

TEE TO GREEN

December 2012

The Official Publication of the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association



Meeting Schedule

NEW DATE!!

December 14, 2012—Christmas Awards Banquet at High Meadow Ranch

[Map to High Meadow Ranch](#)

January 9, 2013—Pesticide License Renewal Class (Bear Creek Texas AgriLife Extension Office)

[Map to Texas AgriLife Extension Office](#)

January 22, 2013—Stephen F. Austin GC

Membership Drive!

[Map to Stephen F Austin GC](#)

March 26, 2013—Scholarship Tournament and Live Auction

High Meadow Ranch Golf Club

[Map to High Meadow Ranch GC](#)

[Register Now for Any Meeting!](#)

2012 Flew By....

As we end the year and start anew, it is good to reflect on all the changes to our association that were made as well as all the accomplishments.

We tried a different schedule, with fewer meetings, we won the Texas Trophy, we started the Rounds 4 Research Program as well as continued the Raffle For Research Program. We raised more money at our Scholarship Auction than in the past 2 years, started a completely new newsletter format, continued our Superintendent of the Year Award, and Past Presidents Luncheon, and succeeded in handing out \$17,000 in scholarships! I would call that a VERY successful year! "Well done!" to everyone who continues to support, donate their time and attend our meetings. Next year will be dedicated to recruiting new members and raising funds through the Rounds 4 Research Program.

The first meeting is January 9th at the AgriLife Extension Office for Pesticide Renewal. Cost is \$40 in advance and \$50 at the door. This meeting includes lunch and begins at 8 am. Don't be late, because they have to shut the doors once the meeting begins!

Our first regular meeting is January 22 at Stephen F. Austin Golf Club. As most of you know...Doug Browne and family host a great meeting, lunch and golf venue.

Until then, have a safe and wonderful holiday season!

President's Message— Mark Haven

What I learned while serving on the board:

It's a sacrifice. Seven years of driving to Houston almost twice a month is a commitment of time and money. Without support from the supervisor, the staff, and the family it won't work.

There are no easy decisions. Every member has their filter and sees things just a little differently. Decisions that seem obvious still require discussion.

Every complaint is valid. Sometimes it requires some effort to get to the root of the complaint but they all come from someone's legitimate dissatisfaction.

Not every compliment is valid. It's great to receive accolades but sometimes there can be more to the story. Make sure it's not a complaint in fancy clothes.

Our members are the salt of the earth. Almost all I have met and had the pleasure to work with want the best for our association and its members. But more importantly, when someone is down they don't ask how they can help they jump in and do until things get better.

The legacy supports the future. The board members before us have set things up in a way that gives us a foundation that is very stable.

It is an experience I will always treasure. I have worked with some great thinkers and doers. More importantly I have a deep feeling of satisfaction from the belief I have in a small way bettered my profession.

Thank you for letting me serve. I step into my role as Past President knowing that the association is in great hands. I know you will give Sean your fullest support!

Feel free to contact me for any reason. mhaven@rec.tamu.edu @bcsgreenkeeper cell 979-224-0184



golf industry show

2013—SAN DIEGO Convention Center

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August 1, 2012—Housing Registration Opens

February 1-3, 2013

Golf Tournament

February 4-8, 2013

Education Conference and Show

www.golfindustryshow.com

Schedule

What's new for 2013

New condensed event schedule

In response to attendee feedback, you can now participate in the tournament and the conference and show from Monday to Friday, and still be back home in time for the weekend!

New one-day fun event at the tournament

New this year, join your peers on Monday for a day of fun in the sun playing the game you love. And you don't have to be signed up for other tournament events to participate.

New day and times for some popular events

Be sure to check the schedule for updates to the Welcoming Reception, Opening Session, Celebrating Certification, and Annual Meeting and Election.

16 new seminars

Sixteen new seminars have been added to the lineup for San Diego, including new offerings from some of GCSAA's most popular faculty members.

Central Texas GCSA (Mike Chandler)—254-681-0725 www.ctgcsa.org

Lone Star GCSA (Karen White)-972.307.8162 www.lsgcsa.org

North Texas GCSA (Lori Goodrich)- 817.377.4552 www.ntgcsa.org

Texas Gulf Coast SA (Darlene Curlee)-877.448.9944 www.tgcsa.org

Texas Turf Grass Association (Shirley Duble)-979.690.2201
www.texasurf.com

South Texas GCSA (Marian Takushi)- 281.494.0094 www.stgcsa.org

Time to Renew Sponsorships/Advertising

We hope you find these new packages and rate sheets more user friendly than 2012!

