thanks to Merlin Tielkemeier and the entire staff at Grapevine Golf Course for hosting us for the fourth straight year! Thank you also to Turf Materials for sponsoring a great day!

Congratulations to proximity winners Scott Brand, Jeff Hansen and Michael Saldana. Congratulations to our first place finishers Drue Thompson, Jason Wiedeman and Kevin Garrity, to second place finishers Austin Brown and Neil Packard, and to third place finishers Grant Jones and Jose Medina.

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

### President

Grant Jones, Sherrill Park Golf Course

### Vice President

Cody Crowther, Ridglea Country Club

### Secretary/Treasurer

To Be Appointed by President

### Superintendent Directors

Bobby Chesney, Timarron Country Club

Stephen Fox, Iron Horse Golf Course

Robert Snyder, Pinecrest Country Club

### Affiliate Director

Austin Brown, Professional Turf Products

Past President, Coby Morrow, Northwood Club

## NTGCSA MEETING CALENDAR

2026

TUESDAY  
2/24

Spring Education  
BWI Dallas Conference Room

MONDAY  
3/2

Equipment Managers Meeting  
The Nelson Golf and Sports Club

WEDNESDAY  
4/22

Bully Cup  
Texas Rangers Golf Club

SATURDAY  
7/25

Family Social  
Globe Life Field

WEDNESDAY  
8/5

August Scramble  
Luna Vista Golf Course

THURSDAY  
9/10

Fall Education  
Scottish Rite

THURSDAY  
10/20

Annual Meeting  
Grapevine Golf Course

MONDAY  
11/2

Scholarship Tournament  
Brookhollow Country Club

More details and events coming soon!  
[www.ntgcsa.org](http://www.ntgcsa.org)



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## NTGCSA Membership Renewals

NTGCSA Memberships run on the calendar year and expired on December 31, 2025 - regardless of when you signed up and paid your dues.

Thank you to all of you that have already renewed!

All memberships for 2026 can be renewed and paid for directly on our Web site at [www.ntgcsa.com](http://www.ntgcsa.com). As we are 45 days into the new year, your log in may no longer work. If you have trouble logging in, or prefer an invoice, be sure to contact Shannon at: [ntgcsa@gmail.com](mailto:ntgcsa@gmail.com).

### Paid Membership Options

Superintendent/Affiliate/EM Membership - \$120

Emerald or Bronze Membership - \$475


Emerald or Bronze members get all meetings (except for the scholarship tournament and annual banquet) paid for in advance. This is a discounted rate for paying your meetings up front.

Emerald Facility Membership \$1,600.00

To qualify for a Facility Emerald Membership, an applicant must be a golf course facility that has the equivalent of 4 Emerald Members at one facility. As an Emerald Facility member, you will get all meetings paid for in advance for 4 staff members. This is a discounted rate for paying your meetings up front, and a savings of \$200.



**FEBRUARY 24, 2026**  
8:00 AM - 2:50 PM  
5 TDA CEUs AVAILABLE



**LOCATION**  
BWI Dallas Conference Room  
1425 Dunn Dr.  
Carrollton, TX 75006

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

8:00 am - 9:00 am  
Registration

9:00 am - 9:50 am  
Updates to Texas Laws and Regulations (1 Laws & Regulations)  
*Kathrine Newton & Henry Kruesopf*  
Texas Department of Agriculture Inspector

10:00 am - 10:50 am  
Texas Weeds (1 General)  
*Dr. Eric Reasor, PBI-Gordon Companies*

11:00 am - 11:50 pm  
Nematode Management in Turfgrass (1 General)  
*Dr. Joseph Roberts, Clemson University*

11:50 am - 1:00 pm – Lunch Provided

1:00 pm - 1:50 pm  
Identifying Common Insect Orders (1 IPM)  
*Gary Brooks, MS Texas A&M Entomology*

2:00 pm - 2:50 pm  
Driving Turf Performance: Novel Surfactants and Their Impact on Playing Surfaces (1 General)  
*Dr. Christian Baldwin, Aquatrols Company*

Please register online at <https://ntgcsa.org>



# It's Time to Audit Your Accessories

As you prepare for 2026, don't forget about the golf course accessories you'll need to replace for next season.

