CAROLINAS GCSA
CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

NOVEMBER 16 – 18

CONFERENCE
PROGRAM

2026

Myrtle Beach Convention Center

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS
CAROLINAS
1954

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2026 CAROLINAS GCSA

CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

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2026 CONFERENCE & SHOW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Brad Young	*Hilton Head National Chairman*
Jeremy Boone, CGCS, MG	*Springdale Resort*
Brian Green	*Lonnie Poole Golf Course*
Matt Jones, CGCS	*Forsyth Country Club*
Ryan McClannon	*Carolinas GCSA Director*
Eric Dusa, CGCS	*White Plains Golf Club*
Doug Lowe, CGCS	*Greensboro Country Club*
Joe Roberts, Ph.D.	*Clemson University*
Travis Gannon, Ph.D.	*NC State University*
Jim Kerns, Ph.D.	*NC State University*
Lee Butler	*NC State University*
Chris Neff	*USGA*
Tim Kreger	*Executive Director, Carolinas GCSA*
Angie Davis	*Office Manager, Carolinas GCSA*
Melissa Smith	*Membership Coordinator, Carolinas GCSA*

#carolinasshow2026

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Brian C. Green
President

Welcome to one of the best times of the year in the Carolinas – Conference and Show time. With the hardest work behind us, it is time to celebrate as we come together to see and learn what can make us even better next year. Because, as we all know, the challenge never ends.

Nor does the excitement and buzz around our show, apparently.

Literally, within the first minute of booth sales opening in July, 45 different companies had their space sitting in their shopping cart. Less than three weeks later, 95 percent of the trade show floor – the largest we've ever mapped out - was locked down.

That is a tribute to the health of our industry right now for sure. But it is also a tribute to our members and the way they support the trade show. Truly engaging and doing business with exhibitors provides the return on investment that keeps them coming back and entices new companies to give us a try.

Each of them is important to the success not just of Conference and Show but everything we do. Please keep that in mind as you make your way around the trade show floor this year. We wouldn't be here without them.

I am also proud to say this year's education slate is one of the strongest and most varied in my 25 years as a member of our great association. Each year, our Conference and Show planning committee devotes hours and hours to finding and formulating seminars that are relevant and revealing. You won't need to scroll far through this year's schedule to see they have done a wonderful job once again.

So, plan your time wisely because the calendar is a busy one at "The Beach" this year. Enjoy the company of colleagues, be grateful for our supporters and be proud to be part of what is still the largest regional event for superintendents anywhere in the U.S.

In closing, I want to extend heartfelt congratulations to this year's Distinguished Service Award recipient Paul Jett, CGCS. It was Paul who gave me my first job in the industry, at Duke University Golf Course, when we were both a lot younger than we are today. Somehow, he survived and went on to thrive, hosting two U.S. Open Championships and a U.S. Amateur.

Have a great week everybody.

Brian Green
President Carolinas GCSA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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P. Dean Farlow
Deep Springs Country
Club, Stoneville, NC

Matt Jones, CGCS
Forsyth Country Club
Winston-Salem, NC

R. Todd Lawrence, CGCS
The Country Club at
Wakefield Plantation
Raleigh, NC

Doug Lowe, CGCS
Greensboro Country Club
Greensboro, NC

Ryan D. McClannon
Carolinas GCSA Director

Zac Ramey
The Country Club of
Spartanburg
Spartanburg, SC

Matthew T. Smith
Wilmington Golf Course
Wilmington, NC

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Headquarters Hotel

Sheraton Myrtle Beach
Convention Center Hotel
2101 North Oak Street, Myrtle Beach, SC

Our room block dates are from:
Saturday, November 14th -
Thursday, November 19th

We encourage you to reserve your hotel room online at this link.

If you have any issues, please email Meredyth Hartpence at Meredyth.Oliver@sheratonmyrtlebeach.com

Room Rate: $119 per night
Parking: $5 per day

The Sheraton MBCC Hotel WILL NOT SOLICIT reservations from past guests. If a third party company reaches out to you presenting themselves to be with the Sheraton, do not give any personal information or a credit card number.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Tim Kreger
Executive Director

Angie Davis
Office Manager

Melissa Smith
Membership
Coordinator

Kim Clark
Local Association
Coordinator

Amber Alverson
Marketing
Coordinator

Trent Bouts
Editor
Carolinas Green

SUMMARY OF CONFERENCE AND SHOW

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2026

6 – 9 pm	**Assistant Superintendent Reception**	*Legends Golf Resort (Must be an assistant superintendent to attend)*

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026

7 am	**Blue Ridge Breakfast**	*Mammy's Kitchen*
7 am – 4:30 pm	**Registration Open**	*Hall of Fame*
9 am	**Sporting Clay Event**	*Back Woods Quail Club, Georgetown, SC*
11 am Shotgun Start	**Golf Championship**	*Caledonia Golf & Fish Club, Prestwick Country Club, True Blue Golf Club and Wachesaw Plantation Club*
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	**Seminar Luncheon**	*Ballroom DE (Monday Seminar Registrants Only)*
5 – 8 pm	**Exhibitor Move-In for Large Equipment**	*Exhibit Hall*

MORNING SEMINARS • 8–11:30 am

1	**NEW Irrigation as a Cultural Practice: Improving Turfgrass Health Through Better Water Management**	*Becky Grubbs Bowling, Ph.D.* *Jim Huntoon*
2	**Advanced Management of Ultradwarf Bermudagrass Golf Greens**	*Joe Roberts, Ph.D.* *Alejandra Sierra, Ph.D.*
3	**Understanding Turfgrass Fungicides**	*Wendell Hutchens, Ph.D., Richard Latin, Ph.D.*
4	**Successful Bentgrass Management on Greens and Fairways!**	*Roch Gaussoin, Ph.D., Jim Murphy, Ph.D.*
5	**Physical and Chemical Soil Properties**	*Beth A. Guertal, Ph.D., Doug Soldat, Ph.D.*
6	**Robotics Roundtable**	*Scott McElroy, Ph.D., Dan Meersman*
7	**Practical Strategies for Managing Insect Pests - Cool Season Turfgrass**	*Zee Ahmed, Ph.D., Terri Billeisen, Ph.D.*

AFTERNOON SEMINARS • 12:30–4 pm

8	**Soil and Water Chemistry: Definitions, Discussions and Things to Do!**	*Becky Grubbs Bowling, Ph.D., Beth Guertal, Ph.D.*
9	**Making Herbicides Work and Why They Sometimes Fail?**	*Travis W. Gannon, Ph.D., Bert McCarty, Ph.D.*
10	**Smarter Spraying: Mapping Pests with GPS, Sensors, and Drones**	*Wendell Hutchens, Ph.D., David McCall, Ph.D.* *Ken Rost*
11	**Advancing Turf Health Through Microbiome and Ecological Practices**	*Zee Ahmed, Ph.D., Joe Roberts, Ph.D.*
12	**Fundamentals of Turfgrass Fertilization and Nutrient Management Planning**	*Alejandra Sierra, Ph.D.* *Doug Soldat, Ph.D.*
13	**Aquatic Plant Management: How to Keep Your Ponds Free of Unsightly Plants and Algae**	*Rob Richardson, Ph.D.*
14	**You Pick the Pests: Turf Insect Management**	*Terri Billeisen, Ph.D.*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026

7 am – 7 pm	**Registration Open**	*Hall of Fame*
7 am – 2 pm	**Exhibitor Move-In**	*Exhibit Hall*
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	**Seminar Luncheon**	*Ballroom DE (Tuesday Seminar Registrants Only)*
1 pm	**Student Turf Bowl Participant Lunch**	*Ballroom E*
2 – 4 pm	**Carolinas GCSA Student Chapter Turf Bowl**	*Ballroom D*
3:30 – 7 pm	**Trade Show Open**	*Exhibit Hall*
4 – 7:30 pm	**Carolinas Night**	*Exhibit Hall*

MORNING SEMINARS • 8–11:30 am

15	**From Selection to Perfection: Science -Driven Bunker Success**	*Chris Neff*
16	**Strategies for Goosegrass, Annual Bluegrass, Crabgrass, Doveweed and Other Growing Weed Problems!**	*Jim Brosnan, Ph.D.* *Scott McElroy, Ph.D.*
17	**Getting to the Root of Soilborne Diseases - Warm Season Turfgrasses**	*Jim Kerns, Ph.D., Joe Roberts, Ph.D.*
18	**How to Stay Cool when Cool-Season Putting Greens Decline!**	*Lee Butler, David McCall, Ph.D.*
19	**Winter Management of UltraDwarf Bermudagrass Putting Greens**	*Jordan Booth, CGCS, Ph.D., Mike Richardson, Ph.D.*
20	**Aging Putting Green, Root Zone & Management of Organic Matter**	*Roch Gaussoin, Ph.D., Jim Murphy, Ph.D.*
21	**The Architecture of Successful Renovation**	*Moderator: Nick Mazzella* *Panelists: Mike Koprowski, Brian Schneider* *Carson Shaw, Andy Staples*
22	**Building Strong Foundation: Expectations and Communications between Golf Course Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents**	*Matt Jones, CGCS, Terry Woods* *Brian Stiehler, CGCS, MG, Chad Stockton*
23	**Everything You Need to Know About Ultradwarf Bermudagrass!**	*Moderator: Billy Bagwell* *Panelists: Eric Dusa, CGCS, Ted Smith, III* *Matthew Smith*

