



The Mountain State Greenletter

Volume 16, Issue 10
October 2024

West Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association

Board of Director's Message

We had a great turnout for our Fall chapter meeting this month at Pete Dye Golf Club and appreciated the time and dedication of those that made the trip. I want to thank Tony Kowalski, Jason Hollen and crew for the hospitality and accommodations. The facilities were beautiful, as always, and the course was in the best shape I have seen in years. I would also like to thank Zach Nicoludis with the USGA and Katrin Wolfe with the GCSAA for their participation and Walker Supply for their generous sponsorship.

The elements made for a tough day on the course, but we were able to finish it up despite the weather to award the Corporate Cup to Josh Janson with Century Equipment and the Robert Allman Century Cup to me. I'm still working on getting my name on that trophy as many times as my dad!

Our next event is the 35th annual WVGCSA Turf Conference & Show on November 12 -13 hosted by Coonskin Park. The agenda includes timely industry updates, rules of golf with the USGA and WVGA, and continuing education from experts from Golf Course Industry Magazine, Rutgers University and Precision Pump & Valve Service. The trade show will be filled with some great vendors with a welcome reception and hospitality room at the Mardi Gras Casino on Tuesday evening. We are hopeful that the central location in Charleston and the opportunity to learn and network with your peers will lead to great attendance and a productive conference. Please plan to join us if you're able.

In closing, I would like to give a shout out to Marshall Klay and the generous folks at Advanced Turf Solutions for their support of hurricane victims in North Carolina. They sent 25 pallets of supplies and financial donations of \$7,170 reminding us that we are called to be caretakers of the Earth and to help where, when and how we can.

I look forward to seeing you all on November 12th in Charleston!

Mitch Roush
President, Riverside Golf Course

Upcoming Events:

*WVGCSA Turf Conference ~ Coonskin Park &
Mardi Gras Casino ~ November 12-13, 2024
Details and Registration Forms Included!*



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Thank you to Walker Supply and Landscape Supply for sponsoring 18 superintendents for our Annual Meeting at Pete Dye Golf Club!



USGA Education Seminar @ Pete Dye Golf Club



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WVGCSA Turf Conference
Coonskin Park & Mardi Gras Casino
November 12-13, 2024
Schedule of Events

WVGCSA 35th Annual Turf Conference

Tuesday, November 12th, 2024

All Conference Presentations will be held in the Clubhouse

Session Moderator: Mitch Roush, President of the WVGCSA, Riverside GC

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1:00pm-2:00pm | “USGA Handicapping”
Chris Slack, WVGA |
| 1:00pm-2:00pm | “GCSAA Business”
Katrin Wolfe, GCSAA |
| 2:00pm-4:00pm | “USGA Rules of Golf”
Ken Tackett, PGA Tour & Chris Slack, WVGA |
| 5:00pm-8:00pm | Trade Show/Vendor Reception—The Big Easy @
Mardi Gras Casino & Hotel in Cross Lanes, WV |
| 8:00pm-11:00pm | Hospitality Room—The Big Easy |

Wednesday, November 13th, 2024

All Conference Presentations will be held in the Clubhouse

Session Moderator: Tony Coppa, Treasurer of the WVGCSA, Oglebay

- | | |
|---|---|
| 7:00am-8:00am | WVGCSA Board Meeting—Coonskin Clubhouse |
| 8:00am-8:30am | Announcements and Breakfast |
| 8:00am-9:00am | Trade Show—Coonskin Clubhouse |
| 9:00am-10:00am | “The Making of Industry Golf Media”
Guy Cipriano, Golf Course Industry Magazine |
| 10:00am-11:00am | Trade Show—Coonskin Clubhouse |
| 11:00am-12:00pm | “TBD”
Richard Buckley, Rutgers University |
| 12:00pm-1:00pm | Lunch—Coonskin Clubhouse |
| Session Moderator: Russ Stewart, Board Member of the WVGCSA, Berry HillsCC | |
| 1:00pm-2:00pm | “TBD”
Richard Buckley, Rutgers University |
| 2:00pm-3:00pm | “Pumps and Controls 101”
Kevin Kemerer, President, Precision Pump & Valve Service |
| 3:00pm-4:00pm | “WVDA Pesticide Regulatory Update”
Chad Carpenter, WV Dept. of Agriculture |