Reach out to me to learn about high-quality accessories from Par Aide and Standard Golf.

[See our course accessories checklist](#)



**Joshua Smith**  
346-339-8553  
[joshuasmith@advancedturf.com](mailto:joshuasmith@advancedturf.com)

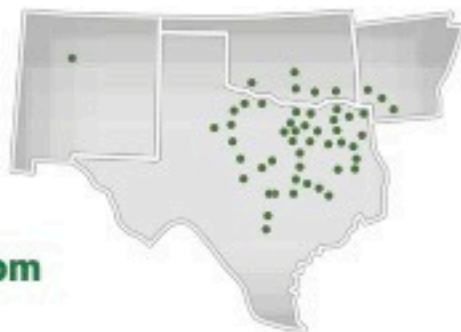


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# 2025 Crew Championship

Our final event of the year - the 2025 Crew Championship at Tenison Park Golf Course in Dallas was once again a huge success!

Congratulations to the 2025 Crew Champions from Iron Horse Golf Course. Thank you to Superintendent Brian Sutton and the entire staff at Tenison Park for hosting us!

We hope to announce the location of the 2026 Crew Championship soon!



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\*Jonathan L. Larson, Carl T. Redmond and Daniel A. Potter, SOI, September 2011.  
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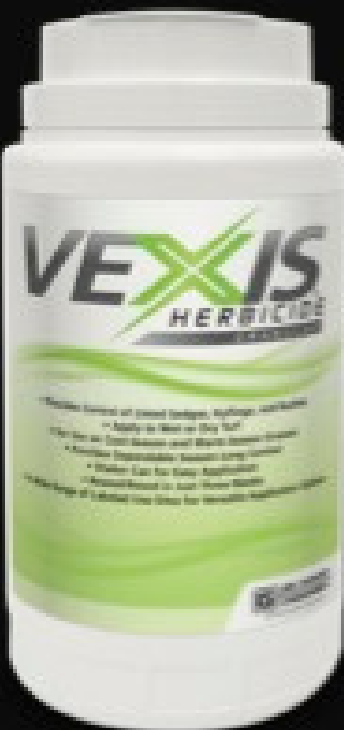
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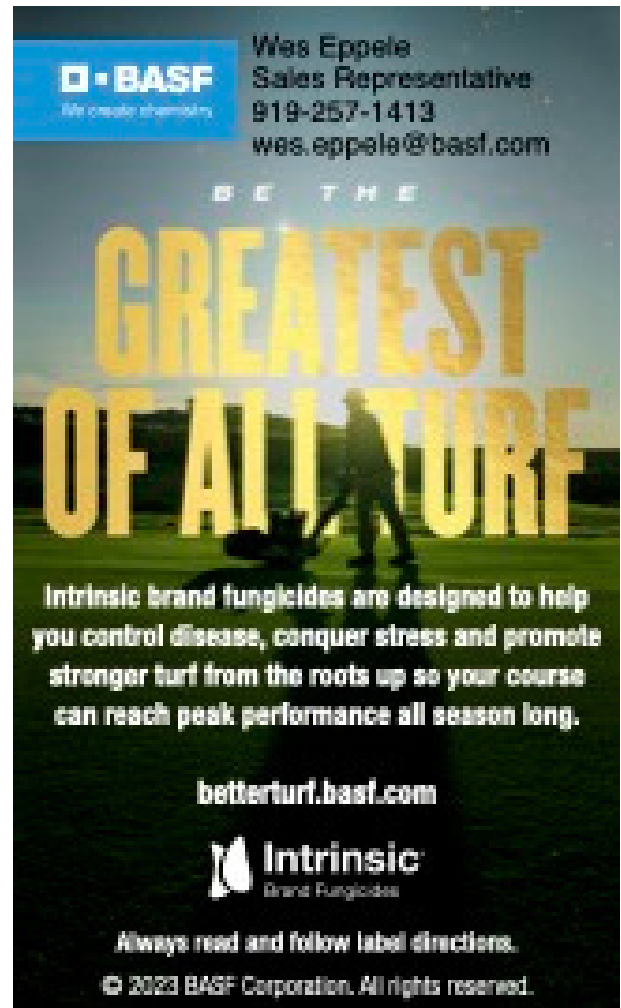
► For more information contact Jim Garrett at [jgarrett@pbigordon.com](mailto:jgarrett@pbigordon.com).

