



# The Mountain State Greenletter

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June 2021

West Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association

## Board of Director's Message

It's currently sunny and just a few degrees under 100, so I'm gonna make this quick. June, July, and August often make me question my career path.

First of all, thanks to Jason Hollen and we wish him the very best in his new endeavour. With work, family, and all the other things that come along with life, you have to give respect to someone who is willing to put forth the extra effort to be the leader of our organization.

We had 18 teams participate in our annual fundraising event at Stonewall. While I was unable to attend, it is nice to know we had a strong turnout. I would strongly encourage you to participate in future events. It's a good networking opportunity and some of the proceeds go to a very worthy cause. Four scholarships were awarded to the following recipients: Mary Grace Roush, Ethan Wilson, Devann McCoy and Jarret Lambert.

We also have a new website that is currently being developed. I would anticipate that it should be completed soon.

Best of luck to everyone during the dog days of summer...I am off to water some wilting grass.

Robert Cline, CGCS  
Guyan Golf & Country Club

**Turf Conference will be November 2nd at Lakeview Resort**

**I need volunteers for the Superintendent Spotlight!!!**



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# Ensuring Proper Tee Alignment

By John Daniels, agronomist, Northeast Region

Proper alignment is a critical component of the golf swing. It is also a critical component of tee marker setup. One could make the case that aligning tee markers properly is just as important as moving them to manage turf wear issues. To put the impact of tee marker alignment into perspective, if the markers are off center by just 5 degrees and the player relies on them to orient their shot, a 250-yard drive would miss the appropriate landing area by 21 yards. Golf is hard enough without players worrying whether tee markers are positioned incorrectly.

So, what can golf course maintenance teams do to prevent tee alignment issues? I recommend creating a small, portable alignment indicator that can be carried during course setup. During USGA championship preparations, our setup team uses a T-square constructed of small-diameter PVC pipe. This inexpensive, lightweight tool is easily transported from tee to tee and placed on the ground to confirm that the tee markers are properly positioned with the intended line of play. Using this tool provides greater consistency among the staff and ensures that the tee markers aren't crooked in the slightest.

Building some PVC T-squares that can be used when placing tee markers is a great way to improve course setup and provide a more enjoyable golfing experience. Given their simplicity and low cost, it wouldn't be hard to make multiple T-squares available for individuals tasked with course setup and anyone else who might be moving tee markers during tasks like mowing or spraying.

Northeast Region Agronomists:

Adam Moeller, director, Green Section Education – [amoeller@usga.org](mailto:amoeller@usga.org)

Darin Bevard, director, Championship Agronomy – [dbevard@usga.org](mailto:dbevard@usga.org)

Elliott Dowling, agronomist – [edowling@usga.org](mailto:edowling@usga.org)

John Daniels, agronomist – [jdaniels@usga.org](mailto:jdaniels@usga.org)



*Using a small PVC T-square can help to ensure your tee markers are oriented properly to the line of play.*

# *Superintendent Spotlight Q&A*

*Karen, Maggie, Annie, Sarah & Aaron Petitto -  
Family of the late Michael Petitto, Superintendent*

## **1. Karen, tell us about your family-**

“This will be the first fall since 2012 that we have no children in College/Post Grad! I can’t tell you how much the support of the WVGCSA has meant to me. It is a constant reminder that there are good people in the world and that my children are heading in directions that would make their father proud. With degrees in safety engineering and business, Michael was always proud of the value his profession put on education. This scholarship has enabled each of my girls to study abroad during school breaks; things that without scholarships our family would not have been able to provide.”

## **2. Tell us about your children and their future careers.**

“Maggie is graduating with a Biology degree from Wesleyan and has been provisionally accepted to the Osteopathic School in Lewisburg. Her plan is to begin in the fall of 2022. She works in the ER at UHC now and she will continue working there for the next year.

Annie is graduating with her Master’s in Special Education and will be applying for teaching jobs in WV.

Sarah graduated from WVU Law and is an attorney. She is working in public interest law in her own firm in Doddridge County; Petitto Law.

Aaron is working successfully in Morgantown; he completed 3 years of college. Graduation may or may not be in his future!”

*To those who have played in the fundraiser tournament or supported it in some way, we want to say thank you. This family is the perfect example of why we have this event and why our Association gives back!*



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## **WVGCSA Fundraiser at Stonewall Resort**

**Thank you to our sponsors, players, host site and those who made donations of rounds of golf and raffle items for this year's event. We raised enough money to cover the four \$1,500 scholarships we will be giving to our recipients! We couldn't do it without the support of each of you!**

**We look forward to our 2022 Fundraiser at Bel Meadow Golf Club.**

### **Top 6 Team Results:**

**1st Place - Berry Hills Country Club**

**2nd Place - Riverside Golf Club**

**3rd Place - Revels Turf & Tractor**

**4th Place - Apex**

**5th Place - West Virginia Golf Association**

**6th Place - Buckhannon Country Club**



***Team Berry Hills: Russ Stewart, Justin Ross, Travis Fisher and Chris Breed***

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## WVGCSA Fundraiser at Stonewall Resort



*Team Riverside: Mitch Roush, Grant Roush, Ty Roush and Gary Roush*



*Team WVGA: Brad Ullman, Butch Freeman, Jeff Preast and Ed McCall*



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