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In This Issue ...

President's Message, Page 2

Superintendent Spotlight, Page 3

Scholarship Winners, Page 4

Assistants Championship, Page 5

Memorial Tournament Recap, Pages 6-7

Director's Corner, Pages 8-9

Colorado Basin Golf & Water Summit, Pages 10-11

RMGCSA SMS, Page 15

Industry Partners, Pages 16-17

RMGCSA Events, Page 18

President's Message

by Jeff Wichman, Superintendent, Patty Jewett Golf Course



The Colorado Golf Coalition had a Leadership Breakfast on Wednesday, June 7, 2023 from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM at The Columbine Country Club.

The following groups were part of the Colorado Golf Coalition: Colorado Golf Association, Mile High Chapter Club Management Association of America, PGA Colorado Section, and the RMGCSA. Also in attendance was the National Golf Course Owners Association.

The meeting started off with introductions. Representing the RMGCSA was Gary Leeper (Executive Director), Jeff Wichman (RMGCSA President), Kevin Kallas (RMGCSA Vice President), Aaron Fankhauser (RMGCSA Sectary/Treasurer) and Paul Sibley (Past President RMGCSA). Our Lobbyist, Jennifer Cassell, kicked off the meeting with the 2023 legislative session summary.

There was a total of 683 bills introduced this session with roughly 550 of them passing the full process. The Governor has already signed more than 250 bills and has until June 7 to sign or veto the remaining bills. The Golf Coalition legislation of interest is SB23-192, Sunset Pesticide Applicators' Act. Another is HB 23-1661 Environmental Standards for Appliances. This sounds like it has nothing to do with golf, but this bill has caused quite the stir with the pesticide coalition. Another pesticide bill that passed was SB 23-266, Neonics as Limited-use Pesticide.

Since we already purchase these products via licensed dealers, we took a neutral position on the bill. Jennifer stated overall, it was a busy and successful session for the Golf Coalition. Thank you to all who had a key part in this legislation session.

Next on the agenda we covered major happenings in golf for Colorado. Two great events are the US Girls Junior, July 17-22 at the Eisenhower Golf Course and the US Amateur, August 14-20, at Cherry Hills CC/Colorado GC. I am more than sure both events will be a success.

The RMGCSA spoke about all of our outstanding golf outing this year, including Golf Day at the Capital. Aaron Fankhauser sat on the panel with PGA reps sharing our side of the struggles in the golf course industry. The Rounds for Research totals \$9674.40 which was donated from 43 golf courses. We have two newly Certified Superintendents: Joe Kunze (City of Arvada) and Mitch Savage (Common Ground Golf Course) and two more have applied this year. We are so proud of our Assistant Superintendents. Fourteen have completed the Assistant Superintendent Certificate Series and 24 in-progress. I want to give a big shout out to Pam Smith, Director of Agronomy City of Denver, who is officially on the Department of Agriculture Pesticide Advisory Committee.

The Colorado PGA Section spoke about growing the game for the younger generation and I was still in shock of the announcement the PGA Tour made the day before with merging with the LIV Tour.

The Colorado Golf Coalition is also considering, every 5 to 8 years, of updating our Colorado Golf Economic and Environmental Impact Report. The Radius Sports group completed the study in late 2019 beginning of 2020.

Thank you to Columbine Country Club, General Manager/Chief Operating Officer, Jason Murphy for hosting the event. The clubhouse is amazing, and the golf course looked immaculate. I am looking forward to forming strong alliances with the coalition in the future.

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kunze.joe.r@gmail.com

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Colorado Golf & Turf
drew@cologolfandturf.com

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Legacy Ridge Golf Course
tdavis@cityofwestminster.us

Class C Ex Officio

Clinton Edger
CommonGround Golf Course
cwe80@yahoo.com

Superintendent Spotlight

by Kevin Kallas, Superintendent, Saddle Rock Golf Course

Let Me Begin

I am going to start this issue off with an apology and a confession. First off, you will notice this issue is a bit late and there is no Superintendent, Assistant or Affiliate Spotlight articles. This falls solely on me as the RMGCSA representative in charge of the Reporter. I have a time frame to get things put together and sent into the office for them to put the bi-monthly publication out, and I failed miserably. My apologies to the Association for this. The past couple months have been tough and as I laid in bed this morning way before the alarm went off to come to the course, I got to thinking I should say something.