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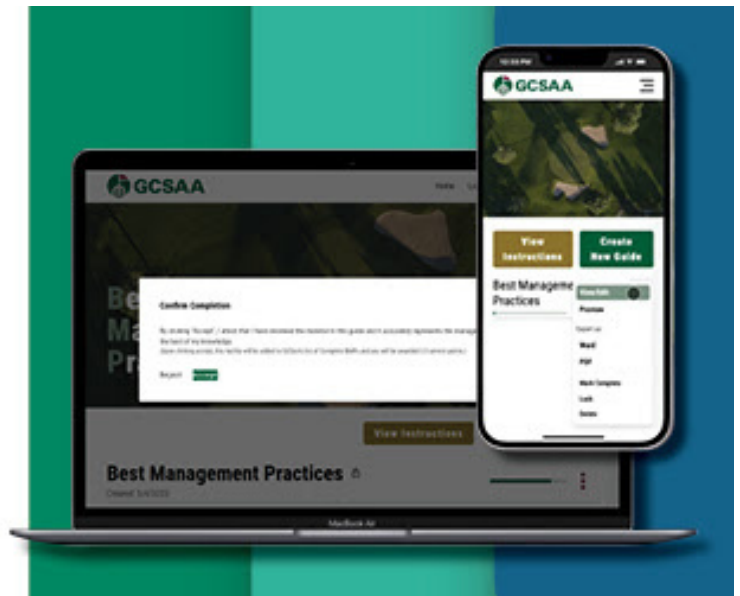
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## GCSAA Updates - BMP Adoption Tool



GCSAA's *new and improved*  
BMP Adoption Tool is here!

Complete your BMPs *within minutes*  
using our mobile-optimized resource



BMPs are critical to our credibility as an industry as we continue to build and foster a reputation of well-informed, responsible, and disciplined stewards of the land. They are critical to government affairs efforts and offer credibility when talking with legislators and regulators at national, state, and local levels.

Let us help you document the science-based practices and responsible course management efforts that benefit everyone in the community your golf course serves. You can complete your BMPs in as few as two clicks!

The updated Best Management Practices tool is now available to GCSAA members. The optimized BMP tool is simpler to use and has fewer steps to completion.

Get started at:

[https://www.gcsaa.org/facility/environment-hub/bmp-planning-guide?  
utm\\_source=Informz&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=This%20Week&\\_zs=HBswP1&\\_zl=KOfv7](https://www.gcsaa.org/facility/environment-hub/bmp-planning-guide?utm_source=Informz&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=This%20Week&_zs=HBswP1&_zl=KOfv7)

## GCSAA Legacy Scholarship

The GCSAA Legacy Awards competition offers education aid to the children and grandchildren of GCSAA members. Awards of \$1,500 each are funded by the GCSAA Foundation.

Applications will be reviewed by an independent committee consisting of three high school educators and three college administrators. All decisions of the committee will be final. 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.

Apply at [https://dynamic-form-applicant.gcsaa.org/Application/Home/8a82a0b5-8ffb-4b5e-a320-b8242003bb86?\\_zs=HBswP1&\\_zl=990x7](https://dynamic-form-applicant.gcsaa.org/Application/Home/8a82a0b5-8ffb-4b5e-a320-b8242003bb86?_zs=HBswP1&_zl=990x7)

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## Rounds for Research

The 2026 Rounds for Research Auction is set for April 20-26. Last year our chapter received over \$7,000 from rounds donated. In 2024 we received over \$9,000. I know we can improve on this number this year! Visit [Rounds4Research.com](https://Rounds4Research.com) to donate a round and find more information. Reach out to Shannon at [ntgcsa@gmail.com](mailto:ntgcsa@gmail.com) with any questions.