AFTERNOON SEMINARS • 12:30–4 pm

24	**The Ultimate Weed Control Guide (Panel)**	*Moderator: Bert McCarty, Ph.D.* *Panelists: Jim Brosnan, Ph.D., Travis Gannon, Ph.D.* *Scott McElroy, Ph.D.*
25	**Elevating Excellence: Strategic Approaches to Leadership, Scheduling and Wellness in Golf Course Management**	*Billy Bagwell, Steve Hamilton, CGCS* *Chris Neff*
26	**Nematodes: Past, Present, and Future Directions for Management of these Elusive Pests!**	*David McCall, Ph.D.* *Joe Roberts, Ph.D.*
27	**Fundamentals of Wetting Agents**	*Mike Richardson, Ph.D.*
28	**Pesticides 101 - Fundamentals of Safe and Effective Pesticide Use in Turfgrass Management!**	*Zee Ahmed, Ph.D., Lee Butler* *Navdeep Godara, Ph.D.*
29	**Creeping Bentgrass Putting Green Management in the Carolinas**	*Jim Kerns, Ph.D., Brandon Ingle, Will Landry,* *Todd Lawrence, CGCS, Jeremy Prosser, Jeff Van Pelt*
30	**Current Trends in Research and Innovations from USGA**	*George Waters, Daniel O'Brien, Ph.D.* *Wesley Stewart*
31	**Cutting Unit 101: Understanding the Fundamentals**	*Trent Manning*

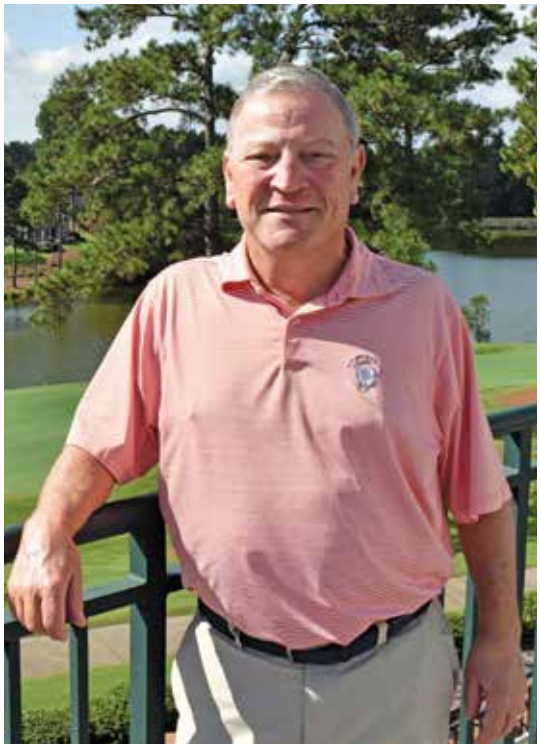
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2026

6:45 – 7:45 am	**Fellowship Breakfast**	*Ballroom D*
7 am – 2 pm	**Registration Open**	*Hall of Fame*
8 – 11 am	**General Education Session**	*Ballroom E*
11 – 11:15 am	**DSA Presentation**	*Ballroom E*
11:15 – 11:30 am	**Annual Business Meeting**	*Ballroom E*
11:30 am – 2:30 pm	**Trade Show Open**	*Exhibit Hall*
2 pm	**27-Hole Challenge Prize Giveaway**	*Exhibit Hall*
2:30 – 8 pm	**Exhibitor Tear Down**	*Exhibit Hall*
6 pm	**Distinguished Service Award Dinner**	*By invitation only, The Dunes Golf & Beach Club*

**All seminar locations will be displayed in the registration area.*

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD 2026 PAUL JETT, CGCS

When Paul Jett, CGCS walked out of his first Carolinas GCSA board meeting somewhere close to midnight back in January of 2002, he wondered whether service was such a good idea after all. The meeting started at "3 or 4 and was supposed to wrap up about 6 or 7 then we'd go to dinner," he recalls. "Well, 6 or 7 came and went and about 9 o'clock we ordered food in. I don't even remember what we talked about. But I do remember thinking, 'Oh, my God. What have I gotten myself into."



Elite company as it turns out.

This November 18, for exemplary service to his profession and his association, Jett will become just the 38th recipient of the Carolinas GCSA's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award. Much of that service came over his decade spent as a board member, a decade as significant as any in the history of the association.

The 2000s were anything but easy. Early in the decade, the tech bubble burst and terrorists attacked on September 11, 2001. Closer to home, the region endured crippling drought in middle part of the decade, and golf looked like losing access to water. Then in 2008 came the Great Recession, casting a cloud – or worse – over virtually every walk of life.

Against that backdrop, and despite of it, the Carolinas GCSA went from strength to strength. The association hired a professional lobbyist and led a new golf industry coalition that made a stamp in both Raleigh, NC and Columbia, SC. It fought off a potentially harmful new tax on golf, promoted the industry's economic impact and helped preserve the game's access to water.

Jett, along with a host of others – some of whom have also been honored with the DSA – played an integral role in all of it. As he did when, in 2008, the Carolinas GCSA became the first GCSAA affiliated chapter to own its own headquarters, a fully refurbished 2,200 sq. ft. building in Liberty, SC. He was even there before opening day helping unload furniture.

The following year, his year as president, the association launched an online auction of tee times to raise money for turfgrass research. That program has long since gone national, this year yielding a record $936,298.

"It's hard to believe that it's been 17 years since we launched Rounds 4 Research," says Jett, who drove, phoned and emailed his way across the Carolinas convincing peers to get on board. In that launch year, his year as president, he spoke - in person - at meetings of 11 of the then 12 local associations. In 2010, he helped instigate the Virlina Cup, an annual challenge match between the best golfers from the Carolinas GCSA and Virginia GCSA.

He did all that while holding down a day job - at Pinehurst No. 2 - where he hosted two U.S. Open Championships - in 1999 and 2005. Each year, he presented course conditions that served like a raw steak on the bruised eye of the USGA, on the back of course condition controversies at the Olympic Club in 1998 and Shinnecock in 2004. Payne Stewart, who won in 1999 as the only player in red figures at 1 under par, said No. 2's conditioning was "perfect."

Jett would also host the 2008 U.S. Amateur Championship at No. 2. It would not be his only closeup experience with national amateur golf. The next time around, he was actually in the field.

As a superintendent, he twice won the Carolinas GCSA championship and finished runner-up in GCSAA's national championship four times. But it wasn't until switching to a sales role with what is now Triangle Turf and Ornamental in 2010 that he was eventually able to devote real time to his game.

In 2019, he not only qualified for the U.S. Senior Amateur he made it to the quarter finals. The 2020 championship was canceled because of the pandemic but the following year he made it to the round of 32.

Jett says little if any of it would have come without the help of others including family, friends and industry colleagues. "I have had a lot of great people who have worked for me and with me," he says. "And they should all take a little piece of this award with them because there are a lot of other people who played a role in this."

2026 CAROLINAS GCSA CONFERENCE AND SHOW CORPORATE PARTNERS

MONDAY GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP
- STI 1925
- TORO

GOLF PRIZES
- HOLE IN ONE CONTEST: Club Car
- CLOSEST TO THE PIN: Huntington Bank
- LONGEST DRIVE: PNC

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT RECEPTION
- John Deere Golf
- Beard Equipment Co.
- Revels
- bloom Golf Partners
- modern turf

WOMEN IN TURF
- Vereens

SEMINAR EDUCATION
- syngenta

SPORTING CLAY EVENT
- Carolina Fresh Farms
- envu
- Harrell's

WELCOME
- Green Resource

MONDAY AND TUESDAY SEMINAR LUNCHEON
- Coastal Floratine Inc.
- Golf Agronomics Holdings, Inc.
- Land Innovations
- RNA Turf
- Turf Mountain Sod

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST
- Corbin Turf
- New Life turf

STUDENT TURF BOWL
- The Aquatrols Company
- John Deere Golf
- Beard Equipment Co.
- Revels

DSA DINNER
- ClubProcure by Foodbuy
- Geoponics
- J.K. Morro, Inc.
- Sunbelt Rentals

ON SITE COMM.
- GPI

TURF BOWL LUNCH
- Quail Hollow Club

QR
- modern turf
- Triangle C.C.

MBCC PARKING
- Carolina Fresh Farms
- envu
- Breylit Recycling Systems
- Guruscapes
- Molasses Kings Plant Juice
- nufarm
- pbi/gordon corporation
- N-Vizion Products Group, Inc.
- Regal

27-HOLE CHALLENGE
- AGSTONE

GRAND PRIZE 27 HOLE CHALLENGE
- Ei

CAROLINAS NIGHT
- John Deere Golf
- Beard Equipment Co.
- Revels
- Green Resource
- tsp Est. 1994
- NanoOxygen Systems
- Rapidwater Technologies
- NU-PIPE Trenchless Solutions

WEDNESDAY LUNCHEON
- AQUA-AID Solutions
- CapillaryFlow
- Southern States

WEDNESDAY GENERAL SESSION
- BASF
- bwi

SOCIAL MEDIA
- Simplot Turf & Horticulture

THE SHOW TIMES E-NEWSLETTER
- DIVOTS, INC.
- Links Bridges
- Watertronics

SEMINAR BREAKS
- Harrell's

DEACON GS3
- USGA GreenSection

A STEP AHEAD
- Tri-Link

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT RECEPTION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

6 – 9 pm

LEGENDS GOLF RESORT
1500 Legends Dr
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

Complimentary: Please register to attend for planning purposes.