This year started out pretty good, no great. Then, over the last few months I have found myself a little lost at times, super frustrated and more confused than I have ever been. In April it was announced that Aurora Golf hired a new Manager of Golf to replace someone I had trust and faith in even before he hired me. Change happens yet I struggled with this and am still struggling to some degree. Then it was announced that Aurora was putting its 5 courses on 20% water restrictions, more stress and unknowns. Thankfully, the wet year allowed the City to lift those restrictions to then hear a week later there was a push to put us on residential restrictions and only being able to water our courses 3 days a week. Then to top off the work stress, my mechanic decided to leave on a whim for the gas industry in the middle of season. So, while this is all of this going on, my wife's company brought in a new CEO that immediately begins making changes and employees started leaving (got to love the investment banking industry) and putting my wife's job in jeopardy. Now the stress is full on. Couple that with a few home issues and it was the perfect storm for me. I didn't crack but I shut down to some degree, could not focus and here we are now with this article. For those that really know me, this is not me at all.

Over the last couple weeks my wife and I have decided that we can't control the changes at our jobs, what is going on at home is what it is and hopefully one day becomes what we really want it to be and thankfully the right people spoke up and us being put on 3 day restrictions was voted down and now we are onto a better plan and educating better. We have both decided to stand back up, put our feet down and start running again with what we do best, let what happens, happen and well, go with the flow, like I am known for and my motto.

So, with that, I give you the tad bit late Reporter and a renewed drive for what I am supposed to be doing at work, home and to the RMGCSA association. Thanks for listening and understanding!

Scholarship Winners

Conal Miner



I am originally from the Vail Valley and have lived there most of my life. Growing up in the mountains has given me a deep sense of respect and appreciation for the environment as I spent most of my time mountain biking, hiking, building forts and exploring with friends. I have a twin brother and a younger brother who is only a year apart, so yes, my parents did have their hands full. Being so close in age, my brothers are my best friends and they have helped me become the person I am today. Family is an extremely important part of my life, and it has always been a top priority, other than school and sports. Sports play a large role in my growth as a person, they have taught me so many things like, how to be a leader and the importance of hard work. I played ice hockey, football and ever since I could walk, I have been playing lacrosse, I played all through high school and now I play club at George Mason University (GMU). GMU is a large public school in Fairfax VA where I am currently majoring in Forensic Science. The Forensic Science degree includes many parts of STEM like calculus, physics, chemistry/organic chemistry, and biology as well as anatomy components. I am currently going into my junior year where I will be able to learn about the more specific areas of forensic science like trace analysis and advanced anatomy. As of now my goal is to work for the FBI, ATF or the national crime lab when I get my degree. I would like to work as forensic lab technician or a crime scene investigator for one of those agencies. The past 2 years I have applied for the FBI student internship program for forensic science students, and I plan on applying again along with other opportunities as well. Being so far away from home has allowed me to make friends with and learn from people with different backgrounds and cultures. Lacrosse takes up a lot of my time outside of studies, however, there are hundreds of clubs and organizations at GMU that I try to take part in. Since Washington DC is only about 15 minutes down the road, my friends and I often go to see the museums and other sights that it offers. This generous scholarship will help me continue my education at GMU by reducing the cost of out of state tuition and making it easier to access resources like textbooks, software, and databases required for my major. It will also relieve the financial burden of student debt in the future, which will allow me to be more prepared for life outside of school. I am incredibly grateful to have received this honor and I give thanks to the Rocky Mountain Golf Course Superintendents Association and their board of directors. "Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work" – Thomas Edison

Kellie Hare



I would like to thank the RMGCSA for selecting me as the 2023 Legacy Scholarship Award winner. As a high school golfer, I have had the opportunity to play many courses in Colorado. I appreciate the Superintendents' and their staff's hard work and dedication in providing quality daily conditions for golfers. I grew up in Colorado and started playing golf when I was seven. I began playing in PGA Junior Leagues. I didn't get into competitive golf until my first year of high school and was motivated to improve. Unfortunately, my freshman year was cut short due to Covid. I didn't experience a real golf season until my sophomore year. We took second at regionals, and all qualified for state. My junior and senior years were the highlights of my golf career by being able to shoot lower numbers, winning regionals in both years and qualifying for the state tournament. I have learned so much about myself through golf and can't wait to experience more as I get older. I was also a part of four clubs. National Honor Society, FBLA, FCCLA, and HOSA. I was a member of these clubs during my junior and senior years and gained many experiences. I was able to graduate high school with a 3.85 GPA.

