

# SEA to SAND

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE HI-LO DESERT & GCSASC | VOLUME 15 | ISSUE 10 | OCTOBER 2019



## GREETINGS

# FROM THE SEA

By Mike Williams • GCSASC President

**LOOKS LIKE WE MADE IT!** October is here with shorter days and cooler evenings, so most of us exhale a bit as our summer stresses are behind us. We can look forward to scary monsters, a fat bird, and that guy who never gets us exactly what we really want in late December, not to mention lots of football!

Like the superintendents in the audience, most of us follow some kind of weather forecast to plan our schedules in advance, whether it's an app, a TV weatherperson, or via the internet.

*Just for fun, I took a look at the trusty Farmer's Almanac to see their long range forecast for the Pacific Southwest region. Their guess is as good as anyone else's! **SEE PAGE 7** to find out what they have planned for us.*

Thank you to Joe Wagner and his staff for hosting our September meeting at Victoria Country Club, as well to the speakers who made the day very informative.

Don't forget to sign up for our joint meeting with the California Golf Course Owners Association on October 30th at The Ranch at Laguna Beach. This meeting will introduce California's Best Management Practices (BMP), including where the GCSAA is with the program and how it will affect all California facilities. In addition, this will be our chapter's annual election meeting for the 2020 Board of Directors, so please make a strong effort to at-

### SO-CAL CHAPTER

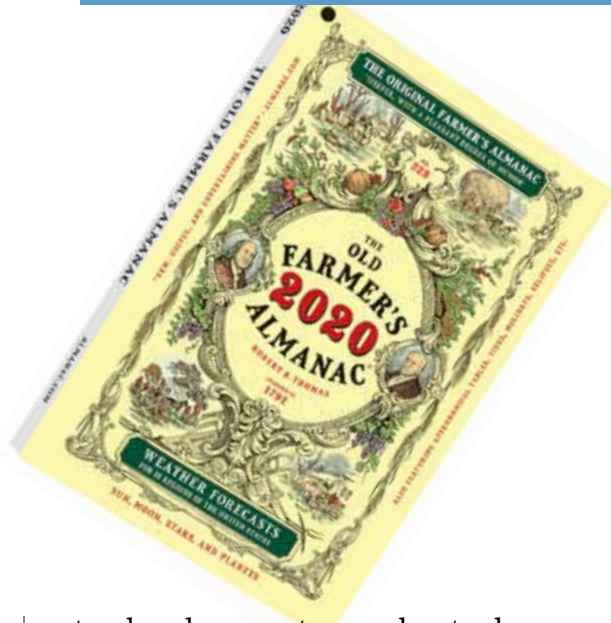
## upcoming events

### OCTOBER 30, 2019

Joint CGCOA Annual Meeting  
GCSASC Election Meeting  
The Ranch at Laguna Beach

### DECEMBER 16, 2019

Duff Shaw Classic  
North Ranch Country Club



tend and support your chapter by exercising your privilege to vote

It's a great time to get involved with your local chapter, as 2020 should be a very active year. We're looking for some great members who would like to have their ideas heard. Contact any Board member or Marc Connerly with any questions.

It's also not too early to get your sponsorships in for the Duff Shaw Classic! Don't wait until the last minute; again contact Marc to be included in this great tradition! •••

## GREETINGS

## FROM THE SAND

*By Tyler Truman • Hi-Lo Desert GCSA President*

*I would like to begin by thanking David Hay, Jared Taylor, and the Mission Hills staff for hosting our annual Scholarship, Research, and Benevolent Tournament. A big shout out also goes to the Hi-Lo Board for their organization with Marc Connerly to make this tournament a success. This money goes to support our family members in times of need, helps to pay for education for our children and others in the golf industry, and for continual golf research in the valley and at UC Riverside.*

This past year we have donated to Mark Mahady and his preemergent research. He is working hard to reduce the amount of poa annua that we encounter each winter and spring. We have also donated to the ongoing turfgrass research of Doctor Jim Baird at UC Riverside. Our association is continually looking for new research opportunities to improve our courses and conditions. We welcome any new research suggestions from our members.