**Must be a current assistant superintendent to attend*

In Partnership with

BLUE RIDGE BREAKFAST

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16

7 - 10 am

MAMMY'S KITCHEN

1010 NORTH KINGS HWY., MYRTLE BEACH, SC
(Located right next to the Old Pavilion Parking Deck)

FREE and OPEN TO ALL CONFERENCE AND SHOW ATTENDEES!!!! NOT JUST BLUE RIDGE MEMBERS!!!!

Sponsored by
Tom Porter - J.K. Morro

MONDAY GENERAL ACTIVITIES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026

7 am – 4:30 pm	**Conference & Show Registration**	*Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hall of Fame*
8 am – 4 pm	**Seminars**	
9 am	**Sporting Clay Event**	*Backwoods Quail Club* *Georgetown, SC*
11 am	**Golf Championship**	*Caledonia Golf & Fish Club* *Prestwick Country Club* *True Blue Golf Club* *Wachesaw Plantation Club*
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	**Seminar Luncheon** **MENU** **A Taste of Italy Buffet** Classic Caesar Salad with Parmesan Herb Croutons Italian Pasta Salad Meatballs Pomodoro Meat Lasagna Garlic Bread Lemon Bars Iced Water and Tea Station	*Ballroom DE* *(Monday Seminar Registrants Only)* *Lunch is included with two half-day seminars on Monday* *In Partnership with* Coastal Floratine Inc., Golf Agronomics Holdings, Inc., Land Innovations, RNA Turf, Turf Mountain Sod
5 - 8 pm	**Exhibitor Move-In for Large Equipment**	• *Water Station in luncheon area of trade show floor* • *Sodas can be purchased on Level 2 of the Convention Center, right off escalator near restrooms*

GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP INFORMATION
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026

Caledonia Golf & Fish Club

Since opening to the public in January 1994, Caledonia Golf and Fish Club has rapidly gained a reputation as one of the premier courses in America. It is the first solo design of late, great golf course architect Mike Strantz. Strantz approached his assignments in a unique way—as an artist, rather than an engineer. His exceptionally creative eye is reflected in the way he sculpted Caledonia's 18 holes, with large, creative greens guarded at times by ponds, streams and imposing bunkers. The same sort of majestic live oak that overhang the entryway into Caledonia similarly frames many of the shots at Caledonia, giving the course a rustic feel. Thousands of annual and semiannual flowers bloom every year throughout the property, further adding to the beauty of the experience. A round of golf at Caledonia has been described as a "beautiful day in a floral nature park."

Host:
Jackson E. Clemons, Jr.
Director of Agronomy

Prestwick Country Club

Nestled in the heart of the Myrtle Beach golf mecca, sits prestigious Prestwick Country Club. Prestwick has the look and feel of a private club, but is open to the public. The course was designed by Pete & P.B. Dye and includes some of the most beautifully sculpted holes in the area. This Par 72 beauty plays over 7000 yards from the Black Tees. But Prestwick has 6 sets of tees to fit every golfer's game.

Prestwick Country Club was recognized in Golfweek's 2025 Best Courses You Can Play in the Carolinas. This prestigious recognition highlights the club's commitment to providing an exceptional golf experience for both members and visiting players.

Prestwick combines championship-caliber challenges with breathtaking Lowcountry scenery. Known for its strategic layout, dramatic bunkering, and pristine conditions, Prestwick continues to earn praise from golfers and critics alike.

Host: Paul L. Kaufman, Jr.
Golf Course Superintendent

True Blue Golf Club

True Blue Golf Club is annually ranked in Major Golf Publications like Golf Magazine, Golfweek and other "Top 100 Lists" True Blue Golf Club represents the class of the expansive golf offerings on The Waccamaw Golf Trail located just minutes south of central Myrtle Beach in Pawleys Island. The dramatic, fun layout is known for its vast fairways, undulating greens and impressive elevation changes. The rolling terrain and native vegetation of this "Nationally Recognized" Mike Strantz design makes for one of the most spectacular settings in golf. And with an 18-acre practice facility, fully-stocked pro shop and inviting grill room, True Blue Golf Club is a must-play on any visit to "The Golf Capital of the World" Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. All are welcome here!

Host: Kevin Thompkins
Golf Course Superintendent

Wachesaw Plantation Club

Wachesaw was crafted by internationally acclaimed Tom Fazio, Wachesaw was designed to take advantage of the site's inherent beauty and interesting elevation changes not typically found in the Carolina Low Country. The unexpected rolling fairways are thoughtfully designed to weave through the giant oaks strategically placed on the course. This unique setup provides golfers of varying skill a memorable and challenging, yet enjoyable experience.

Come experience the pace of play and privileges that can only be offered at a true private club. "Our goal is to provide Members and their Guests an unparalleled experience through a commitment to gracious hospitality and exemplary service. New members will quickly achieve a sense of belonging due to the atmosphere the staff has created."

Host: Scott Fretz
Golf Course Superintendent

GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP INFORMATION
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026

In Partnership with

STI 1925 TORO

Golf Schedule

10 – 11 am CHECK- IN

All golfers must check in at the Carolinas GCSA Registration Desk at assigned course prior to the shotgun start.

11 am SHOTGUN START

Course Assignments - All course assignments will be determined one week prior to the event. Course assignments will be posted on the home page of the website, www.carolinasgcsa.org and emailed on November 11, 2026.

Registration Fee

Member Pricing

Early Bird $125 (Prior to October 1)
Advanced $145 (October 1 - October 31)
Standard $175 (After October 31)

Non-member Pricing

Early Bird $165 (Prior to October 1)
Advanced $185 (October 1 - October 31)
Standard $215 (After October 31)

Smith Turf & Irrigation's Anna Lindsay-Yarbrough and Steve Smith with 2025 golf championship winner Terry English and his trophy

Tee Gift:
Each participant will receive a Ghost Magnetic Caddie Towel

Championship Flight A & B -
Medal Play Tournament - *Wachesaw Plantation Club*

- 1st, 2nd, 3rd place Gross & Net
- Overall Gross
- Carolinas GCSA Superintendent Member Champion (Class A, B and C eligible)
  (Limited to first 100 entries for purpose of flighting and speed of play)

Senior Division (age 50 and up) –
Medal Play Only - *Wachesaw Plantation Club*

- 1st Place Gross & Net
- Will play in senior flight from senior tees

Four Ball Flights A & B - *True Blue Golf Club*

- 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place Gross & Net
- Two Person Team Event
- Number of flights based on number of entries (Limited to first 50 team entries)

Captain's Flights A, B, C, D & E - *Caledonia Golf & Fish Club, Wachesaw Plantation Club, Prestwick Country Club*

- Limit to first 150 paired entries
- 1st Place Gross & Net
- Four Person Captain's Choice Team Event (Limited to first 150 paired entries)

Hole in One

Club Car

- Club Car Carryall 502 utility vehicle, 1 per course
  Designated to winning individuals home course/ club. Winner will receive use of vehicle for one year.
- Class A, AA, B & C Members Eligible

Closest to the Pin:
DJI Mini 2 Drone

Huntington

Long Drive:
Apple Watch 1 per course

PNC

GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP GENERAL RULES

ELIGIBILITY

Players must be registered to attend or participate in the Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Conference & Show. Superintendents and affiliates will play in mixed foursomes. Contestants will select to play in Medal Play, Senior Medal Play, Four Ball*, or Captain's Choice** Division.

**Four Ball teams sign up with one partner on registration form. If you would like to play in four ball, and do not have a partner, the Carolinas GCSA will assign a partner.*

***Captain's Choice teams may sign up with THREE partners on the registration form. If you would like to play Captain's Choice, you do NOT have to sign up with a partner, this is just an option.*

TOURNAMENT FORMATS

MEDAL PLAY

- This is a stroke play individual 18-hole golf event.
- Each contestant will play his or her own ball out on each hole and report their score.
- There will be two flights divided by handicap once field is set.

SENIOR MEDAL PLAY

This is identical to the Medal Play with these exceptions: Only contestants over age 50 are eligible; Only 1st place gross and net will be awarded in this flight; Senior players will play from forward tees except on holes designated for long drive and closest to the pin contests.

FOUR BALL

- This is a two person team event.
- Both players will complete the hole and then select the better of their scores to report for their score on each of the 18 holes.
- There will be two flights divided by combined team handicap once field is set.
- Each team will play alongside another team selected by the Carolinas GCSA.

CAPTAIN'S CHOICE

- This is a four person team event.
- All four players will execute their desired shot from the teeing ground, then select the best respective shot, and repeat that process until the ball is holed.
- Only one team score per hole will be counted.
- There will be two flights divided by combined team handicap once field is set.

LOCATION: The tournament will be played at Caledonia Golf and Fish Club, Prestwick Country Club, True Blue Golf Club and Wachesaw Plantation Club.

ENTRY DEADLINE: First 420 players will be accepted. No entries will be accepted after the first 420 players or **October 31, 2026**, no exceptions.