Regular Sponsorship Opportunities 2013

PLATINUM PACKAGE SPONSOR*

(Includes sponsorship for all meetings and tournaments, and Christmas Banquet attendance/sponsorship)

\$700 Sponsorship

Company Name displayed at each event

Company logo in 9 electronic issues of *Tee to Green* with live link to Company web page

Individual and a guest at the Christmas Banquet with sponsorship of the Christmas Banquet (company recognition)

GOLD PACKAGE SPONSOR*

(Includes sponsorship for all meetings/tournaments including Christmas Banquet)

\$550 Sponsorship

Company Name displayed at each event including Christmas Banquet

Company logo in 9 electronic issues of *Tee to Green* with live link to Company web page

TOURNAMENT SPONSOR

\$200 Sponsorship

Company Name displayed at Scholarship and Supt/Pro Tournaments

Company logo on 9 electronic issues of *Tee to Green* with live link to Company web page

SINGLE MEETING SPONSOR

\$50 Sponsorship

Company Name displayed at meeting

Company logo on results page of *Tee to Green* with live link to company web page (must be prepaid within 2 weeks of the meeting to be sponsored)

CHRISTMAS BANQUET SPONSOR

\$200 Sponsorship

Individual and a guest at the Christmas/Awards Ceremony with Company Recognition at Event and in newsletter (linked to company website)

Regular Advertising Opportunities 2013 (same as 2012)

TEE TO GREEN ELECTRONIC ISSUE: FOUR COLOR (WITH HYPERLINK TO COMPANY WEBSITE)

SIZE	RATE PER ISSUE
FULL PAGE	\$295.00
1/2 PAGE	\$165.00
1/4 PAGE	\$95.00
1/8 PAGE	\$55.00

TEE TO GREEN PRINTED ISSUE (SEPTEMBER): (BLACK/WHITE)-Add 40% for 4 color

SIZE	RATE PER ISSUE
FULL PAGE	\$530.00(\$742 4 color)
1/2 PAGE	\$295.00(\$413 4 color)
1/4 PAGE	\$165.00(\$231 4 color)
1/8 PAGE	\$95.00(\$133 4 color)

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY (BLACK AND WHITE) ADVERTISING RATES:

FULL PAGE	\$795.00(\$1113 4 color cover page)
HALF PAGE	\$440.00 (\$616 4 color cover page)
EIGHTH PAGE	\$265.00 (4 color not available)

*Sponsorships are pre-packaged sponsorships. Additional opportunities may be available. Contact any board member with your ideas or for additional information.

Time to Renew Sponsorships/Avertising

We hope you find these new packages and rate sheets easier to understand and not so confusing as last year!



Pre Paid Advertising/ Sponsorship Packages 2013

*All Packages must be prepaid in full by February 15, 2013 in order to receive the package discount.

President's Special \$1745.00

Includes

Nine quarter page 4-color ads in the electronic *Tee to Green*
 One quarter page black/white ad in printed *Tee to Green*
 One 1/8 page black/white ad in *Membership Directory*
 Platinum Sponsorship

Half Works \$2725.00

Includes

Nine half page 4-color ads in the electronic *Tee to Green*
 One half page black/white ad in printed *September issue of Tee To Green*
 One half page 4 color ad in *Membership Directory* (front or back cover)
 Platinum Sponsorship

Mini Works \$1235.00

Includes

Nine Eighth page 4-color ads in the electronic *Tee to Green*
 One Eighth page black/white ad in printed *Tee to Green*
 One Eighth page black/white in *Directory*
 Gold Sponsorship

Pick Your Package

Combine at least 5 ads with at least \$200 in sponsorship

Example:

Four quarter page 4-color ads in the electronic <i>Tee to Green</i>	\$380
One eighth page 2 color ad in printed <i>Tee to Green</i>	\$ 95
Tournament Sponsorship	\$200

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GREEN SECTION RECORD

Why short-term cutbacks now may ultimately cause problems later that are more costly to correct.

by Patrick Gross, director, Southwest Region

The pile just keeps getting bigger - deferred projects, worn-out equipment, an old irrigation system, and an overgrown and increasingly problematic tree population. These are just a few of the most common examples of deferred maintenance and financial cutbacks at golf facilities today, but there are more. Although we want to close our eyes and hope the pile disappears, it never does. What is a golf course to do? Understandably, the downturn in the economy in recent years has been especially difficult on the golf industry. It has forced owners, managers, and superintendents to decide what they can afford to do at the present time and what must be deferred for later.

