

SEA to SAND

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE HI-LO DESERT & GCSASC | VOLUME 15 | ISSUE 9 | SEPTEMBER 2019



GREETINGS

FROM THE SEA

By Mike Williams • GCSASC President

Thank you to all attended UCR's Field day earlier this month. It's always nice to hear updates from Dr. Baird and his staff at UCR on their findings from the testing of different products on various turf types. It's good information that we all can use and help support us as a Superintendent Chapter.

The board has been busy planning some upcoming events for the membership for late September and October. On September 23rd, we will have a chapter meeting at Victoria Country Club in Riverside, followed by a joint meeting with the California Golf Course Owners Association on October 30th at The Ranch at Laguna Beach. The October meeting will introduce California's Best Management Practices (BMP's), including a walk-through detailing step by step how to setup a BMP template at your facility.

In addition, this will be our chapter's annual election meeting for the 2020 Board of Directors, so please make a strong effort to attend and support your chapter by exercising your privilege to vote. Golf will be included in the event, so please register online at our website, www.gcsasc.org. If you are interested in running for a Director or Affiliate position on the Board, please contact Marc Connerly or any current board member for information.

With Nick Koning stepping down from his Secretary/Treasurer position, the Board approved Don Ebarb of Marbella Country Club to this position.

After the October 30 event, our next meeting will be the Duff Shaw Classic on December 16th at North Ranch Country Club. It's never too early to accept sponsorships, so if you are planning to be a part of this event, again, please contact Marc Connerly.

With the Golf Industry Show being held in Orlando in 2020, the Board discussed the option of having another Tri-Chapter Meeting with the Hi-Lo and San Diego Superintendent Chapters in January or February. Possible ideas include USGA and DPR speakers, a trade show, and golf as part of a two-day event. Meeting location is undetermined, but the Temecula location seemed to work last time and is a possibility for 2020.

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

GREETINGS

FROM THE SAND

By Tyler Truman • Hi-Lo Desert GCSA President

HI-LO DESERT GCSA

upcoming events

DECEMBER 7, 2019*Annual Holiday Party**The Riviera Palm Springs*

Melanoma

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For every hour they play, recreational golfers can receive 3.5 to 5.4 times the amount of UV radiation exposure needed to cause sunburn.

And it's not just the sun that makes golfing so dangerous; features on the golf course, like water in ponds and sand in sand traps, can reflect UV radiation back at golfers so that it hits their skin a second time.

Maybe it's just me, but as I have gotten older I have started to become more health conscious, and concerned with what is happening to my body. I'm still not perfect at monitoring my health, but trying to get better.

Recently I sat talking with my wife about an area on the top of my head that was bugging me because it was constantly dry and itchy. She

took a look and said, "You need to make an appointment to see your doctor for your annual physical, and to ask them to check your head for the possible start of cancer."

Yes, I said it: "Cancer." I don't believe I have it, but will be going in to get it checked out. This brings me to talk about what we as superintendents are doing to prevent these types of things from happening. We have seen through the GCSAA talks and articles written about this subject that we can't take these concerns lightly.

In doing some research, I came across a great website titled "Skin Cancer Foundation." that gives a lot of great information on types of skin cancer, as well as protection options and how to conduct self-examinations.

Below is some information I pulled off of their site that pertains to us in the golf industry:

- For every hour they play, recreational golfers can receive 3.5 to 5.4 times the amount of UV radiation exposure needed to cause sunburn. And it's not just the sun that makes golfing so dangerous; features on the golf course, like water in ponds and sand in sand traps, can reflect UV radiation back at golfers so that it hits their skin a second time.