CANCELLATION POLICY: The Carolinas GCSA must be notified of any cancellations by **Monday, November 9, 2026** in order to receive a refund.

GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

Matt Smith, Chairman, *Wilmington Golf Course, Wilmington, NC*
Eric Dusa, CGCS, *White Plains Golf Club, Pageland, SC*
Doug Lowe, CGCS, *Greensboro Country Club, Greensboro, NC*

Any questions should be directed to Tim Kreger, Executive Director, Carolinas GCSA at 800-476-4272.

SPORTING CLAY EVENT

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026

In Partnership with

envu™ | Harrell's Growing a Better World® | Carolina Fresh Farms — Your landscaping supply specialists!

Back Woods Quail Club (843)546-1466 GEORGETOWN, SC

SPORTING CLAY SCHEDULE

9 – 10 am	**BREAKFAST REGISTRATION CHECK IN**
10 am – 12 pm	**SHOOT**
12 – 1:30 pm	**LUNCH & AWARDS**

Breakfast

- Muffins
- Danishes
- Croissants
- Donuts
- Juice
- Coffee

Lunch

- Pileau (Chicken Bog)
- Green Beans
- Coleslaw
- Dessert
- Tea

Sporting Clay Gift: Shell Bag

Runner-up Alex Berry, Golden Hills Golf & Country Club, with sporting clay champion Adam Cribbet, Old Tabby Links at Spring Island

Affiliate champion Jason Gray, Carolina Fresh Farms; with runner-up Garrett Brown, Bella Mulch

Jason Gray, Carolina Fresh Farms; Eric Martin, Ewing Outdoor Supply/Rain Bird; and Allen Crockett, CGCS Winding Creek Golf Club; won a blind draw team competition

REGISTRATION FEE

Member Pricing

Early Bird $95 (Prior to October 1)
Advanced $115 (October 1 - October 31)
Standard $145 (After October 31)

Non-member Pricing

Early Bird $135 (Prior to October 1)
Advanced $155 (October 1 - October 31)
Standard $185 (After October 31)

Includes 100 target sporting clay event; breakfast, lunch and prizes. Pre-registration is required. Limited to 70 shooters. Please provide a partner name as pairings will be assigned in advance.

ENTRY DEADLINE

Pre-registrations must be received by Saturday, October 31, 2026.

CANCELLATION POLICY

The Carolinas GCSA must be notified of any cancellations by Monday, November 9, 2026 in order to receive a refund.

ELIGIBILITY

Shooters must be registered to attend or participate in the Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association Conference & Show.

LOCATION

Back Woods Quail Club, 647 Hemmingway Lane, Georgetown, SC

Located just off SC 51 south at the intersection of SC 24 and SC 41/51, Georgetown, SC
(Approximately 1 hour from the Myrtle Beach Convention Center).

GENERAL RULES

Shooters must provide their own ammunition and hearing and eye protection (standard ear plugs and safety glasses). Ammunition, hearing and eye protection are available for purchase at the gun club. For safety reasons, no shot larger than 7 ½ can be used at the gun club (for example #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, and #6 are NOT allowed). Back Woods Quail Club will provide gun rental for those who need one.

SEMINAR LINE-UP IN DEPTH

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026 • 8–11:30 am

1 NEW Irrigation as a Cultural Practice: Improving Turfgrass Health Through Better Water Management

Becky Grubbs Bowling, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Extension Specialist
Turfgrass Science and Management
University of Tennessee

Jim Huntoon
Professor
Golf & Sports Turf Management
Horry-Georgetown Technical College

Effective irrigation requires more than simply replacing water. This session will explore irrigation as a fundamental turfgrass cultural practice, connecting plant water requirements, soil-water relationships, irrigation scheduling, system capabilities and limitations, and water quality to practical management decisions. Emphasis will be placed on improving irrigation efficiency and turfgrass performance through conservation strategies, technology and data integration, and troubleshooting common irrigation challenges.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-0 hrs. NC-0 hrs. GA-0 hrs. TN-0 hrs.
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

2 Advanced Management of Ultradwarf Bermudagrass Golf Greens

Joseph Roberts, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Extension Specialist of Turfgrass Pathology and Nematology, Clemson University

Alejandra Sierra, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor Turfgrass Agronomy
Clemson University Pee Dee Research Center

The conversion by many golf courses to ultradwarf bermudagrass cultivars for golf greens requires the development of comprehensive management programs that integrate agronomic practices with effective pest management strategies. This seminar will provide attendees with a practical understanding of managing ultradwarf bermudagrass while addressing key disease, nematode, and weed challenges. Agronomic topics will include construction and cultivar considerations, sunlight requirements, fertility programs, thatch/mat/OM management options, irrigation strategies, winter color and spring transition practices, and winter injury prevention. Weed management will be discussed throughout these topics, emphasizing how cultural practices can reduce weed pressure and support effective herbicide programs. Herbicide selection, application timing, and the integration of chemical and cultural weed management strategies will also be addressed.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC-2 hrs. GA-2 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

3 Understanding Turfgrass Fungicides

Wendell Hutchens, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Turfgrass Science
University of Arkansas

Richard Latin, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus
Purdue University

A comprehensive understanding of fungicides will lead to better disease control decisions. This interactive seminar offers real world scenarios to explain how fungicides work, why fungicides work, and why (sometimes) they do not work.

Although this seminar will not focus on lists of diseases and fungicides, questions about specific products for turf disease control are welcome and are often addressed during the general discussion.

Specific topics include:

- Fungicide movement in turf: How do fungicides move in turf plants and in the turf profile–and why is that important–especially for root diseases?
- Fungicide mode of action: How do fungicides work on turf pathogens and how can the targeted scheduling of fungicide applications provide optimum control?
- Fungicide resistance: How do resistant populations evolve and how can we avoid rapid shifts towards resistance?
- Factors affecting fungicide performance: How do our management decisions affect disease pressure and fungicide efficacy over time?

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC- 3.5 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

4 Successful Bentgrass Management on Greens and Fairways!

Roch Gaussoin, Ph.D.
Emeritus Professor, Department of Agronomy and Extension Specialist
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Jim Murphy, Ph.D.
Extension Specialist
Department of Plant Biology
Rutgers University

This seminar will describe the adaptation of bentgrass species to environmental factors including climate, soil, and exposure. Additionally, advances in improved varieties have altered how best to manage bentgrass. Practices such as mowing, irrigation, fertilization, topdressing and cultivation/aeration can influence thatch accumulation, disease severity, playing conditions, and the ability of the turf to compete with weeds including crabgrass, goosegrass, sedges, and annual bluegrass. Cultural and chemical strategies to control weeds in bentgrass will be presented. Additionally, factors that affect the ability of bentgrass to compete with annual bluegrass will be emphasized.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-2 hrs. NC-3 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

SEMINAR LINE-UP IN DEPTH

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026 • 8–11:30 am

5 Physical and Chemical Soil Properties

Beth Guertal, Ph.D.
Project Director, CEMARCH
Kansas State University

Doug Soldat, Ph.D.
Professor of Soil Sciences
University of Wisconsin-Madison

You hear these terms a LOT: cation exchange capacity, base saturation, porosity, hydraulic conductivty'. What do they all mean, and how do they affect your ability to manage your turfgrass? This seminar will cover those topics in physical and chemical properties of your soil, and more.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC- 0 hrs. NC- 0 hrs. GA - 0 hrs. TN-0 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

6 Robotics Roundtable

Scott McElroy, Ph.D.
Professor of Weed Science/Turf
Auburn University

Dan Meersman
Director of Grounds
Philadelphia Cricket Club

Robotic and autonomous equipment is rapidly expanding the options available for turfgrass management. This session will begin with an overview of the technologies currently being used in autonomous turf equipment, including GPS/RTK guidance, computer vision, sensors, connectivity, and other systems that allow machines to navigate and operate independently. We will discuss how these technologies are deployed, where they work well, and important limitations that turf managers should understand when considering adoption.

The second portion of the session will focus on the practical side of implementation. Mr. Meersman will share his experience using autonomous equipment in real-world turfgrass management, including equipment deployment, day-to-day operation, challenges, labor considerations, and lessons learned. The session will conclude as an open roundtable discussion focused on helping turf managers better understand where autonomous technology fits into their own operations.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC- 0 hrs. NC- 0 hrs. GA - 0 hrs. TN-0 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

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Seminar Education Partner

7 Practical Strategies for Managing Insect Pests - Cool Season Turfgrass

Zee Ahmed, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Turf and Ornamental Entomology
Clemson University

Terri Billeisen, Ph.D.
Assistant Extension Professor
Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology
NC State University

Insect pests can cause significant damage to managed turfgrass, affecting appearance, playability, plant health, and overall management costs. This seminar focuses on key insect pests of cool-season turfgrass, with an emphasis on recognizing damage, understanding pest biology and seasonal activity, and selecting effective monitoring and management strategies. Real-world examples will connect pest biology to practical decision-making for maintaining healthy, high-quality turf.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC - 3.5 hrs. GA - 3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

Seminar Attendee Refreshment Breaks

- Water Stations available outside meeting rooms
- 7:30-8:30 am
  Coffee in Hall of Fame
- 9-10 am
  Sodas in Hall of Fame
- 1:30-2:30 pm
  Sodas in Hall of Fame

Harrell's
Growing a Better World®

SEMINAR LINE-UP IN DEPTH

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026 • 12:30–4 pm

8 Soil and Water Chemistry: Definitions, Discussions and Things to Do!

Beth Guertal, Ph.D.
Project Director CEMARCH
Kansas State University

Becky Grubbs Bowling, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Extension Specialist
Turfgrass Science and Management
University of Tennessee

This seminar will cover the basics behind the chemistry and soil, water and their interactions. We will cover soil pH, cation exchange, and ions that matter in soil and water. For water, the issues of electrical conductivity, salinity, sodicity and bicarbonates/carbonates will be discussed - how do we measure these? What is too much? Too little?