In some cases, the desire to balance the bottom line has unfortunately extended into even the most basic agronomic practices. Managers, golf professionals, and superintendents face difficult questions. "Do we really need to aerate and topdress greens? If we skip aeration this fall, can we get more play and generate more revenue?" Granted, putting greens won't die if one treatment is skipped, but it is in the best long-term interest of the golf course to aerate and keep the greens as healthy as possible. Observations over the past four years have been very interesting. In general, skipping one core aeration treatment has had very little impact on the overall performance of greens. But skipping the second, third, and maybe fourth treatment has had a cumulative effect on putting greens. This comes in the form of a dense thatch layer that contributes to soft, soggy greens that are more prone to disease. Consequently, more fungicides are applied and extra hand watering is needed just to keep greens alive under difficult weather conditions. Is this really a bargain?

A Note From Marian...

~To all Members as well as the 2012 Board of Directors~

I would like to thank each and every one of you for your continued support, hard work, and dedication to making our association one of the best in the country. I could not possibly do this without such a magnificent group of guys. I can truly say, "I LOVE my job!"

Thank you!

Welcome New Members:

Tanner Light-Asst. Supt-Sterling CC
Philip Littlefield-Irrigation Specialist-Sterling Golf Group

[CLICK HERE FOR ALL JOB POSTINGS](#)



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Auction Items Needed for the March Scholarship Tournament!

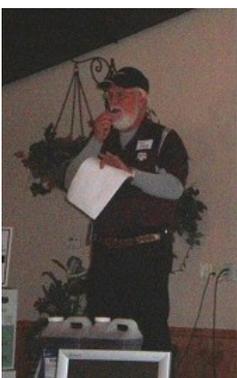
The Annual Scholarship Tournament is right around the corner.

This year we are back to a March date of Tuesday the 26th.

We are already preparing for the best tournament ever!

If you are willing to donate this year, contact stgcsa@stgcsa.org with your donation, or fill out the pledge form: **PLEDGE FORM**

Items needed: Rounds of Golf, Hunting Trips, Fishing Trips, Products, Services, Equipment



Live Auctioneer:
Bill Freeman





Click here to donate rounds of golf!

2013 schedule TBA

How to Bid on Golf
Spread the word.....

Bid for golf packages at:

www.biddingforgood.com

[Visit the rounds4research website](http://www.rounds4research.com)

Dues Renewal

There is no need to fill out a member application/renewal form unless you have information that has changed (club/title/company/address/phone/email). Just send a check or let me know to charge your credit card. I am trying to get the directory out earlier than in the past (around the end of March) so I will need dues by February 15th in order to get the directory put together. If your dues are not in by February 15th, your name will not appear in the 2013 directory. If you would like an ad in the directory, please contact the office. These ads must be paid for by February 15th as well.

I hope the price list below helps with making your 2013 budget!

A – GCSAA Class A Supt.	\$120.00
SM - Superintendent	\$120.00
C – Assistant Superintendent	\$120.00
AS – Associate (Employee)	\$60.00
S – Student	\$25.00
AF – Affiliate (Vendor)	\$300.00
Meeting/Golf Fee for all year (6)	\$330.00
Meeting Only for all year (6)	\$90.00
Scholarship Tourney (March)	\$440.00
Supt/Pro Tourney (June)	\$275.00
Christmas Banquet	\$42.50 pp