**APRIL 20-26, 2026 | [ROUNDS4RESEARCH.COM](https://Rounds4Research.com)**

# Rounds Research



# DONATE A ROUND

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By volunteering for a GCSAA Committee or Task Group, you have the opportunity to influence the direction of our profession and make a lasting impact.

Serving on a committee or task group doesn't require a large time commitment, but the difference you make is substantial. Whether meeting virtually or in person at GCSAA headquarters, these groups play a vital role in gathering member feedback and advancing initiatives that matter most to you and your peers.

Explore the committees and task groups available below – and consider lending your expertise to help strengthen our community. Your insight and commitment can make a real difference.

Assistant Superintendent Task Group  
BMP Resources Task Group  
Career Pathways Task Group  
Certification Committee  
Chapter Outreach Task Group  
Communications and Publications Task Group  
Conference Education Task Group  
Environmental Awards & Education Task Group  
Equipment Manager Task Group  
First Green and Workforce Development Task Group  
Government Affairs Committee  
Melrose Leadership Academy Task Group  
Political Action Committee Task Group  
Research Proposal Review Committee  
Rounds 4 Research Task Group  
Scholars Competition Task Group  
Technology Task Group  
Women's Task Group

Sign up today at:

[https://www.gcsaa.org/who-we-are/membership/get-involved/committees?  
utm\\_source=Informz&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=This%20Week&\\_zs=HBswP1&\\_zl=7lcw7](https://www.gcsaa.org/who-we-are/membership/get-involved/committees?utm_source=Informz&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=This%20Week&_zs=HBswP1&_zl=7lcw7)

**Dusty Daniel**

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DustyDaniel@bwicompanies.com

**Colby Johnson**

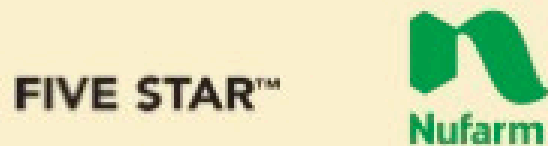
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**bwi**  
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## GCSAA Scholarship Winners

### Legacy Winners – \$1,000

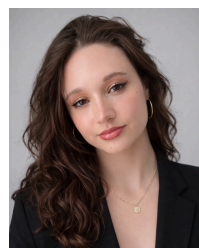
**Emma Gilmore** – Emma is the daughter of Dave Gilmore. She attends Tyler Junior College and is a 79th line member of the Apache Belles. She is majoring in education (4th-8th grade mathematics) in hopes to become a 4th grade math teacher.



**Kyle Gilmore** – Kyle is the son of Dave Gilmore. He attends the University of Texas at Dallas and is studying game design.



**Jack Jones** – Jack is the stepson of Michael Underwood. He attends Oklahoma State University and is majoring in construction engineering technology.



**Katie Limore** – Katie is the daughter of Stephen Fox. She attends Tarleton State University and is majoring in horticulture science.



**Emmie Meier** – Emmie Meier is the daughter of Roger Meier. She attends Texas Tech University and hopes to become a veterinarian.

**Austin Morrissette** – Austin is the son of Andy Morrissette. He plans to major in journalism, with a focus in sports media and hopes to attend either the University of Texas at Austin or the University of Georgia. This summer he plans to play a lot of golf with his dad, and take a family trip to Italy and Switzerland.



**Adrianna Wiedeman** – Adrianna is the daughter of Jason Wiedeman. She is attending the Northern Oklahoma College Enid campus where she is continuing her athletic career by playing softball. More importantly, she is attending to complete her pre-baccalaureate and then will transfer to a four-year university to get her BSN. She also hopes to join the Air Force where she plans on getting her masters and becoming a Nurse Practitioner.