I will attend the University of Arkansas, majoring in Human Nutrition and Dietetics, beginning in the Fall of 2023. I am keeping my career goals open and learning more about opportunities that I may come across. I am excited to get involved and find clubs and activities that fit my goals. This scholarship will help me pay for the tuition.

Thank you again for recognizing all the hard work that I have accomplished in high school.

Assistants Championship

By Clinton Edger, Assistant Superintendent, CommonGround Golf Course

Another year, another champion from the assistant ranks. The weather was fantastic, and the course was up for the challenge, giving a stern test to determine the winner. The ability to network with your peers, listen to a great speaker, and make a few birdies along the way is a day well spent.

Congratulations to Joel Gould on winning the Class C championship with a net 67.

A hearty thank you to the following is in order...

We cannot thank Colorado Golf and Turf enough for sponsoring this great event.

Thank you to Mark Krick and his staff for giving us perfect playing conditions, especially the greens. The hospitality shown by Homestead was second to none.

Shelia Finney was our speaker at the event and was the perfect choice to communicate all the benefits of national membership, big and small. I believe the information was invaluable to all the attendees.

Recap: This year we had 41 attendees

Closest to the pins:

#6-Rich Moore-Aurora Hills

#17-Delfino Romero-Broken Tee Golf Course

1st Place Net and Class C Champion

Joel Gould-Green Valley Ranch Golf Club-67

2nd Place Net

Brett Nelson-Ptarmigan Country Club-69

3rd Place Net

Tim Kramer-Cheyenne Country Club-69

1st Place Gross

Rich Moore-Aurora Hills golf Course-65

2nd Place Gross

Ben Anderson-The Raven at Three Peaks-70

3rd Place Gross

Brian Irish-Ptarmigan Country Club-75



STROKE PLAY				SCRAMBLE			
EVENT	NET	GROSS	NET	EVENT	NET	GROSS	NET
C. ANDERSON	70	70	70	J. BEACH	70	70	70
B. ANDERSON	74	74	74	D. MCCLELLAN	70	70	70
R. GARDNER	79	79	79	A. FARRERMANUSSEN	70	70	70
C. EDGER	79	79	79	R. FOX	70	70	70
J. GOULD	67	67	67	B. THOMPSON	70	70	70
D. IRISH	75	75	75	W. LARSEN	70	70	70
R. IRVING	105	105	105	P. DALY	70	70	70
E. MOORE	75	75	75	A. LIND	70	70	70
J. MULLER	75	75	75	F. WALTERS	70	70	70
D. NELSON	69	69	69	J. VAZQUEZ	70	70	70
P. NELSON	69	69	69	M. WOODRUFF	70	70	70
T. NELSON	69	69	69	J. BERTRAND	70	70	70
D. IRVING	69	69	69	B. COLLIER	70	70	70
D. HARTSHORN	69	69	69	D. HARRIS	70	70	70
T. GARDNER	77	77	77	T. GILLETTE	70	70	70
				K. KRUMHOLTZ	70	70	70
				S. LIND	70	70	70
				J. PATRICK	70	70	70
				C. PETERSON	70	70	70
				D. RICHARDS	70	70	70
				J. SIMPSON	70	70	70
				T. TAYLOR	70	70	70

**Again, thank you to all in attendance,
I look forward to seeing you all next year.**

Memorial Tournament Recap

By Paul Sibley, Superintendent, Walnut Creek Golf Preserve

On June 13th the RMGCSA welcomed about 140 members, non-members, and Affiliates to Plum Creek Golf Club for the annual Memorial Tournament. We would like to give a HUGE shout out to the event title sponsor, LL Johnson, for their on-going support of the RMGCSA and to Superintendent Justin Fischer and his team for providing the attendees with an incredible golf course for the group to enjoy. With this event being the main fundraiser for the Rocky Mountain Environmental Golf Institute (RMEGI), we would also like to thanks all of the hole sponsors and 50/50 ticket buyers which helped raise over \$15,000 for research and education. Without all of your support we could not hold such great events.