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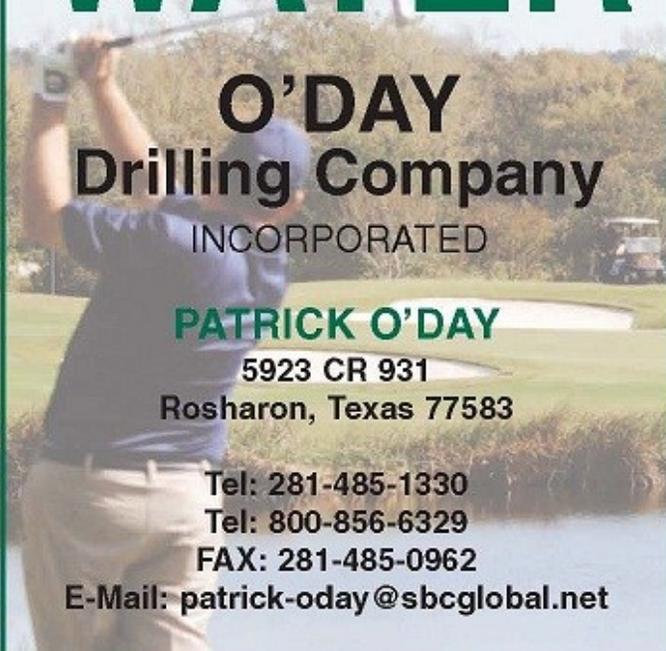
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Google GCSAA Style

By Jeff Bollig



JEFF BOLLIG

You need help and there's not time to waste.

For some, the remedy is as simple as "googling" for a solution. But for golf course management professionals, the answer is rarely that easily found. Complex issues are not likely to be addressed by typing a few words into an internet search engine. No, the best source for support comes from GCSAA – the only comprehensive national resource that exists solely for the benefit of golf course superintendents.

The following case studies demonstrate how members have reached out to GCSAA in a time of need and how they have achieved success that otherwise would not have been possible. For them, "their" GCSAA has a value that they could not afford to do without.

Getting the word out

The Gulf Coast is one of the idyllic travel destinations, but every once in a while Mother Nature will unleash her fury on that region as if to reinforce to everyone that she is in charge. Such was the case in the fall of 2011 when golf course superintendents were faced with alternating periods of extreme heat, severe drought and torrential rains. While their fight was valiant, the reality was course conditions in the short term were not going to meet what superintendents, owners or golfers were accustomed to experiencing.

"Many members of our chapter were frustrated and fearing for the worst," Louisiana-Mississippi GCSA chapter president Neil Mayberry said. "They were calling me to see how we might get a message out that would help to manage expectations for employers and golfers."

Mayberry reached out to GCSAA field staff, who then worked with team members at GCSAA headquarters to create such communications. Collaborating with university extension specialists and chapter leaders from the west coast of Florida to Louisiana, information directed at employers and golfers was distributed to chapter members, media and allied golf associations within hours. The key message points were to explain the impact of extreme weather, what superintendents were doing to address it, and the time necessary for recovery.

"The message was perfect and the speed of delivery was amazing," Mayberry, a 12-year Class A member at New Orleans Country Club said. "The feedback I received from members was it a huge help. We cannot say for sure, but many felt it could have saved some jobs for our members. It was just another example where when we need something and make the call, we get a response and it is prompt.

"The value we receive for membership is returned to us many times over. It seems GCSAA is always giving more to help us in our jobs. The job board improvements were a big deal and so too now the free webcasts. Everything we need is provided by GCSAA and we can get it right away."

(continued on page 11)



Paul Tessman
tessmanp@helenachemical.com
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(Google GCSAA Style-continued from page 10)

Passionate environmental advocate

Several years ago, Bob Cook, certified turf professional at Walden on Lake Houston Golf Course, attended a GCSAA seminar on environmental planning. His interest was immediately piqued and his view of the golf course took on a decidedly different view. So much so, that he followed the advice of a friend to pursue a position working for a golf course environmental consulting company. His job was to work with architects, builders, developers and golf courses to implement various elements into the design, construction and maintenance of facilities. Although the work was rewarding, the economy cooled and the company folded. But it did nothing to cloud Cook's focus on environmental stewardship on the golf course.



BOB COOK

"Those seminars at the GCSAA conferences really got me going," Cook said. "It wasn't that the environment wasn't important to me in my work. But I learned what a positive impact I could have and what a golf course could provide a community. It changed my focus."