And finally - we will cover mitigation and remediation - can these issues be fixed, and if yes, how? We'll define, discuss the numbers, and offer possible solutions if there is an issue. This seminar will not discuss pesticide/water quality interactions (that's an entire topic in itself!).

Key Topics Covered
- Soil Chemistry – What Do We Measure for 'Soil Chemistry'!
- Chemical Properties of Water and Why It Can Affect Soil
- Mitigation/Remediation

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-0 hrs. NC-0 hrs. GA-0 hrs. TN-0 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

9 Making Herbicides Work and Why They Sometimes Fail?

Travis Gannon, Ph.D.
Professor of Crop Science
NC State University

Bert McCarty, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus
Clemson University

As professionals, we are constantly asked why herbicides do not work to the level expected. Many times, human error is involved in terms of misapplication timing, application method, not understanding how a particular is designed to work, or using the wrong product(s). We will cover PRE and POST emergence products, how they are supposed to work, and understand reasons why they might not work as expected. We will also cover herbicide resistance, its occurrence, and what measures can be taken to avoid or manage existing resistant weed biotypes. Numerous examples will be covered of all topics with time for questions and in-depth discussions.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC- 3.5 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

10 Smarter Spraying: Mapping Pests with GPS, Sensors and Drones

Wendell Hutchens, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Turfgrass Science
University of Arkansas

David McCall, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Turfgrass Pathology
Virginia Tech

Ken Rost, CEO
Frost Inc.

Autonomy, artificial intelligence, and precision technologies are rapidly transforming golf course management. Advances in GPS, RTK positioning, and intelligent equipment systems are enabling superintendents to adopt autonomous technologies with greater confidence and efficiency. Emerging machine-vision sprayer technology can now identify and target pests and weeds with remarkable accuracy, reducing inputs while improving application precision. At the same time, drones and equipment-mounted sensors provide real-time mapping and decision-support capabilities that enhance monitoring and treatment strategies. Reduced costs and increased reliability of these technologies support widespread adoption. This seminar will provide attendees with the knowledge needed to begin integrating autonomy, AI, sensors, and drones into their targeted pest management programs.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-0 hrs. NC- 0 hrs. GA-0 hrs. TN-0 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

11 Advancing Turf Health through Microbiome and Ecological Practices

Zee Ahmed, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Turf and Ornamental Entomology
Clemson University

Joe Roberts, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Extension Specialist of Turfgrass Pathology and Nematology, Clemson University

In recent years, golf course management practices have shifted to include more environmentally conscious strategies grounded in biological control and microbiome research. While more options are becoming available to managers, there are still hurdles to consider when implementing new alternative strategies to improve turf health. This seminar will highlight several non-chemical strategies aimed at pest control and overall turf health, exploring both scientific progress and practical applications that support this movement. From utilizing microbial-based pest control to incorporating native wildflowers and strategically placed trees, golf courses can enhance habitats for pollinators and natural enemies of pests enhancing recognition as environmentally-friendly destinations. We'll discuss how microbiome-based approaches are contributing to reduced chemical reliance, share what we're currently implementing, and explore ways golf course managers, researchers, and community partners can engage and benefit. This is a valuable opportunity to exchange ideas and advance sustainable stewardship across golf courses.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC- 3.5 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

SEMINAR LINE-UP IN DEPTH

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026 • 12:30–4 pm

12 Fundamentals of Turfgrass Fertilization and Nutrient Management Planning

Alejandra Sierra, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor Turfgrass Agronomy
Clemson University Pee Dee Research Center

Doug Soldat, Ph.D.
Professor of Soil Sciences
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Effective nutrient management is essential for producing high-quality turf while protecting the environment. This workshop provides a practical introduction to turfgrass nutrition and the principles of developing sound nutrient management programs for (sports fields, golf courses, and other professionally managed turf systems). Participants will learn the basics of turfgrass nutritional requirements, including essential plant nutrients and their roles in turf growth and performance. The workshop will then explore soil testing as a foundation for nutrient management, covering sampling procedures, interpretation of soil test results, and how soil information can be used to guide fertilizer recommendations. A substantial portion of the program will focus on nitrogen management, including rates, timings, and fertilizer sources. The workshop will conclude with a discussion of environmental considerations associated with fertilizer use, including nutrient losses, water quality protection, and best management practices that promote both turf performance and environmental stewardship.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-0 hrs. NC-0 hrs. GA-0 hrs. TN-0 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

13 Aquatic Plant Management: Keeping Your Ponds Free of Unsightly Plants and Algae

Rob Richardson, Ph.D.
Professor and Extension Specialist
Aquatic and Non-Cropland Weed Science, NC State University

Whether ponds serve as visual focal point for your property or source, aquatic weeds can interfere with the appearance and use of the waterbody. Using proper management techniques to keep these weeds at bay and allow use of your water body. This seminar will give superintendents a complete overview of how to manage their aquatic resources including water plant identification, and integrated best management practices for control of the major aquatic weed problems. Specific instruction on the newest aquatic herbicides, use of aquatic herbicides in irrigation sources, and management of marginal areas will be emphasized. An overview of relevant rules and regulations that apply to management of aquatic resources will be covered.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC- 3.5 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

14 You Pick the Pests: Turf Insect Management

Terri Billeisen, Ph.D.
Assistant Extension Professor
Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology, NC State University

In "You Pick the Pests", participants will be voting on their top insect pests and priority areas. This seminar will address the top selected turfgrass insects and review biology, monitoring and management for each. Particular focus will be given to successful management approaches for cost-effective and environmentally-sound control.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC- 3.5 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

All Badges Now Printed On Site

Badge printing for attendess and exhibitors will be done onsite

- Once again this year we will utilize an electronic badge printing system.

NOW, everyone pre-registered for Conference and Show, exhibitors and attendees, will receive a unique QR code via email which they will scan on-site to print their badge. **EACH EXHIBITOR AND ATTENDEE MUST REGISTER ONLINE IN ADVANCE.**

** **AVOID LINES – PRINT YOUR BADGE EARLY!!** Stop by the Sheraton before early am lines!

- Attendees at the host hotel, the Sheraton MBCC Hotel, adjacent to the convention center, will have the chance to print their badges in the hotel foyer when they check in beginning on Sunday, November 15. We will have scanners and printers set up near the internet café on the lobby level of the hotel. Be sure to pre register all your attendees and exhibitors to receive your QR code for printing in advance. Our team will be onsite during normal registration hours for any onsite questions.

***** BADGES PRINT ONLY ONE TIME – THERE WILL BE A FEE TO REPRINT ANY BADGES*****

***** NO EXCEPTIONS AS THIS IS OUT OF STAFF HANDS *****

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TUESDAY GENERAL ACTIVITIES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026

7 am – 7 pm	**Registration Open**	*Hall of Fame*
7 am – 2 pm	**Exhibitor Move-In**	*Exhibit Hall*
7 am	**Exhibitors Refreshment Breaks**	• Water Station in luncheon area of trade show floor • Coffee and Cream Starbucks, Sheraton 2nd Floor is open 6:30am - 11am • Sodas can be purchased on Level 2 of the Convention Center, right off escalator near restrooms
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	**Seminar Luncheon** **MENU** **Carolina BBQ Buffet** Southern Creamy Potato Salad Creamy Home-Made Coleslaw Fire Braised Chicken with Carolina Gold BBQ Sauce Creamy Macaroni and Cheese Slider Rolls Seasonal Fruit Cobbler with Fresh Whipped Cream Iced Water and Tea Station	*Ballroom DE* *Lunch is included with two half-day seminars on Tuesday* *In Partnership with*
1 pm	**Turf Bowl Participant Luncheon**	*Ballroom E* *In Partnership with*
2 – 4 pm	**Carolinas GCSA Student Chapter Turf Bowl**	*Ballroom D* *In Partnership with*
3:30 – 7 pm	**Trade Show Open**	*Exhibit Hall*
4 – 7:30 pm	**Carolinas Night**	*Exhibit Hall*

CAROLINAS GCSA STUDENT CHAPTER TURF BOWL

2 - 4 PM • BALLROOM D

In Partnership with The Aquatrols® Company

JOHN DEERE GOLF

BEARD EQUIPMENT CO.

REVELS Turf & Tractor

When we think about the future leaders of our association and industry we always know where to look to find them. The Turf Bowl has become the source point for future golf course superintendents from across not only the Carolinas but the Southeastern United States!

This annual quiz has been conducted for the past 20 years by Dr. Grady Miller of NCSU. This will be Dr. Miller's last run and we would like for you all to come and help congratulate him and thank him for all the time he has dedicated to the future through the Turf Bowl!