[continued on page 7]



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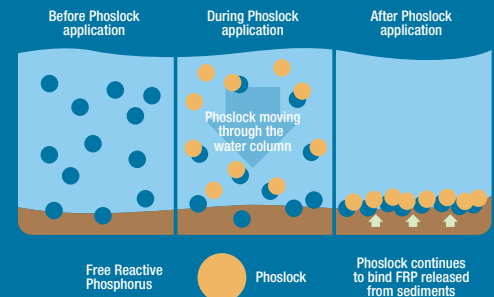
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From the Field

JEFF JENSEN

GCSAA Field Staff • Southwest Region



After years of hard work, the California Golf Course Superintendents Association, with assistance from its allied golf partners, recently published the California Golf Industry Best Management Practices Guide (BMPs).

Developed using the Best Management Practices Planning Guide and Template created by the GCSAA, California has been working on the project for two years.

The California Golf Industry BMP Committee includes superintendents from each of the California GCSA's six regional chapters (Central California, Hi-Lo Desert, Northern California, San Diego, Sierra Nevada, Southern California), as well as the California Alliance for Golf, California Golf Course Owners Association, GCSAA, Southern California Golf Association, Southern California PGA, University of California Cooperative Extension, and the USGA.

The committee employed the services of Blankinship & Associates, Inc. out of Davis, California to serve as the environmental consultant and project manager.

The BMP guide features 17 sections: Planning, Design and Construction; Irrigation; Surface Water Management; Water Quality Management; Nutrient Management; Cultural Practices; Integrated Pest Management; Pesticide Management; Pollinator Protection and Enhancement; Maintenance Operations; Landscape and Out of Play Areas; Energy; Groundwater Management; Air Quality; Threatened and Endangered Species; Urban Golf and Seaside Golf.

Along with the BMPs and links to state regulations and agencies, a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS) section is available at the end of each section, serving as a quick reference for everyday situations and questions with which a golf course superintendent may be confronted.

The guide was financed through the annual California GCSA "California Room" hospitality event held at the Golf Industry Show, as well as \$15,000 in grants from GCSAA.

The digital platform allows superintendents to customize the guides to the unique needs of their facility or agronomic region, and can be printed in either a PDF or Word format for distribution to policymakers, golfers, environmental groups, regulatory agencies and communities. Access to the document is free of charge for GCSAA members. View the document in its entirety here.

A big thank you goes out to the committee volunteers for their time and effort in making this guide a reality, as well as the sponsors at the yearly California Room, who helped contribute financially to the project. You have created a legacy that will serve future generations in the golf maintenance industry.

I appreciate your continued support and if I can be of any assistance please don't hesitate to contact me at jjensen@gcsaa.org and visit my website at <https://www.gcsaa.org/resources/regional-resources/secure/southwest> for updates from around the region as well as a calendar of events.

SKIN CANCER (from page 3)

- Additionally, 78 percent of golfers share another skin cancer risk factor: they are male. Starting at age 40, the incidence of melanoma is higher in men than in women, and this trend becomes more pronounced with each decade. The majority of people diagnosed with melanoma are white men over age 50. In the US today there are an estimated 8.6 million golfers ages 50 and above.
- 65% of melanoma cases are associated with exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun.
- Men over age 40 have the highest annual exposure to UV radiation.
- The majority of people diagnosed with melanoma are white men over age 50.
- Melanoma is one of only three cancers with an increasing mortality rate for men.

GENERAL SKIN CANCER INFORMATION

- Each year in the U.S., over 5.4 million cases of nonmelanoma skin cancer are treated in more than 3.3 million people.
- Each year, there are more new cases of skin cancer than the combined incidence of cancers of the breast, prostate, lung and colon.
- Over the past three decades, more people have had skin cancer than all other cancers combined.
- One in five Americans will develop skin cancer in the course of a lifetime.
- Between 40 and 50 percent of Americans who live to age 65 will have either basal cell carcinoma or squamous cell at least once.