Closest to the pins:

- #2 – Cole Miller – Cherokee Ridge Golf Course
- #7 – Kyle Postlethwaite – Colorado Golf & Turf
- #12 – Mike Bren
- #17 – Justin Fischer – Plum Creek Golf Club



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Memorial Tournament Recap continued

2023 Memorial Tournament Flighted Net Shamble				2023 Memorial Tournament Flighted Net Shamble			
Hughes Flight: David McCann + Chris Lewis leading at 7				Cahalane Flight: Justin Fischer + Jason Fisher leading at 17			
POS.	PLAYERS	TO PAR NET	TOTAL NET	POS.	PLAYERS	TO PAR NET	TOTAL NET
1	David McCann + Chris Lewis	-6	85	1	Justin Fischer + Jason Fisher	-7	85
2	Eric Greene + Taylor Berr	-7	86	2	Craig Cahalane + Kristen Cahalane	-6	86
3	David Brown + Dan Carlton	-5	87	3	Tracy Richard + Tracy Spence	-5	87
4	Paul Tischer + Ben Spangberg	-5	87	4	Tom Kahan + Devin Miller	-2	89
5	Chet Wilmes + Eric Strahlheim	-5	89	5	Dan Hawkins + Joel Christensen	-2	89
6	Glenn Samardjian + Jason Morris	-8	91	6	Jordan McCormick + Mike Brn	-1	91
7	Jeff Washburn + Rick Greene	-8	91	7	Jeremy Pustalis + Scott Lamm	0	92
8	John Magnante + Kevin Kallis	-2	93	8	Brian Kunkler + Parker Ballinger	-3	93
9	Al Meyer + Ryan Davis	+4	95	9	Travis Albin + David Cahalane	-5	95
10	Andy Benson + Dean Billington	+4	95	10	John Lumbrecht + Mike Danahy	-5	95
11	Kristopher Jaggan + Charles Jaggan	+5	97	11	Frank Miller + Mark Egan	0	99

2023 Memorial Tournament Flighted Net Shamble				2023 Memorial Tournament Flighted Net Shamble			
Hughes Flight: David McCann + Chris Lewis leading at 7				Cahalane Flight: Justin Fischer + Jason Fisher leading at 17			
POS.	PLAYERS	TO PAR NET	TOTAL NET	POS.	PLAYERS	TO PAR NET	TOTAL NET
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2	Eric Greene + Taylor Berr	-7	86	2	Craig Cahalane + Kristen Cahalane	-6	86
3	David Brown + Dan Carlton	-5	87	3	Tracy Richard + Tracy Spence	-5	87
4	Paul Tischer + Ben Spangberg	-5	87	4	Tom Kahan + Devin Miller	-2	89
5	Chet Wilmes + Eric Strahlheim	-5	89	5	Dan Hawkins + Joel Christensen	-2	89
6	Glenn Samardjian + Jason Morris	-8	91	6	Jordan McCormick + Mike Brn	-1	91
7	Jeff Washburn + Rick Greene	-8	91	7	Jeremy Pustalis + Scott Lamm	0	92
8	John Magnante + Kevin Kallis	-2	93	8	Brian Kunkler + Parker Ballinger	-3	93
9	Al Meyer + Ryan Davis	+4	95	9	Travis Albin + David Cahalane	-5	95
10	Andy Benson + Dean Billington	+4	95	10	John Lumbrecht + Mike Danahy	-5	95
11	Kristopher Jaggan + Charles Jaggan	+5	97	11	Frank Miller + Mark Egan	0	99

Flight Winners:

- Bender Flight (0) – Cole Miller/Jonah Purcell – Cherokee Ridge Golf Course – 66
- Krueger Flight (1-4) – Jeff Schmidt/Matt Bennett – Overland Golf Course - 62
- Bolin Flight (5-7) – Joe Kunze/Don Swanberg – City of Arvada - 61
- Hughes Flight (8-9)– Dan McCann – Aquatrols/ Chris Lewis – Landscapes Golf Management - 64
- Anderson Flight (10-13) – Tyler Gillette -Buffalo Brand Seed/Paul Sibley – Walnut Creek Golf Preserve – 56
- Cahalane Flight(14-20) – Justin Fischer/Jason Fischer – Plum Creek Golf Club - 65

Thanks again to all Attendees, Affiliates, and Sponsors for coming out to enjoy the day...we very much appreciate the comradery that these events bring out. Please keep in mind that our next event will be the RMGCSA Championships held on September 19th, 2023.