*WVGCSA Turf Conference at Coonskin Park, Charleston
Hotel and Vendor Reception at Mardi Gras Casino, Cross Lanes
November 12-13, 2024*

**Official Registration Form
WVGCSA Turf Conference**

NAME _____

ADDITIONAL PERSONS _____

FACILITY _____

ATTENDING BANQUET _____ (Including Guests)

Registration Detail

Members: Number attending entire conference
_____ @ \$125 = \$ _____ (includes banquet)

Non-Members: Number attending entire conference
_____ @ \$165 = \$ _____ (includes banquet)

Guests attending banquet only _____ @ \$35 = \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: WVGCSA
If you have any questions, feel free to contact
Amber Breed at 304-638-8978

Please return registration to:

**WVGCSA
PO Box 335
Charleston, WV 25322**

OR

1971wvgcsa@gmail.com

Hotel Room Block Information:

\$98+per person

Call (304)776-1000 opt 8 for reservations

Rate valid until 10/13/2024

Creative Cart Paths

By Brian Gietka, agronomist, East Region

Cart paths can be a controversial topic. Installing paths made from impermeable materials such as asphalt and concrete is most common. Hard surfaces are an obvious choice because they are durable and require less maintenance than other options. From a golfer's perspective, hard-surface cart paths can cause playability and aesthetic issues, especially when they are located in plain sight or close to the line of play. Asphalt or concrete cart paths can ricochet golf balls farther from the intended target than a more natural surface would.

On the north shore of Long Island, Nissequogue Golf Club installed interesting alternative paths that I saw during a recent USGA Course Consulting Service visit. Several holes with narrow playing corridors offer little room for cart paths, but the course needed some way to keep carts off the turf during wet weather and to limit wear in these tight spaces. While the rolling topography makes for an enjoyable walk, golf cart use is the norm there, as is the case at many golf courses. To facilitate golf carts in these long, narrow playing corridors without continuous hard-surface paths, narrow "waste bunkers" have been installed. The sand selected is comprised of particles with high angularity to bind together. The paths also include robust drainage with perforated drain pipe below the surface and small catch basins within the paths. Regular smoothing is necessary, but washouts have been minimal.

One par 3 in a tidal area that floods regularly didn't have much room to separate the cart path and playing area, but a path was necessary because the area is low-lying. Therefore, a dark-colored angular gravel path with stone curbing was installed. The dark color blends into the landscape well, giving a natural look and the gravel softens the impact of golf balls. Curbing on both sides of the path keeps the gravel in the desired footprint, which means minimal maintenance other than occasional smoothing. Applying a polymer binding agent has been considered but has not been necessary at this point because these materials were installed in flat or softly sloping areas.

Golf cart paths placed in confined playing corridors can have a negative impact on aesthetics and play, but they do allow for golf carts to be used throughout the season, even when the turf needs to be protected. In areas with minimal slopes, consider using alternative materials that can provide a balance between aesthetics, playability and effective traffic management.

Northeast Region Agronomists

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

Elliott L. Dowling, regional director, East Region – edowling@usga.org

Brian Gietka, agronomist – bgietka@usga.org



Loose aggregates that bind together for stability yet soften the impact from golf balls can be an option where paths are needed but hard surfaces are not desired.



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Vendor Registration Form

WVGCSA 2024 ANNUAL TURF CONFERENCE DISTRIBUTOR REGISTRATION FORM

Fee for Full Conference Registration is \$350.00 and includes two Name Badges
Fee for additional Badges is 75\$ a piece
Fee for Full Conference Registration if not buying a booth is \$110.00
Fee for Lunch Sponsorship is \$75.00

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be sent to the address provided

Thank you in advance for your continued support of the WVGCSA and thank you for
making these educational seminars and functions a continued success; without our
vendor sponsorships we would not be able to function as needed.

If you have any questions feel free to contact
Amber Breed at 304-638-8978 or by email at 1971wvgcsa@gmail.com



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