While all these students are being tested on their knowledge, superintendents are actively watching and recruiting their next generation to mold. And at the same time the industry is supporting the winning teams with money back to their turf programs!

The industry partners are more engaged than ever. Thanks to the support from The Aquatrols Company, Beard Equipment Company, Revels Turf and Tractor, and John Deere. The winning team will be sent to New Orleans to compete in the National Turf Bowl at GCSAA's Conference and Show, January 15-21, 2027.

Clemson's Turf Bowl title team of Gavin Trout, Adam Hicks, Keegan Brown and Sean Crowe with Chris Vincent, of The Aquatrols Company

NC State's runner-up team Dr. Jim Kerns, Alex Boone, Parker Vulgamott, Dr. Grady Miller, Jack Cundiff, Danny Harbauer and Dr. Qiyu Zhou

SEMINAR LINE-UP IN DEPTH

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026 • 8–11:30 am

15 From Selection to Perfection: Science Driven Bunker Success

Chris Neff
Agronomist, East Region
USGA Green Section

Bunker performance depends on more than just good sand. This seminar covers how to select the right materials, prevent washouts and contamination, and apply proven installation and maintenance practices. Learn from lab data, case studies, and USGA insights to ensure long-term success and enhance the playing experience for your golfers.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-0 hrs. NC- 0 hrs. GA-0 hrs. TN-0 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

16 Strategies for Managing Goosegrass, Annual Bluegrass, Crabgrass, Doveweed and Other Growing Weed Problems!

Jim Brosnan, Ph.D.
Professor of Plant Sciences
University of Tennessee

Scott McElroy, Ph.D.
Professor Weed Science/Turf
Auburn University

Weed control is a pain point for golf courses throughout the southeastern region. Issues controlling Poa annua, goosegrass, and other problematic weeds have become more complicated due to the onset of herbicide resistance that reduces the number of effective tools available to superintendents. Additionally, increases in rounds played in recent years render playing surfaces more susceptible to weed invasion. This session will provide attendees a comprehensive overview on strategies for controlling Poa annua, goosegrass, and more.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC-3.5 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

17 Getting to the Root of Soilborne Diseases - Warm Season Turfgrasses

Jim Kerns, Ph.D.
Professor and Extension Specialist of Turfgrass Pathology
NC State University

Joe Roberts, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Extension Specialist of Turfgrass Pathology and Nematology, Clemson University

Management of turfgrass in the transition zone presents several challenges. Warm season turfgrasses in this area may be more adapted to endure the intense summer heat, but there are numerous pests that are of constant concern for degrading turfgrass playing surfaces. This seminar will focus on those diseases that attack below the turf surface and often unseen until the root system is often severely degraded. Pathogens that attack roots, stolons and rhizomes can be particularly challenging, but attendees will gain perspective in forecasting these issues in the future and how to spot the early symptoms before it's too late. We will cover the current state of knowledge regarding the cause, epidemiology, and management of mini-ring, take all root rot, spring dead spot, and pythium root rot. We will also discuss new research examining how pathogenic nematodes may be impacting these diseases. For each disease, we will cover the current state of cultural and chemical controls so that attendees can implement these tools into their programs.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC-3.5 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

18 How to Stay Cool when Cool-Season Putting Greens Decline!

Lee Butler
Extension Coordinator of Entomology and Plant Pathology
NC State University

David McCall, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Turfgrass Pathology
Virginia Tech

This seminar will focus on the identification and management of diseases and abiotic disorders that affect cool-season turfgrass putting greens on golf courses in the Carolinas. The presenters will cover the major pathogens (fungi and nematodes) that cause these diseases. Attendees will learn when they are most likely to occur through monitoring weather data to precisely time preventative pesticide applications. In addition, attendees will learn how to approach long-term management using integrated pest management strategies and fungicide programming to ensure phenomenal control while mitigating the development of fungicide resistance. This seminar will also cover common abiotic issues that typically occur during stressful summer periods and how to differentiate them from actual diseases.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC-3.5 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

SEMINAR LINE-UP IN DEPTH

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026 • 8–11:30 am

19 Winter Management of Ultradwarf Bermudagrass Putting Greens

Jordan Booth, CGCS, Ph.D.
Senior Director
Course Consulting Service
USGA Green Section

Mike Richardson, Ph.D.
Professor of Horticulture
University of Arkansas

Ultradwarf bermudagrass putting greens have proven to be excellent playing surfaces throughout the Carolinas and lower transition zone. However, low-temperature injury remains a challenge for golf courses in this region. Drs. Richardson and Booth will address management strategies before, during, and after winter to improve and reduce the risk of low-temperature injury and improve year-round performance of ultradwarf bermudagrass putting greens.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC-3.5 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

20 Aging Putting Green, Root Zone and Management of Organic Matter

Roch Gaussoin, Ph.D.
Emeritus Professor, Department of Agronomy and Extension Specialist
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Jim Murphy, Ph.D.
Extension Specialist
Department of Plant Biology
Rutgers University

The organic matter story, as told repeatedly, continues to evolve. What was, what is and what might be on the horizon will be discussed, focusing on how greens evolve over time and what the turfgrass manager can do to manage organic matter in sand-based root zones. One of the more common practices used to provide optimal playing conditions on putting greens is sand topdressing and cultivation. Beyond playability, the agronomic benefits of topdressing are plentiful. The layer of thatch is often problematic to plant health. We'll focus on strategies proven effective in managing organic matter accumulation on greens. Develop a better understanding of topdressing advantages/pitfalls, minimize surface & play disruption, and evaluate & apply research-based topdressing strategies

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-0 hrs. NC- 0 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-0 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

21 The Architecture of a Successful Renovation (Panel)

Moderator: Nick Mazella
Owner, Mazzella Partnership

Panelists:

Mike Koprowski
Architect
Koprowski Golf Design

Brian Schneider
Architect
Renaissance Golf Design

Carson Shaw
Golf Course Superintendent
Candy Root Lodge

Andy Staples
Architect
Andy Staples Golf Design

This roundtable discussion delves into the essential elements and strategic planning necessary for revitalizing golf courses to meet modern standards and expectations. It will gather industry experts, including golf course architects, superintendent, project manager, agronomist, and construction manager, to explore best practices in redesigning and updating golf course layouts. Topics will include sustainability, aesthetic enhancements, technological integration, and player experience improvements, providing attendees with a comprehensive understanding of what constitutes a successful renovation project.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-0 hrs. NC- 0 hrs. GA-0 hrs. TN-0 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

22 Building Strong Foundation: Expectations and Communications between Golf Course Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents

Matt Jones, CGCS
Director of Agronomy
Forsyth Country Club
Winston Salem, NC

Terry Woods
Golf Course Superintendent
Forsyth Country Club
Winston Salem, NC

Brian Stiehler, CGCS, MG
Golf Course Superintendent
Highlands Country Club
Highlands, NC

Chad Stockton
Assistant Golf Course Superintendent
Highlands Country Club
Highlands, NC

This seminar is designed to foster a deeper understanding of the dynamic relationship between golf course superintendents and their assistant superintendents. Attendees will gain valuable insights into mutual expectations, effective communication strategies, and how to prepare for future career advancement in the turf management industry.

Seminar Goals:

- Strengthen professional relationships within golf course management teams
- Clarify expectations to improve job performance and satisfaction
- Equip assistants with the tools to grow into future superintendent roles.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-0 hrs. NC-0 hrs. GA-0 hrs. TN-0 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

SEMINAR LINE-UP IN DEPTH

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026 • 8–11:30 am

23 Everything You Need to Know About Ultradwarf Bermudagrass!

Moderator: Billy Bagwell
Director of Agronomy
Callawassie Island Club
Okatie, SC

Panelists:

Eric Dusa, CGCS
Director of Greens and Grounds
White Plains Golf Club
Pageland, SC

Ted Smith, III
Golf Course Superintendent
Country Club of Charleston
Charleston, SC

Matthew Smith
Golf Course Superintendent
Wilmington Golf Course
Wilmington, NC

This seminar will involve the participants in a full panel discussion and presentation of ultradwarf bermudagrass management of what works and what does not work. Successes and failures will be discussed, and participants will be provided with experience-based suggestions for management of the ultradwarf bermudagrass and their diseases.