The Board and I want to increase the amount of money that we can donate in scholarships and the benevolent fund. We envision safe investments to create a self-sustaining fund. The work by previous Hi-Lo Boards has been amazing to establish the reserves that we have. It will take time to become self-sustaining, but we are heading in the right direction. Superintendent and vendor support are paramount, and what make this association work.

We are always striving to grow the game of golf. The Board and I would like to encourage our growth through continuing education for our superintendents, and strengthening our Assistant Program (which is going and growing in a good way). Information will be forthcoming regarding state grants for which we have applied. The Northern and Southern Cali-

## HI-LO DESERT GCSA

## upcoming events

**DECEMBER 7, 2019**

*Annual Holiday Party  
The Riviera Palm Springs*

fornia GCSAA will help with training and education for our assistants and future assistants. They especially want to pass along pertinent local knowledge and research. With ever-changing technology, we want to strengthen our mechanics so that they can adapt to the current and future trends.

Good look to everyone this overseeding year. May the weather cooperate!

*Please note the pictures from the Scholarship and Research Tournament. They are here and there in this issue.*



*This guy looks like he knows what he's doing!*



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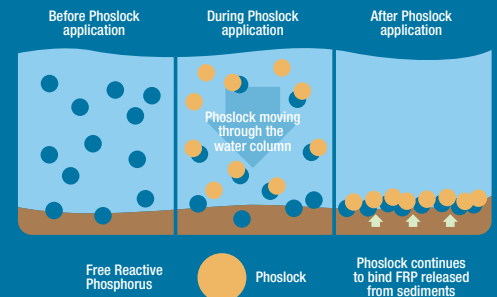
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## From the Field

JEFF JENSEN

GCSAA Field Staff • Southwest Region



I hope this finds all of you doing well and enjoying some great fall weather in Southern California! For those of you in the Coachella Valley, this finds you finishing up overseeding and getting ready for the start of another busy winter golf season. Best of luck as you move into what can be a hectic part of the year.

As you are reading this column, the GCSA of Southern California will be preparing for their Annual Meeting and Fall Education, which will be held October 30 at The Ranch at Laguna Beach.

As part of the event, GCSAA will be conducting a BMP Training and Facility Adoption Session. The session will be taught by GCSAA Manager of Environmental Services Emily Fuger. There will be a brief discussion on the importance of BMP's, but the bulk of the content will focus on accessing the online tool, downloading it for your facility and learning how to make edits so the state BMP meets the needs of your specific facility. You will learn how to change the cover, add a course logo, make edits to the 17 sections, and add course photos and captions.

Please bring your laptops, as the session will be interactive. If you follow along, you will leave the session with a downloaded

version of the California BMP, as well as the completion of an individual chapter.

If you have plans for an assistant or another member of the crew to complete your course BMP, please make sure they are in attendance, as the session will answer many of the questions they may have. The adoption of the guide can serve as a great team building activity, and the finished product will assist you with communicating your overall facility management plan with staff, members, local regulatory agencies, and community.

You will be receiving directions and login information in advance of the meeting to better prepare you for the session. We believe this will be a very valuable session, and we hope that all of you attending and reading this column will consider adopting the comprehensive state BMP. To view the BMP in a PDF format, visit <https://www.gcsaa.org/docs/default-source/environment/california-golf-industry-bmp-guide.pdf>.

We hope that some of our Hi-Lo members will make the trek over to Laguna as well. It should be a great day! I look forward to seeing many of you there and if I can be of any assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me at [jjensen@gcsaa.org](mailto:jjensen@gcsaa.org), and make sure to visit my regional webpage at <https://www.gcsaa.org/resources/regional-resources/southwest>. •••

# Farmer's Almanac

...their guess is as good as any!