[continued on page 9]



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SKIN CANCER (from page 7)

- Basal cell carcinoma (BCC) is the most common form of skin cancer. BCCs are rarely fatal, but can be highly disfiguring if allowed to grow
- Squamous cell carcinoma is the second most common form of skin cancer.
- Organ transplant patients are approximately 100 times more likely than the general public to develop squamous cell carcinoma.
- Actinic keratosis is the most common precancer; it affects more than 58 million Americans.
- About 90 percent of nonmelanoma skin cancers are associated with exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun.
- The annual cost of treating skin cancers in the U.S. is estimated at \$8.1 billion; about \$4.8 billion for nonmelanoma skin cancers and \$3.3 billion for melanoma.



I would encourage all of us, if you haven't yet done so, get the wide brim hats out and apply the sunscreen on a regular basis.

For more information about skin cancer and the preventative measures you can take starting today, visit [here](#).

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FROM THE BUNKER

“IT’S NEVER OVER.”

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

Legendary Los Angeles Daily News political reporter Rick Orlov had a famous saying: “It’s never over.” When queried about what “it” might be, his explanation wasn’t Clintonesque. It was simple. It didn’t matter what “it” was; whatever it was, “it” wasn’t finished. Whether one had just suffered an ignominious defeat or a career crowning victory, the sun would come up the next day and with it challenges; sometimes the challenges associated with triumph, sometimes the challenges associated with crushing defeat, but challenges nonetheless.



RUDYARD KIPLING made the point more poetically - “If you can meet triumph and disaster and treat those two imposters just the same . . . yours is the Earth and everything in it.”

Whether politics or poetry, it’s a point worth giving pause and considering. And that’s just what I am going to do in this month’s column. Take a pause from the ongoing assault on our game’s sensibilities and reflect on what ultimately matters more than what the world throws our way - and that’s what we do to deal with what the world throws our way, the things over which we have control as opposed to the things over which we don’t.

On that count, put me in the decidedly optimistic column. The California golf community has never been better organized, better focused, and better prepared to deal with the vicissitudes of its particular life than it is right now. After enjoying decades of strong tailwinds that it mistook for the normal order of things, the industry has begun to understand

that winds can change direction and today’s “normal” is a stiff breeze in the face that shows signs of only grow stronger over time.

Take research. A few short years ago the industry was worried that its last turf research program (UC Riverside) was in jeopardy of folding and its strongest hands-on turf training program (Cal Poly Pomona) was destined to remain leaderless. Today, Jim Baird’s UC program may not be back to the levels of those days when the State of California poured lots of money into the UC system, but it is so much more robust than it was just a few short few years ago that worry about closure has been turned into plans for more research projects. While Dr. Baird deserves much of the credit for the turnaround, I’m sure he would share some of that credit with the golf community, particularly the USGA, which has made some rather large grants to research of particular interest to the California golf

KESSLER

community. The SCGA has been a financial supporter of the UC Riverside program for years and couldn't be more pleased that everything is back on an upward trajectory.

Today, Cal Poly Pomona again has a Turf specific program with someone from the turf sector to lead it, Dr. Priti Saxena, and has added a small practical research component to complement it. The local GCSAA Chapters have been meeting the State University's commitment with their own contributions, and while the SCGA is not currently a supporter, I think I can predict that the fellow who oversees those research budgets will find a way to begin squeezing some resources from them.

Take advocacy. After years of trying to correlate mission with structure, the California Alliance for Golf (CAG) has altered its structure to better meet a mission that is now laser focused on those regulatory and legislative matters of a statewide nature - and laser focused in a way capable of actually addressing those legislative and regulatory matters in an effective way. More details about that will come out later in 2019. For now, suffice it to say that this statewide Alliance that all golf's sectors have long acknowledged as indispensable to meeting those headwinds described above is now positioned with a financially sustainable base capable of growing in stature and reach over time. I could not have written those words before today.