Registration is currently open so get registered early as we are anticipating a sold-out event.


2023 Memorial Tournament Flighted Net Shamble				2023 Memorial Tournament Flighted Net Shamble			
Bolin Flight: Joe Kunze + Don Swanberg leading at 11				Anderson Flight: Tyler Gillette + Paul Sibley leading at 15			
POS.	PLAYERS	TO PAR NET	TOTAL NET	POS.	PLAYERS	TO PAR NET	TOTAL NET
1	Joe Kunze + Don Swanberg	-11	61	1	Tyler Gillette + Paul Sibley	-15	56
2	David Swanson + Richard Stegert	-6	66	2	Tracy Richard + Dan Carlton	-15	57
3	Clintan Edgar + Milton Bell	-5	67	3	Bruce Carpenter + Trevor Albenally	-11	61
4	Hunter Danney + Ian Grent	-4	68	4	Kyle Mard + Brandon Wolfman	-11	61
5	Joe McCleary + Bill Woodward	-2	70	5	Mark Cook + Leigh Kriss	-6	64
6	Kyle Panchalencia + Colin Hansen	-1	71	6	Jim Taylor + Larry Burke	-5	67
7	John Torgler + Ed Rowlett	0	72	7	Andy Burt + Scott Miller	-4	68
8	David Laska + Matt Kelly	+1	73	8	Daryl Drake + John Berr	-4	68
9	Kevin Albin + CJ Meyer	+3	75	9	David Phages + Joe Chenierle	-2	76
10	Tom Wittinger + Jeff Edlinke	+6	80	10	Harold Gray + William Edward	-2	76
				11	Tom Washburn + Ann Ness	-5	77
				12	Walt Anderson + Aaron Smith	-	80
				13	Dean Miller + Eric Miller	-	80

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Director's Corner

by Jake Jacobs, Superintendent, Flatirons Golf Course

I have been on your RMGCSA Board of Directors for the past two years. When Craig Cahalane approached me, and asked if I would consider serving this position, I was honored that he had thought of me. At first, I was nervous because I had never been on a board or done anything like this!

Reluctantly I said yes, and it has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my career. Initially, I oversaw the membership area which came with challenges. There were lots of calls that had to go out to fellow superintendents that had not renewed for a variety of reasons. This turned out to be a blessing as I got to know many of my colleagues. This year I am overseeing our golf events and I must say that we have a great lineup. I have certainly been more active with my fellow members and all the affiliates because of serving in this position.

During my entire term I have:

- Enjoyed being able to work with other like-minded professionals.
- Learned to think more strategically.
- Improved my leadership skills.
- Participated in opportunities for professional development.
- Made important connections.

All of this while identifying my strengths and improving upon my weaknesses. These are just a few of the things that have come from my decision to serve.

Your RMGCSA Board of Directors consists of:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary/Treasurer
4. Past President
5. Directors
6. Affiliate Liaison
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8. GCSAA Delegate
9. Past President Council
10. Executive Director



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Director's Corner continued

by Jake Jacobs, Superintendent, Flatirons Golf Course

Board Members are required to serve on at least one of the following committees:

- Membership
- Education
- Rocky Mountain Environmental Golf Institute
- Public Relations
- Government Relations
- Reporter
- Golf Events
- Legacy Scholarship
- Affiliate
- Assistant (Class C Representative)
- Special Events

If you have any interest serving on a committee, please nominate yourself through the RMGCSA website or email a board member for more information. This is something that you won't regret! You will surely grow as a person and a professional.

Also don't forget the following dates:

- RMGCSA Championship September 19th at Rain Dance.
- Best Tournament Ever October 17th at Flying Horse North.

There is also a pesticide workshop on October 25 and please try to attend the Annual Conference on November 13th and 14th. All these events are open for registration now at rmgcsa.org.