Learning Objectives

- Discuss various techniques to manage ultradwarf bermudagrass.
- How to develop a disease management plan.
- Strategies and techniques to protect ultradwarf bermudagrass in every element.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC- 3.5 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

Seminar Attendee Refreshment Breaks

- Water Stations available outside meeting rooms
- 7:30-8:30 am
  Coffee in Hall of Fame
- 9-10 am
  Sodas in Hall of Fame
- 1:30-2:30 pm
  Sodas in Hall of Fame

Harrell's
Growing a Better World®

SEMINAR LINE-UP IN DEPTH

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026 • 12:30 – 4 PM

syngenta
Seminar Education Partner

24 The Ultimate Weed Control Guide (PANEL)

Moderator: Bert McCarty, Ph.D.
Emeritius Professor of Turfgrass Science
Clemson University

Panel: Jim Brosnan, Ph.D.
Professor of Plant Sciences
University of Tennessee

Travis Gannon, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Crop Science
NC State University

Scott McElroy, Ph.D.
Professor of Weed Science/Turf
Auburn University

Come participate in a rare, one-of-a-kind panel discussion by the world's top turfgrass weed specialists. Specialists will cover the latest management strategies for the most troublesome weeds in turf such as Poa, goosegrass, nutsedge/kyllinga, Va. buttonweed, doveweed as well as how herbicide resistance is changing the ways the industry should address these. Weed resistance has reached epidemic status and this panel will cover the history of resistance development, how to integrate weed life cycles, environmental factors affecting weed growth and occurrence, plus chemical and cultural control in developing a holistic weed management program. Come with your questions and interact with colleagues on ways to maximize the efficiency of weed control strategies. No boring PowerPoint presentations, rather, panelists and participants interacting to provide solutions to complex issues.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC-3.5 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

25 Elevating Excellence: Strategic Approaches to Leadership, Scheduling and Wellness in Golf Course Management

Billy Bagwell
Director of Agronomy
Callawassie Island Club
Okatie, SC

Steve Hamilton, CGCS
Director of Agronomy
The Dunes Golf and Beach Club
Myrtle Beach, SC

Chris Neff
Agronomist, East Region
USGA Green Section

This seminar is designed to provide golf course superintendents and assistant superintendents with advanced strategies for enhancing operational effectiveness, leadership precision, and personal well-being. Through three focused sessions led by industry experts, attendees will gain practical insights into elevating attention to detail, optimizing scheduling practices, and managing time to mitigate professional burnout. The program is structured to foster both professional growth and sustainable performance in the demanding environment of golf course management. Whether you're managing a championship course or a local club, this seminar will equip you with tools to enhance your performance and well-being.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-0 hrs. NC-0 hrs. GA-0 hrs. TN-0 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

SEMINAR LINE-UP IN DEPTH

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026 • 12:30 – 4 PM

26 Nematodes: Past, Present, and Future Directions for Management of these Elusive Pests!

David McCall, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Turfgrass Pathology
Virginia Tech

Joe Roberts, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Extension Specialist of Turfgrass Pathology and Nematology, Clemson University

Let's face it, whether you manage cool or warm season turfgrass here in the Carolinas, you have either heard or dealt with concerns over nematodes. Concerns of nematodes are growing, particularly in areas that are experiencing longer and hotter growing seasons revealing nematode damage in area in unsuspected areas. Many turfgrass managers experiencing these issues in new areas raise questions of have they been there all along, why is damage just starting to appear, and how can I manage or even prevent the damage from occurring in the future. Attendees of this seminar will gain a thorough understanding of the diversity of nematodes impacting turfgrasses managed throughout the Carolina's. We will cover symptoms of nematode damage, how to sample for different nematodes, how diagnosticians identify various groups, and how management tools can be implemented to circumvent loss of turf.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC-3.5 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

27 Fundamentals of Wetting Agents

Mike Richardson, Ph.D.
Professor of Horticulture
University of Arkansas

Wetting agents are widely-used on putting greens to prevent the occurrence of localized dry spot. However, wetting agents can also affect moisture amounts and distribution in the soil, surface firmness, dew retention, and other factors that can influence health and playability. Wetting agents are also a difficult class of products to evaluate because there is no state-mandated "label" that describes exactly what is contained in the product. As such, testing of products is essential to identify the most appropriate products for your facility. This seminar will discuss testing approaches and current knowledge of commonly-used wetting agents.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-0 hrs. NC-0 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-0 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

28 Pesticides 101 - Fundamentals of Safe and Effective Pesticide Use in Turfgrass Management!

Zee Ahmed, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Turf and Ornamental Entomology
Clemson University

Lee Butler
Extension Coordinator of Entomology and Plant Pathology
NC State University

Navdeep Godara, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Turf and Forage Weed Science
NC State University

Pesticides 101 offers a comprehensive introduction to the fundamentals of pesticide use in turfgrass management. This seminar will explore the major categories of pesticides—including herbicides, fungicides, and insecticides—and cover essential topics such as pesticide classifications, formulations, modes of action, and basic chemistry. Participants will learn about proper application techniques, label interpretation, safety practices, handling, storage, and disposal. The course will also address environmental behavior, fate after application, toxicity, and potential non-target effects. This is an ideal seminar for those seeking a solid foundation in the responsible and effective use of pesticides in turfgrass systems and will introduce resources available in the Carolinas that offer updated pesticide listings and guidance on their potential use against existing and upcoming invasive species.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-3 hrs. NC-3.5 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

29 Creeping Bentgrass Putting Green Management in the Carolinas!

Jim Kerns, Ph.D.
Professor and Extension Specialist of Turfgrass Pathology
NC State University

Todd Lawrence, CGCS
Director of Golf Course Maintenance
The Country Club at Wakefield Plantation, Raleigh, NC

Brandon Ingle
Golf Course Superintendent
Mountaintop Golf and Lake Club
Cashiers, NC

Jeremy Prosser
Golf Course Superintendent
Man O'War and The Witch
Myrtle Beach, SC

Will Landry
Golf Course Superintendent
Boscobel Golf Club
Anderson, SC

Jeff VanPelt, CGCS
Golf Course Superintendent
Alamance Country Club
Burlington, NC

This panel discussion will delve into the challenges of managing creeping bentgrass putting greens in the Carolinas. It is no secret that creeping bentgrass is difficult to maintain during the Carolinas' summers, yet this panel will feature golf course superintendents from various types of golf courses in the Carolinas to share insights into their management techniques. The seminar will begin with an overview of the latest science on creeping bentgrass management. Topics to be covered include disease management, cultural practices, growth regulation, fertility, wetting agent use, nematode management, and more. After each person has a brief moment to share their approach, the floor will be opened for questions. For those with creeping bentgrass, this will be a fun, interactive seminar on management in a challenging environment.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-1.5 hrs. NC-3.5 hrs. GA-3 hrs. TN-3 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

SEMINAR LINE-UP IN DEPTH

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026 • 12:30 – 4 PM

30 Current Trends in Research and Innovations from USGA

George Waters
Senior Manager
USGA Green Section Education

Daniel O'Brien, Ph.D.
Research Manager
USGA Green Section

Wesley Stewart
Senior Data Scientist
USGA Green Section

This seminar will provide updates and conclusions from the latest university research funded through the USGA's Turfgrass Environmental Research Program. New information will be presented on turfgrass breeding efforts, pest control, water conservation, and turfgrass management in golf. We will also discuss new innovations and trends in the industry.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-0 hrs. NC-0 hrs. GA-0 hrs. TN-0 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

31 Cutting Unit 101: Understanding the Fundamentals

Trent Manning
Director of Equipment Solutions
STEC Equipment, Inc.

A quality cut starts with understanding how the cutting unit works. This introductory seminar is designed for superintendents, assistant superintendents, equipment managers, technicians, and others who want a better understanding of reel mower cutting units without getting overwhelmed by the technical details.

We'll break down the fundamentals of how a reel and bedknife work together, cutting unit terminology, height of cut, sharpness, frequency of clip, bedknife selection, and basic cutting unit geometry. Attendees will also learn how setup changes and component wear can affect quality of cut and ultimately turf performance.

The goal isn't to turn everyone into a cutting unit expert—it's to provide the foundational knowledge needed to recognize problems, ask better questions, and communicate more effectively about cutting unit setup and quality of cut.

PESTICIDE CREDITS: SC-0 hrs. NC- 0 hrs. GA-0 hrs. TN-0 hrs
GCSAA ED POINTS: 0.35

Join us for the 2026

Horry-Georgetown Technical College Golf Tournament

at The Legends Golf Resort – Parkland Course. Enjoy a day of golf and giving back to HGTC's Golf & Sports Turf Management Program. Help us provide student scholarships and travel funds to the GCSAA Conference and Industry Events for our students.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2026, 10 AM

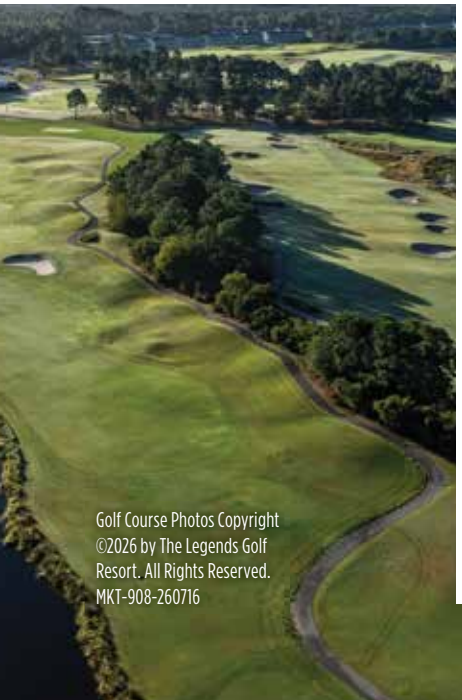
LEGENDS GOLF RESORT
1500 LEGENDS DRIVE
MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29579

Additional Event Description

Captain's Choice – Shotgun Start for this tournament
Format: Four-Person Scramble
Cost: $800/Foursome

Scan QR code to register.

HORRY GEORGETOWN TECHNICAL COLLEGE



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CAROLINAS NIGHT
ON THE TRADE SHOW FLOOR

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17 • 4 – 7:30 PM

OPEN TO EVERYONE ON THE TRADE SHOW FLOOR

BAR — CAROLINAS NIGHT

BARS OPEN AT 4 PM
Beard Equipment Co, Revels Turf & Tractor, John Deere #3107 #3110
Tri-State Pump, booth #407
(Wine, Beer, & Soda)

Cash bar for liquor will be available as well.