[continued on page 13]



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KESSLER (from page 11)

Take collaboration. When I began preaching the virtues of collective effort in those areas where only collective effort yields palpable results - e.g., advocacy, research, education, public relations - I wasn't exactly a lone voice in the wilderness. There were others, but whereas we were once a distinct minority, we are now in the majority, and an overwhelming majority at that. The way we have worked together on those issues of most pressing concern in 2019 - e.g., AB 5 [independent contractors] and Glyphosate - has almost been a textbook example of seamlessness. The collaborative effort re AB 5, an effort replete with support from the game's biggest national organizations (GCSAA, PGA of America, NGCOA and We are Golf), has been an exercise in focused coordination that golf was simply incapable of doing a few short years ago. The coordinated efforts to deal with Glyphosate restrictions as they have been thrown at us jurisdiction by jurisdiction - again, I can't emphasize enough how seamless the game's coming together on this issue has been in stark contrast to what I have no doubt would have been a splintered and ineffective response but a few short years ago. And I'm sure you understand that "seamless" presages better outcomes than "impossible."

Take resources. The California Chapter of the NGCOA has taken it upon itself to develop a statewide public relations campaign called "Golf is Good," a fledgling effort to be sure, but the statewide game has to begin somewhere to meet its image problem. And that organization is to be credited with getting us started. The SCGA has long dedicated resources to the game's advocacy effort by retaining staffers to do the heavy lifting involved in that labor intensive exercise - heavy lifting that has


been integral to so many of the successes the game has enjoyed in the public arena in the last few years. And what about those California Best Management Practices (BMP's) that the state's six GCSAA Chapters just released with substantial assistance from the national GCSAA? How long have we all opined on the value such a document would be for the California golf industry?

Finally, coming to terms with reality. My optimism is not born of any naïve belief that positive invocation is its own reward, but rather a conviction forged from experience that facing challenges head-on makes possible better outcomes - "possible," not inevitable. By coming to terms with the reality of those winds shifting from back to front, golf is putting itself squarely in front of its challenges and in the process making possible those better outcomes. It doesn't get any better than that. •••



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Goodbye Summer

By Gerad Nelson, Porcupine Creek Golf Club

Another summer in the desert has come and gone! Well, kind of - it's still forecasted for 110 degrees the week of this writing. Although football and school have now officially started, it's still quite warm. Anyway, I hope everybody had a chance to get out of the heat this summer and prepare for the upcoming season.

I can't believe overseed is just around the corner. The overseed preparations have started and the anticipation of the new season has begun. I look forward to overseed each year, not because of the long

hours and countless days, but for the chance to showcase the golf course again. We basically have the unique opportunity to start over each year with a fresh coat of beautiful green grass!

All the hard work the crew put in during the summer performing aerification, topdressing, drainage, and many other projects will pay dividends in the overseed process. This is one of my favorite things about working in the Coachella Valley. Everybody heads North, and when they return in mid-October, things look just like they did when they left.

I'm looking forward to another great season and I hope the best to all of you! •••

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Golf is Good Ambassador Program

Overview

The California Golf Course Owners Association (CGCOA) is taking an active leadership role in statewide government advocacy. The CGCOA Golf is Good Ambassador Program organizes golf industry representatives, matching them with the legislators representing the district in which the ambassador's golf course is located, and guiding ambassadors in the process of advancing the messages and priorities of California's golf industry.

CGCOA is seeking golf course owners, general managers, superintendents, golf professionals, even amateur golfers and others passionate about protecting the game of golf and promoting public policies that enable golf to flourish in California.

Ambassador Training and Education

Golf is Good Ambassadors will receive the tools and training necessary to become effective advocates for golf. Resources include a recorded video presentation that can be viewed at the ambassador's leisure covering the basics of advocacy, periodic live online trainings addressing current issues and messages, handouts detailing the Golf is Good messages and positions on key public policy issues.

Golf is Good Ambassadors who are GCSAA members will receive GCSAA service points:

- GCSAA members serving in an ambassador capacity with the CGCOA will receive .25 points per year for the position and then can accumulate additional points (.25 per activity) for activities such as participating in a state golf day or being involved in an outreach effort.