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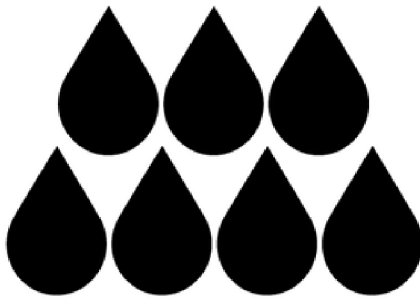
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Colorado Basin Golf & Water Summit

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**Colorado Basin
Golf & Water
Summit** October 12
Las Vegas

BROUGHT TO YOU BY NGCOA, GCSAA & SCGA

Representatives from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the Colorado Water Conservation Board Open Colorado Basin Golf & Water Summit's Education Program

Charleston, S.C. (August 16, 2023) — The Colorado Basin Golf & Water Summit is pleased to announce its esteemed speakers for the Opening Session: Current State of Policy - Federal Level. **Jaci Gould, the Lower Colorado Basin Regional Director for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and Amy Ostdeik, Chief of Interstate, Federal, and Water Information Section for the Colorado Water Conservation Board**, will offer attendees the latest update on federal water management policy, and share its impact on the Colorado River Basin and regional planning decisions. Attendees will also be given a present look and future forecast into federal policy, as well as discover what federal funding is being provided to Basin states and communities to help implement long-term conservation strategies.

The **Colorado Basin Golf & Water Summit** is a one-day event designed to provide golf course professionals with historical, current and forward-looking research, perspectives and guidance as it relates to water usage. The Colorado Basin Golf & Water Summit will be held **Thursday, October 12** at the **Vdara Hotel & Spa in Las Vegas, NV**. In one full day of education, attendees will be briefed on current federal and state-level policies, the impact of water reduction/restriction, and what the future holds for these affected states. Education will also include discussion of the best long- and short-term practices for maintaining operations and keeping golf course businesses viable, as well as how to communicate water usage changes to customers. Attendees will be introduced to effective agronomic technologies, and resources available from the state and federal governments to assist with these significant capital investments.

The Water Summit is being organized by the NGCOA, GCSAA and SCGA, and is supported by various organizations including the PGA of America, the United States Golf Association, Arizona Golf Alliance, NGCOA Arizona, the American Golf Industry Coalition and many others. **View the agenda, speaker and sponsor listing, and registration and hotel information at bit.ly/Golf_Water_Summit.**

Colorado Basin Golf & Water Summit continued

brought to you by NGCOA, GCSAA & SCGA

About the NGCOA

The National Golf Course Owners Association (NGCOA) is the leading authority on the business of golf course ownership and management. The association represents and promotes the interests of golf courses as the principal businesses and economic assets of the game of golf. The not-for-profit organization is the only trade association dedicated exclusively to golf course owners and operators. Through advocacy, education and information resources, purchasing programs and networking opportunities, the NGCOA helps golf course owners and operators run more successful businesses. **For more information or to join, visit ngcoa.org or call 800-933-4262.**

About GCSAA

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) is a leading golf organization in the United States. Its focus is on golf course management, and since 1926 GCSAA has been the top professional association for the men and women who manage golf courses in the U.S. and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to more than 19,000 members in more than 78 countries. The association's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and improve communities through enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. **Visit GCSAA at gcsaa.org** or find us on Facebook or Twitter.

Visit our industry-leading magazine at GCOnline.com.

About the SCGA

The Southern California Golf Association (SCGA) is devoted to providing all Southland golfers with the best experience possible. Its primary goal is to enhance the enjoyment of the game for those who actively live the golf lifestyle or have just learned to swing a club. Advocating on behalf of our community of passionate golfers, the SCGA provides accessible and affordable opportunities for anyone looking to be involved with the game. Whether crowning champions at amateur tournaments or providing a Handicap Index to track a golfer's progress, the SCGA is committed to providing exceptional service to its members. **Learn more at scga.org.**

Media Contacts:

NGCOA: Renée Flowers, Senior Director of Marketing and Communications, rflowers@ngcoa.org

GCSAA: Angela Hartmann, Director, Communications, ahartmann@gcsaa.org or Mike Strauss, Media Relations Manager, mstrauss@gcsaa.org

SCGA: Adam Hawk, Assistant Director, Communications, ahawk@scga.org





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chad.parron@simplot.com
cell: (970) 275-4322

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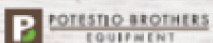


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