

The Mountain State Greenletter

Volume 13, Issue 3
March 2021

West Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association

Board of Director's Message

Unseasonably warm temperatures have made for a very interesting March. I am sure some courses have been experiencing play while others are working diligently toward their upcoming opening days.

Your Board of Directors convened this month to discuss upcoming meetings. We will be headed to the northern pandhandle to Moundsville CC for the spring meeting May 11th. Then a month later, we will be at Stonewall Resort to celebrate our 50th Anniversary and this year's Scholarship Fundraiser. A good opportunity to gather and play some golf for a very good cause. Last year we were able to provide scholarships for 5 recipients. It would be great to match that number or even exceed it this year.


Please reach out to Amber with your shirt size for the special 50th Anniversary shirts. It will help in the ordering process. Thank you to all that filled out the survey regarding the Turf Conference. Your input was appreciated and will influence how we present this going forward. It is not a secret that all conferences are struggling, and we are just trying to gear ours to truly serve our entire membership.

Stay safe and keep working hard toward the opening of the 2021 season. We hope that many will be able to attend at Moundsville and Stonewall in the coming months.

Jason Hollen | jhollen@stonewallresort.com | 304.997.9147

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Spring Fever

By Elliott Dowling, agronomist, Northeast Region

Writing a regional update on a 50-degree day with full sun and no clouds makes me, and everyone else, think spring has finally arrived. Meteorologically, March is the onset of spring and this brings excitement to golf course maintenance staffs and golfers alike. Watching the snow melt outside your home or office window lets your mind wander to the upcoming season and all the great shots and courses you plan to play.

I do not want to stop your daydreaming, I am doing the same, but there needs to be a reminder that the weather getting better does not necessarily mean the course is ready for play. All the water from melting snow needs somewhere to go. While the snow might be gone, the ground could be frozen in areas. This will create saturated conditions because water cannot penetrate the profile. Even if the ground isn't frozen, cool temperatures and relatively short days mean it will take a while for courses to dry out from the winter.

Soggy, saturated soils are not good for golf anyway, and they certainly are not conducive to handling traffic. Even when the course is finally snow free, it is likely wetter than it appears. This is unfortunately the case every spring and this year will be no different. Whatever traffic damage occurs in the coming weeks will linger at least until the grass resumes active growth, which could still be 30 days from now.

Daydream away, I certainly am, and do not get down that the golf season might not arrive as soon as you want – it will be here very soon. In the meantime, let the maintenance staff wrap up winter projects and prepare the course for another great season.

Northeast Region Agronomists:

Adam Moeller, director, Green Section Education – amoeller@usga.org

Darin Bevard, director, Championship Agronomy – dbevard@usga.org

Elliott Dowling, agronomist – edowling@usga.org

John Daniels, agronomist – jdaniels@usga.org



*Snow is melting and excitement for the upcoming golf season is building. Stay excited, but temper expectations for the next few weeks as courses get ready.
(Adam Jessie)*



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How Much Will Your Renovation Cost?

By John Daniels, agronomist, Northeast Region

A flood of new faces coupled with increased engagement by core golfers resulted in a significant increase in play at many golf courses across the country in 2020. Even with many golf courses being closed for extended periods last spring, the golf industry saw a 14% year-over-year increase in rounds according to National Golf Foundation (NGF) data. Golf facilities are looking at ways to not only retain this renewed excitement but continue to build upon it for 2021.

One area of focus are capital improvement projects. Whether it is addressing aging infrastructure components like drainage and irrigation, or updating the bunker design, many golf facilities these days are talking renovation. Although the areas of concern on a specific golf course might seem obvious, understanding the cost associated with addressing each of these components can be less straightforward.

Fortunately, the Golf Course Builders Association of America (GCBAA) has recently updated their Cost Estimating Guide, which provides average prices for 80 different line items associated with common golf course construction projects. The guide includes seven broad project categories such as: 18-hole renovation, 18-hole renovation with rototill, USGA greens renovation, tee renovation, bunker renovation, irrigation renovation, new 18-hole construction and a build-your-own-project manual mode. Pricing estimates for each of the line items is unique to each state, and even regions within a state, and serves as a good starting point for determining project costs. Along with the line-item pricing information, the guide also details average quantities of construction units.

The GCBAA Cost Estimating Guide is a great resource for superintendents who are contemplating a renovation and need to answer that ever-so-common question: “How much does something like this cost?”