Golf is Good Ambassadors who are PGA of America members will receive PGA service credits (details available soon).

Recognition

Ambassadors have the opportunity to win the CGCOA Golf is Good Ambassador Award, which honors individual ambassadors who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and engagement in advocacy through outreach and relationship development with a member of the California legislature.

Application

Take the next step to becoming an advocate for golf by completing the attached Golf is Good Ambassador Application and returning it to CGCOA, 2235 Park Towne Cir., 2nd Floor, Sacramento, CA 95825, or complete the application online at www.cgcoa.net/golf-is-good/. Have questions? Call CGCOA at (916) 485-6361 or email info@golfcalifornia.org.

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NOTHING LIKE OCTOBER BASEBALL!

By Don Ebarb, Marbella Country Club

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“Da Bronx,” “The Boogie Down,” where hip hop music all started and home of the New York Yankees! You can feel the weather start to change as we approach October, and baseball season is just about to get started.

The Los Angeles Dodgers just clinched their 7th division title in a row. What’s going to happen now? Ebarb might know.

A couple of interesting things have happened recently around the league. Dave Dombrowski, a Hall of Fame general manager was just released from his post as Director of Baseball Operations for the Boston Red Sox, just one year after winning the World Series. I always speak of the passion and intensity of the Sox/Yanks rivalry, and it’s no coincidence that Dombrowski, with the highest payroll in baseball (\$220 million), a few bad contracts, depleting the farm system, coupled with an 18-game deficit in the win column to the Evil Empire was a perfect recipe to get axed in Beantown.

They say history always repeats itself, and we could be looking at a very similar situation to what went on in the nineties. The Los Angeles Dodgers, who just clinched their 7th division title in a row and looking to head back to the World Series for the third straight time, are eerily like the Atlanta Braves of the 1990’s. The Braves won 14 straight division titles from 1991 to 2005. Absolutely remarkable, but they had only one World Series title to show for that unprecedented run in five trips to the Fall Classic, and the Dodgers are well on their way to repeating that misfortune.

The American League will be a gauntlet to get through this year, especially with the Houston Astros and Justin Verlander, who must be on the same plan as Tom Brady because Verlander and Brady seem not only to look younger as they age, but improve in their careers.

The Yankees play well at home, and if they can sneak a few more wins to receive home field advantage throughout the playoffs it will be a very difficult task to get through “The Boogie Down” and that short porch in right field.

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Hi-Lo Desert GCSA Making a Difference

**Reprinted with authorization from Ron Cressy*

The following thank you letter was received from Hi-Lo Desert member Ron Cressy (Sunrise Country Club) in response to a benevolent contribution made by the Hi-Lo Desert Board.



SUNRISE
COUNTRY CLUB

July 15, 2019

Dear Hi-Lo Board of Directors,

Last week I received an awesome gift from all of you on the Board! It was a great surprise! It was to help with extra costs concerning my recent brain surgery I had this past April. The surgery went perfect, but I was off work for nearly 2 months. So, this gift was greatly appreciated! Plus, it came from my friends and peers, which made it that much more special! Anyway, I'm back at work overseeing our new irrigation system going in and I feel great!

So, thanks again to all who made this gift possible.

Sincerely,

Ron Cressy & The entire Cressy Gang

Sunrise Country Club

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To the Board of Directors and members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Southern California (GCSASC):

I would like to say "Thank you!" for the turf scholarship. Thanks to the generous support, I have an opportunity to continue educational pursuits in the field of Turfgrass Management and devote myself to the Golf Course Industry.

It's my honor to be the recipient of the 2019 turf scholarship. Thanks, again!

Phuc Nguyen
Turf Student, Cal Poly Pomona

Thank you card received from Phuc Nguyen, 2019 GCSASC turf scholarship winner.



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“I really want everyone to know how much I appreciate this scholarship! Thank you so much for your support and generosity. It means a lot!”

*Savannah Stambaugh
2019 Legacy Scholarship Winner*



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