## October 2019

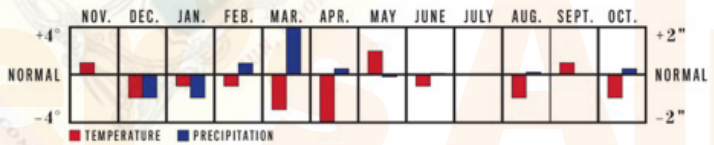
### Long Range Weather Forecast for Pacific Southwest

<b>DATES</b>	Weather Conditions
<b>Oct 1-4</b>	Sunny, cool
<b>Oct 5-11</b>	Sunny, turning warm
<b>Oct 12-19</b>	Sunny, warm north; A.M. sprinkles, P.M. sun south
<b>Oct 20-25</b>	Rainy periods, cool
<b>Oct 26-31</b>	Sunny, cool
<b>October</b>	October temperature 65° (1° above avg. north, 1° below south) precipitation 1.5" (2" above avg. north, 0.5" below south)

## Annual Weather Summary

### November 2019 to October 2020

Winter will be cooler than normal. Rainfall will be below normal in the north and above normal in the south, with below-normal mountain snows. The coolest temperatures will occur in mid- and late December, mid- to late January, early to mid-February, and early and late March. The stormiest periods will be in late November, mid- to late December, and early February; from late February into early March; and in mid- and late March. April and May will be cooler than normal, on average, with rainfall below normal in the north and above normal in the south. Summer will be cooler than normal, with rainfall slightly above normal. The hottest periods will be in mid-July and late August. September and October will be slightly cooler than normal, on average, with rainfall above normal in the north and below normal in the south.



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# FROM THE BUNKER

## GET IN THE GAME – THE WHOLE GAME

BY CRAIG KESSLER • Director • Governmental Affairs  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GOLF ASSOCIATION

*As the leaves turn to whatever shade of bland they turn here in Southern California, the raucous 2019 legislative session with its laser focus on preserving the role of the independent PGA teaching professional recedes into memory, California's GCSAA Chapters continue to roll out those shiny new BMP's, the "sea" begins to ratchet down, and the "sand" gets ready to ratchet up, what does the lonely advocate in his "bunker" do? Other than cross all those folks who crossed him in 2019 off his Christmas list, that is.*



Okay; that was a joke. "Lonely advocates" have to send Christmas cards (I just dated myself!), even to those who sent their blood pressure readings into the Stratosphere; it's part of the job.

For starters, we need to focus on that season kick-off meeting at Mountain Vista (Palm Desert) to begin communicating to a much wider audience what the insiders who toil at the CVWD Golf & Water Task Force have come to know only too well. If we don't figure out a way to get beyond the crudest of short-term thinking about the need to reduce water consumption, we'll end up ceding control of our industry's fate in that region to Sacramento. It's really as simple as that. The desert golf community has ample opportunity to work cooperatively and supportively with the Coachella Valley Water District on the development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan that works for the long term health of the desert golf industry, or it can continue to substitute short term penny pinching for long term Pound savings and end up either with a set of draconian measures in the forms of tiered/penalty pricing and pumping curtailments or a Sacramento takeover of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency. I trust everyone in the desert understands that Sacramento's contempt for the desert golf community is exceeded only by its complete ignorance of it.

Look for that November meeting at Mountain Vista and get thee, your GM and a member of your Green Committee to it. The Golf & Water Task Force sees

it not as a "one and done" end in itself event, but rather a kickoff to a series of events and actions capable of developing the grassroots support necessary to align decision-making at the club level with the interests of the industry properly understood as long-term viability as opposed to short term savings.

As for the "sea" readers of this column, we need to get superintendents to begin investing their very real advocacy capabilities beyond those areas of their special expertise and into those areas as much if not in many cases more vexing than the challenges posed in their comfort zones of expertise. The existential danger to the municipal game posed by challenges to the continued dedication of 100 plus acres of open space to golf at the expense of other acute recreational needs such as soccer and just plain open space, not to mention residential/commercial development, is a danger that only a unified industry can hope to meet with any measure of success. It can't just be all about Glyphosate or WOTUS or irrigation efficiency. Yes, those are the areas in which the superintendents are most impactful and must always be in the lead. But, at the end of the day, if the industry loses its municipal base it loses its growth sector and with it eventually much of the rest. That means few-

KESSLER

er jobs, fewer opportunities, smaller budgets, and everything else associated with decline.