Cook, a 23-year GCSAA Class A member went back to work as a golf course superintendent. He continued to share his story, teaching an innovative superintendents session at the 2009 GCSAA Education Conference and appearing at various chapter meetings. He went so far as to submit a presentation for 2011 Urban Wildlife Management and Planning Conference. His topic was accepted for delivery to academicians, planners, natural resource professionals, landscape architects, representatives from federal, state, and city entities, and others. Working with GCSAA environmental programs staff members, Cook was able to dispel many myths about golf courses with a presentation that captivated attendees.

"I'm not surprised GCSAA was able to help me develop a presentation that was right on the mark," Cook said. "Just one day after I contacted staff they responded with more than enough information. It really made my job much easier."

Navigating uncharted waters

New regulations regarding the application of pesticides on golf courses caused concern and uncertainty for GCSAA members, but the association's government relations staff has been on top of the issue from the beginning providing support and counsel.



KEN GORZYCKI

The EPA's Pesticide General Permit (PGP) went into effect Oct. 31, 2011 after negotiations in the U.S. Senate to delay the court-ordered Clean Water Act (CWA) permit for chemical spraying activities broke down. GCSAA staff has been reviewing the EPA's final PGP, which covers six states, and is working with chapters to review the other 44 state permit requirements.

The EPA's final PGP covers operators that apply pesticides for: (1) mosquito and other flying insect pest control; (2) weed and algae control; (3) animal pest control; and (4) forest canopy pest control. The permit requires applicators to minimize pesticide discharges through the use of pest management measures and monitor for and report any adverse incidents. Some are also required to submit Notice of Intent (NOI) prior to beginning to discharge and implement integrated pest management (IPM) - like practices.

Members in Illinois and Texas, among others, connected with GCSAA staff to develop strategies to demonstrate to lawmakers how the new regulations could be overly onerous for golf facilities. GCSAA staff arranged for a meeting with Illinois Democratic Senator Dick Durbin's staff and Tim Anderson, CGCS at Naperville (Ill.) Country Club, Midwest AGCS executive director Luke Cella and GCSAA field staff.

"It was a very good meeting," Anderson, a 25-year Class A member said. "I believe we brought a perspective that the senator's staff had not heard before. We came prepared. GCSAA was a big help in that regard. Staff provided us the contact and the all the information we needed. Members need to connect with their senators and representatives. I felt our meeting not only helped on this issue, but also enabled us to build a relationship for us to have future discussions on other issues."

In Texas, the Commission of Environmental Quality brought together all the stakeholders who would be impacted by the regulation. Ken Gorzycki, CGCS at Horseshoe Bay Resort reached out to GCSAA government relations staff for assistance in making sure golf course interests were appropriately represented.

"Staff was very helpful in making sure we submitted the proper comment and that we covered all of our bases," Gorzycki, a 30-year GCSAA Class A member said. "We conducted several calls to make sure we were all on the same page. Staff also monitored the work of the TCEQ. It was a big help to have staff cut through all of the legal-ease and guide us through the process. In the end, superintendents are going to have keep some records, but we were already doing some of that anyway."

A Message from Johnny Walker, Candidate for GCSAA Board of Directors 2013

As this year comes to a close, I would like to remind everyone how easy it is to participate in the Fundraisers we operate. The Rounds 4 Research program is as easy as calling Marian and letting her know you and your facility would like to donate a round of golf for 4. Marian will help you with the paper work and GCSAA will get the round posted on to the auction site. It probably took me longer to type that than it will take you to get the paper work finished. The Raffle for Research will take a little more hands on approach to help us achieve success. We will have tickets for sale at the beginning of the year for the Raffle. We need 20 or more volunteers willing to sell ten \$20 tickets per volunteer. It will surprise you how easy these tickets are to sell because of the rounds that we have donated for the Raffle. If you are interested, please contact Doug Browne or myself and we will put you to work. The funds generated from these 2 efforts will help Turfgrass research here in our Great State and also the funds from the Rounds 4 Research will help with our scholarships.

With only 2 months left to campaign for my Directorship run, I would like to thank everyone for their support and well wishes. It has definitely been an education process and a lot of fun getting to meet so many new people that share our passion for this profession. I hope that I will do our Chapter and our State proud as this campaign comes to an end. I wish everyone Merry Christmas and great times with your families during the Holidays. See you at the Christmas Party.