### Legacy Winners – \$1,500



**Kristen Wallace** – Kristen is the daughter of Willie Wallace. She currently attends Kansas State University and is pursuing a degree in marketing with a management minor.



**Ryann Phillips** – Ryann is the daughter of Kirt and Shannon Phillips. She hopes to attend the University of Arkansas or Texas A&M University. She will graduate from Hebron High School this May.

## GCSAA Scholarship Winners

### Legacy Winners – \$2,000

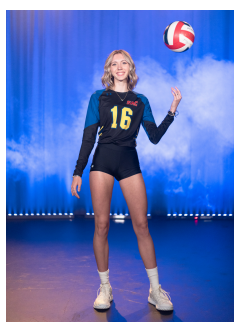
**Keaton Davis** – Keaton is the son of KD Davis. He currently attends Oklahoma State University and is majoring in business while also pursuing a minor in agronomy. He plans to follow in his father's footsteps and pursue a career in golf course management.



**Shepherd Martin** – Shepherd is the daughter of Josh Martin. She plans to attend Clemson University in the Fall, majoring in sports communication with a pre-law emphasis.



**Calvin Phillips** – Cal is the son of Kirt and Shannon Phillips. He currently attends Texas Christian University and is majoring in sports journalism. Cal will graduate in December 2026.



**Emma Scott** – Emma is the daughter of Brick Scott. She is pursuing a double major in molecular biology and chemistry, while also leading her volleyball team as a starting middle. After graduation she plans to prep for the MCAT and eventually apply to anesthesiologist assistant school.

**Jake Snodgrass** – Jake is the son of Bradley Snodgrass. He is pursuing a degree in graphic arts from Carl Albert State College in Oklahoma.

### Legacy Winners – \$2,500



**Lauren Moore** – Lauren is the daughter of Kyle Moore. She attends Angelo State University and will graduate with a bachelor's degree in Animal Science.



**McKenzie Thummel** – McKenzie is the daughter of Chad Thummel. She is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Wildlife and Conservation Science East Texas A&M University and expects to graduate in December 2026.

### Legacy Winners – \$3,000

**Brooke Livingston** – Brooke is the daughter of Joe Livingston. She currently attends the University of North Texas and will graduate in December 2026 with a bachelor's degree in accounting.



# 2026 SPRING IPM SEMINAR

Feb 27, 2026. 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Dallas AgriLife Research and Extension Center

## Registration Link

Join us to receive the latest updates on pesticide laws, pest biology and identification, and management strategies. Participants are eligible to receive CEUs from TDA Ag and Structural Pest Control Service.

### PRESENTATIONS FROM AGRILIFE EXPERTS:

Gear Up for the New Season: Effective Turfgrass Disease Management.

**Young-Ki Jo.** Prof. and Ext. Specialist for Plant Pathology.

Honey Bees and Pesticides.

**Garett Slater.** Assist. Professor and Honey Bee Extension Entomologist.

Weed Indicators: Using Weeds to Diagnose Site Conditions and Guide

Management.

**Laura Miller.** County Extension Agent. Commercial Horticulture.

Biological Control Strategies in IPM.

**Pedro Toledo.** Postdoctoral Research Associate.

Pest Management in Warm-Season Turfgrass.

**P. Agustin Boeri.** Extension Assist. Professor and Turfgrass Specialist.

Laws and Regulations.

**Janet Hurley.** Senior IPM Program Specialist.

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## Volunteers Needed!

We need more members to get involved with the NTGCSA! We have several committees for members to serve on. These include:

- Annual Awards Banquet Committee
- Annual Meeting Committee
- Assistant Superintendent & EM Committee
- Awards and Recognition Committee
- Chapter Delegates Committee
- Member Relations/Communication Committee
- Finance Committee
- Golf & Event Outings Committee
- Government Relations & Advocacy Committee
- Lonestar GCSA Committee
- Scholarship Committee

To volunteer to serve on one of our committees, or to host a meeting contact Shannon at [ntgcsa@gmail.com](mailto:ntgcsa@gmail.com).



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