Get in the game - the whole game. If there is one message that the Southern California Golf Association (SCGA) has tried to communicate through its Governmental Affairs functionality it is that one. We're all in this together - superintendents, general managers, golf professionals, municipal golf courses, daily fee golf courses, private country clubs, affiliate (traveling) golf clubs, and unaffiliated golfers of all stripes. Only by working together can we hope to succeed as an industry.

We had strong winds at our backs that propelled us forward for a long time, enabling us to prosper without having to give much thought to anything save our own little corner of the golf universe. Those winds subsided some 12 years ago and have

been replaced by headwinds of ever increasing velocity. Yes, we're getting better at the collaboration necessary to navigate them, and as long as the current economic expansion, now the longest in the history of the American business cycle, continues unabated, the current pace of collaborative engagement is likely good enough. But what goes up does not go up forever. Whether 2020 or 2021 or even 2022, we will enter another recession; how deep is anybody's guess. And when we do, those headwinds will make today's version seem mild in comparison.

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## Hi-Lo Desert Golf Course Superintendents Association's 2019 Scholarship & Research Tournament



*Supporting the chapter's scholarship, research and benevolence programs, Mission Hills Country Club was the host course for the Hi-Lo Desert Golf Course Superintendents Association's 2019 Scholarship & Research Tournament.*

**The two-day event, which began with a cocktail party at The Nest in Indian Wells on the night prior to the tournament, drew nearly 120 participants, who were divided into three evenly matched flights to level the playing field.**

Recent proceeds from the S & R funded \$15,000 in scholarships in 2018, poa research at Heritage Palms, contributions to the California Turf and Landscape Foundation (CTLF, which funds turf research at University of California Riverside), and a donation in support of member Ron Cressy, who recently underwent brain surgery. This year's scholarships will be awarded at the December 7th Holiday Party at The Riviera Palm Springs.



*Cocktails at The Nest*






Thank you to all who helped make the event a success, and we hope you will join us at the December 7th Holiday Party to recognize the 2019 scholarship winners!

*Please see page 15 for a complete list of our generous sponsors. We couldn't do the event without their support!*

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## Blast From The Past

The following handwritten Board meeting minutes and the typewritten transcribed minutes, both from the June 27, 1946 GCSASC Board meeting, were contributed by Steve Plummer of Agri-Turf.

Golf Course Supts. Assn. of So. Calif.  
Hollywood Park June 27-1946  
Weather Blessing - Frank Frast  
Twenty nine of the Assn. members met at  
Inglewood Country Club at 11-A.M.  
to be taken in charge by Mr. Marzolf  
Chrmn. lead the way to Hollywood Park,  
after inspecting two plots of Turf which  
had been treated with different kinds  
of Fertilizers and viewing the  
Beauty of the Flowers, We proceeded  
to the Turf Club where a good lunch  
and refreshments were enjoyed.  
It was noted that some of the Boys  
were more experienced at picking Highballs  
than Barry Tails, in fact, one man  
(not mentioning any names) was able to  
pick Six Highballs, in the seventh  
Race  
However, Our Thanks to Mr. Marzolf  
whose untiring efforts and time was  
given to make this day a success,  
and many thanks to Our Friends  
the Equipment Dealers who contributed  
funds so generously, to make the day  
a double success.

Jack Pahl  
Secty.

Golf Course Supts. Assn of So. California -Minutes of Meeting -Hollywood  
Park - June 27, 1946 - Weather and Blessing - Frank Frast(?)

Twenty Nine of the Assn. Members met at Inglewood Country Club at 11 a.m., to be  
taken in charge by Mr. Marzolf. Chrmn (?) lead the way to Hollywood Park.

After inspecting the plots of Turf which had been treated with different kinds of  
Fertilizers, and viewing the Beauty of the Flowers, We proceeded to the Turf Club  
where a good lunch and refreshments were enjoyed.

It was noted that some of the Boys were more experienced at picking Highballs than  
Barry Tails(?). In fact, one man (not mentioning any names) was able to pick Six  
Highballs in the seventh race.

However, Our thanks to Mr. Marzolf who's untiring efforts and time were given to  
make this day a success, and many thanks to Our Friends the Equipment Dealers who  
contributed funds so generously to make the day a double success.

Jack Pahl, Secty.

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**For more information contact:**

Kimberly Gard  
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