~If you'd like to be featured in the next newsletter, email a biography (about 300 words) and three photos to stgcsa@stgcsa.org~

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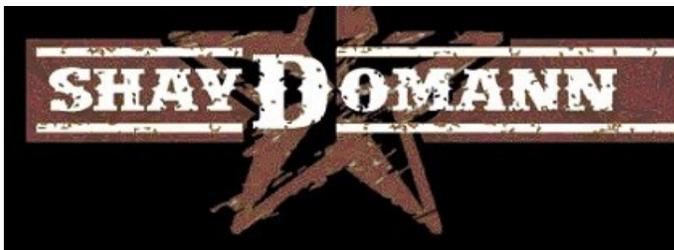
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<p>Vice President: Blayne Sparks The Wilderness Golf Club 979.798.0888</p> 	<p>Affiliate: Brandon Cole PTP 713.983.0700</p> 	<p>Director: Cody Spivey High Meadow Ranch GC 281.356.7700</p> 	<p>Director: Jeff McCrory Quail Valley Golf Club 713.373.6747</p> 
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South Texas GCSA

Presents

Shay Domann

December 14, 2012

Annual Scholarship

Awards Ceremony and Banquet

6:30 pm - midnight

\$42.50 per person

Includes Prime Rib Dinner/Desert –

Limited open bar (beer/wine/setups) – Live music

High Meadow Ranch Golf Club

37300 Golf Club Trail Magnolia, TX 77355



Casual/Western Dress

(BYOB is accepted and setups will be available)

RSVP by December 11th to:
stgcsa@stgcsa.org



A message from the president:

Disaster Relief Fund established to help GCSAA members Lend a helping hand to fellow superintendents who need support after recent hurricanes

It is an empty feeling knowing there is no place to turn. Thankfully for GCSAA members, their peers have always been there in time of need.

Much the same as GCSAA did when Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast, the association has established a relief fund by which members, chapters, industry partners and others can make a tax-deductible donation to assist those GCSAA members in need.

You can donate by check or credit card.



Sandy Queen,
CGCS-President GCSAA

By check:

If sending a check, please make it payable to:
The Environmental Institute for Golf/Disaster Relief Fund
1421 Research Park Dr.
Lawrence, KS 66049

By credit card:

If you wish to donate by credit card, please call 800-472-7878 and indicate you wish to make a donation to the Disaster Relief Fund.

STGCSA proudly donated \$500.00 to the Disaster Relief Fund

Fall Management Suggestions

By Bud White, director, Mid-Continent Region (October 2012)



Cool weather has finally arrived in the Mid-Continent Region! The last two weeks have been a great relief to golf courses. Now that fall has arrived, superintendents turn their attention to winter projects and planning for 2013. To this end, I would like to offer several ideas for fall/winter projects and where potential adjustments may be made in your programs for 2013.

Water Tests

Now is a good time to do an irrigation suitability test to determine if salt levels have been reduced from autumn rains. It is always a good idea to perform a water test during mid-summer, winter, or very early spring to determine water quality at times when it should be at either its best or worst.

Leaching Salts

If you have not already done so this fall, now is a good time to spike, apply gypsum and leach salts from the soils going into the fall and winter. Don't forget to follow up leaching with fertilization, especially potassium, to replenish nutrients in the soil solution.

Poa annua

With so many new products on the market for *Poa annua* control, it is prudent to test these materials on your golf course to see which might give you the best results. Always remember to include check plots for any product tested for accurate evaluation.

MSMA

If you haven't seen the latest update, golf courses may continue to use MSMA for at least three more years. [More information on MSMA extension](#)

Evaluating Your Programs

Close evaluation of aeration, vertical mowing and topdressing from the previous growing season is always critical for future success. Obtain multiple soil profiles from putting greens and closely examine upper portions of the rootzone with the following observations in mind:

- *Organic matter control - Is the current sand topdressing program adequately diluting organic matter accumulation?
- *Mat layer composition - Sand versus organic matter
- *Depth of mat layer compared to last year
- *Rhizome development below the mat layer – Bermudagrass

Is black layer present in the rootzone? - If so, is there root development below the black layer?

Close evaluation of these items will guide changes, if necessary, to your cultural management programs and greatly reduce the chances of problematic soil layering occurring in the rootzone going forward.

If you would like more information about a Turf Advisory Service visit and how we can help your facility, please contact Bud White at (972) 662-1138 or budwhite@usga.org. I look forward to being of service to you and your golf course.