Visit GCBAA.org to purchase the newly updated Cost Estimating Guide.

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The GCBAA Cost Estimating Guide provides price estimates for common construction expenses based on data from recent projects across the country.



The West Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association
presents the 36th Annual Scholarship & Research Fundraiser Golf Tournament

Stonewall Resort - Roanoke, WV

Tuesday, June 8th, 2021

Registration 10:00 am | Shotgun Start 12:00 pm

Format: 4 person scramble with no minimum Handicap

Special Club rate of \$600 per 4 person team

This must include 4 members from one Club or Resort

(Superintendent, Owners, Managers, Assistants, Golf Pros, Spray Tech or Mechanics, etc.)

Entry Form

\$700 per team (\$600 for club teams) includes: *Closest to the Hole, Longest Putt, Longest Drive & 50/50 Contests, Boxed Lunch & 4 beverage Tickets provided for on the course. 50th Anniversary golf shirts are the tee gift for this year! Cash bar and cook out following golf in Lightburn's.*

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Golf Team Name _____

Player # 1 _____ Shirt Size _____

Player # 2 _____ Shirt Size _____

Player #3 _____ Shirt Size _____

Player #4 _____ Shirt Size _____

There will be an additional raffle of \$20 per ticket for a chance to win exclusive prizes to Stonewall, Oglebay and more!

ENTRIES ARE LIMITED TO THE FIRST 36 TEAMS. PAYMENTS MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THIS REGISTRATION FORM. *PLEASE RETURN BY MAY 28th*

Make checks payable to “**WVGCSA**” and return to:

WVGCSA | PO Box 335 | Charleston, WV 25322

Call Tony Coppa for Questions at (304)280-0034

To pay by credit card, contact Amber Breed at 304-638-8978



The West Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association

presents the 36th Annual Scholarship & Research Fundraiser Golf Tournament

Stonewall Resort, Roanoke, WV

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

The Annual Fundraiser has been a huge success thanks to your support.

Gold Sponsor-\$1000

4 Person team entry, Name on Major Sponsor Sign, Tee Sponsor Sign, & a Commemorative plaque

Silver Sponsor-\$850

4 Person Team Entry, Name on lunch Sponsor Sign, & Tee Sponsor Sign

Bronze Sponsor-\$750

4 Person Team Entry & Tee Sponsor Sign

Gold Sponsor wishing to add more than one team will receive a discounted price of \$600 for each additional team!

Sponsorship will help to provide Lunch, Beverage Cart, and Cook Out at the final reception. Your continued support is crucial to the success of the fundraiser.

***We are asking our Corporate Members to please bring an item to donate to the Association to be auctioned at the fundraiser to raise more money for our scholarships! In 2020, we awarded scholarships to 5 recipients!**

All Corporate Sponsors must be received by May 28, 2021. We would like to thank you in advance for your continued support. Feel free to contact me at (304)280-0034.

Thank You, Tony Coppa
Fundraiser Chairman

Relax. We've got this.



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TEE SPONSOR FORM

The West Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association will be holding their 36th Annual William C. Campbell Scholarship and Research Fundraiser Golf Tournament on Tuesday, June 8th, 2021 at the Stonewall Resort.

The Annual Fundraiser has been a huge success thanks to your support. We will once again be offering hole sponsorships for you to consider. Each hole sponsor will have their sign clearly displayed on a tee, as well as displayed on the Sponsor Board during the event. With your continued support, we can make this year's event our most productive ever as well as great fun for all involved.

If you would like to change the verbiage on last year's tee sign or if you are a new sponsor please include your verbiage below. Please, no more than 4 words allowed per line.

Line #1 _____
Line #2 _____
Line #3 _____
Line #4 _____

Contact Person _____
Phone Number _____
Address _____

Company _____

(If different from above)

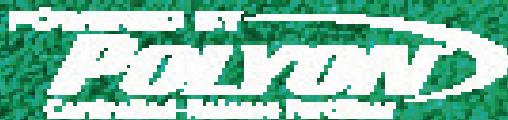
Number of Holes sponsored _____ @ \$100.00 for 1st sign & \$50.00 for additional tee signs \$ _____ Total Sponsor

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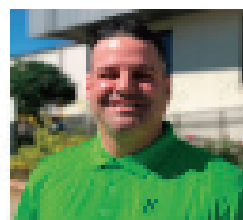
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