Water coolers will also be placed on the outside perimeter of the trade show floor.

FOOD — CAROLINAS NIGHT

FOOD STATIONS OPEN AT 5 PM
Green Resource, booth #1604
NanoOxygen Systems, booth #1016
Nu-Pipe, booth #2217

COMPLIMENTARY DRINK TICKETS
Available from
- Beard Equipment Co, Revels Turf & Tractor, John Deere
- Green Resource
- NanoOxygen Systems
- Tri-State Pump & Control, Inc.
- As well as the 27-hole challenge booths *designated on the floor layout

Additional drink tickets may be purchased from the registration desk onsite for $10 each

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Green Resource
Booth #1604

John Deere Golf / Beard Equipment Co. / Revels Turf & Tractor
Booth #3107 & Booth #3110

NuPipe Trenchless Solutions — A Shenandoah Company
Booth #2217

NanoOxygen Systems — Oxygen Delivered / RapidWater Technologies
Booth #1016

tsp Est. 1994
Booth #407

WEDNESDAY EVENTS
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2026

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST SPEAKER

Press McPhaul

For more than a quarter-century as a college golf coach, Press McPhaul was a major figure in the lives of young men through some of their most formative years. Behind the scenes he also helped guide other coaches, as director of coaches ministry for Christian Golf Fellowship. A non-denominational Christian ministry, Christian Golf Fellowship launched in 2002 and now has about three dozen staff across the country.

A native of Sanford, NC, McPhaul retired last year after eight seasons at North Carolina State. His tenure was a fitting bookend to a college golf career that began in 1991 as part of the Wolfpack team. He participated in three NCAA Championships - 1993, 1995, 1996 - and was co-captain of the 1995-96 squad.

He later served as assistant coach before landing his first head coaching role at Vanderbilt. Before returning to Raleigh in 2017, he led Eastern Carolina for 11 years. For all the victories over that period and all the players who went on to the PGA TOUR, McPhaul operated with a broader mission.

As Christian Golf Fellowship spells out, college athletes can be "spiritually vulnerable...away from home, making their own decisions, establishing their own world-view, and experimenting with all that college life has to offer. They are bombarded with questions about life, faith, truth, purpose, philosophy, relationships, identity, morality, and spirituality.a group of people."

McPhaul will share lessons from that experience and from his faith at this year's Fellowship Breakfast, presented in partnership with NewLife Turf and Corbin Turf and Ornamental Supply on November 18.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Complimentary to all registrants but please sign up in advance for food count guarantees.

6:45 AM – 7:45 AM
Ballroom D

In Partnership with

CORBIN TURF
A W.S. CONNELLY COMPANY

NewLife turf

Traditional Breakfast Buffet

Market Display of Fresh Seasonal Fruits
Fresh Baked Biscuits with Butter
and Assorted Jellies
Farm Fresh Scrambled Eggs
Southern Style Grits
Crisp Applewood Smoked Bacon
Regular and Decaf Coffee
Orange Juice
Iced Water

General Session Refreshment Break

- Water Stations across outside Ballroom E
- 7:45-8:45 am Coffee across from Ballroom E
- 9 – 10 am Sodas outside Ballroom E

EDUCATION SESSION

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2026

Wednesday General Session Partners

Ballroom E ▪ Presiding – Brian Green, *President Carolinas GCSA*
Lonnie Poole Golf Course, Raleigh, NC

PESTICIDE CREDITS
SC-.5 hrs. NC-.5 hrs. GA-0 hrs. TN-1 hrs

8 am	Welcome	**Brian Green,** *President, Carolinas GCSA* *Lonnie Poole Golf Course, Raleigh, NC*
8:05 – 8:25 am	GCSAA Updates	**Paul L. Carter, CGCS** *President, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America*
8:25 – 8:35 am	Rounds4Research Update	**Ryan McClannon**, *Carolinas GCSA Director* **Matt Jones, CGCS** *Forsyth Country Club*
8:35 – 9:05 am	Clemson University Research Update	**Joe Roberts, Ph.D., Clemson University** *Graduate Students*
9:05 – 9:35 am	NC State University Research Update	**Lee Butler,** *NC State University* *Graduate Students:* **Robbie Andrews, Ben Snell**
9:35 – 10:05 am	USGA Update	**Chris Neff,** *Agronomist, USGA*
10:05 – 11:00 am	CGA Agronomy Update	**Bert McCarty, Ph.D.** **Fred Yelverton, Ph.D.** *Carolina Golf Association*
11:00 – 11:15 am	Distinguished Service Award Presentation	**Paul Jett, CGCS,** *Territory Manager* *Triangle Turf and Ornamental*
11:15 – 11:30 am	Business Meeting	**Presiding: Brian Green,** *President* *Carolinas GCSA* *Lonnie Poole Golf Course, Raleigh, NC*
11:30 am – 2:30 pm	Trade Show Open	*Exhibit Hall*
2 pm	27 – Hole Challenge Prize Giveaway	*Exhibit Hall Stage Area*
2:30 - 8 pm	Exhibitor Tear Down	*Exhibit Hall*
6 - 9 pm	Distinguished Service Award Dinner	*By Invitation Only* *The Dunes Golf and Beach Club*

In Partnership with

27 HOLE CHALLENGE PRIZE

7 DAYS IN PANAMA

Win a 7-day guided trip to Panama and experience world-class fishing along the legendary Tuna Coast.

In Partnership with

AGSTONE

Booth #2611

27–HOLE CHALLENGE

The Carolinas GCSA is proud to present the 27-Hole Challenge to superintendents and assistant superintendents from ANY AFFILIATED GCSAA CHAPTER who registers for a FULL CONFERENCE PACKAGE. Complete the 27-Hole Challenge tour of the trade show floor and get to know the industry partners who help make this outstanding event possible.

27-Hole Challenge scorecards will be mailed to those who are pre-registered at the end of October. A replacement card can be picked up at the 27-Hole Challenge Booth #2510 during trade show hours if you do not receive it.

Grand Prize Partner

See Details on Page 39-40

Grand Prize: 2 Person Trip to Tuna Alley!!

2nd - 3rd Prize: $1,000
4th – 6th: $500
7th – 15th: Choice of assorted prizes, valued at over $250 each
includes trail cameras, rifle case, gazebo, hunting chair, thermal camera, Costa sunglasses, Carolinas logoed Ping travel bag and Sky Bird clay target thrower

Assistant Superintendent Next Generation

1st Prize: Springdale Resort stay and play package list value of $2500
2nd Prize: $500
3rd and 4th Prize: Choice of Gazebo or TV

Winner is responsible for any applicable taxes.

Grand Prize Partner: Ecological Improvement, Booth #2512. Winner will coordinate trip with owner Jack Moran.

How to Play – ELIGIBILITY AND PRIZES!!

- 27-Hole Challenge participants must be registered for a FULL CONFERENCE PACKAGE and must be a Class A or B member of ANY affiliated chapter of GCSAA. Same applies for participants in the Next Generation 27-Hole Challenge, must be a Class C member of ANY affiliated GCSAA Chapter and registered for FULL CONFERENCE PACKAGE.
- 27-Hole Challenge scorecards may be picked up at the 27-Hole Challenge booth #2510 during normal trade show hours.
- The event will consist of 27 exhibiting company booths. A flag will mark each booth and participants must have their scorecard stamped at each of the designated booths.
- 27-Hole Challenge booths will be located at various sites throughout the exhibit area and will be designated on the exhibit hall directory provided on site.
- Score cards must be stamped during normal trade show hours on Tuesday and Wednesday. Scorecards must be turned into the 27-Hole Challenge booth #2510 by 1:30 pm on Wednesday, November 18th.
- All cards completed will all required stamps will be entered into the drawing for prizes.
- Participants must be present at the drawing, beginning 2 pm Wednesday, to be eligible to claim any prizes awarded. If not present, another name will be drawn immediately.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Badges and Admittance
Official Carolinas GCSA name badge must be worn at all times at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center.

Name badges will be checked upon entry to:
- Seminars on Monday and Tuesday
- Seminar Luncheons on Monday and Tuesday
- Trade Show Floor on Tuesday and Wednesday
- General Education Session on Wednesday

Cancellation Policy
Conference and Show cancellation requests must be in writing and received by Monday, November 9, 2026 to receive a refund. A $25 administrative fee will be charged for all full and/or partial cancellations. After this date, NO refunds will be made.

Recommended Dress
The dress requirements for all Conference and Show events should either be golf casual or business casual.

- Golf Casual is defined as a nice pair of slacks and a collared or mock neck golf shirt.
- Business Casual is defined as a nice pair of slacks with a collared or mock neck shirt and a blazer or sport coat.
- Under no circumstances should denim jeans or caps be worn at Conference and Show events.

Registration Options
Early Bird Fee Registration
Deadline: September 30, 2026, 11:59 PM EST

Advanced Fee Registration
Deadline: October 31, 2026, 11:59 PM EST

Standard Fee Registration
Starts: November 1, 2026, 12 am EST

Complimentary Full Conference Registration
Complimentary registration will be offered to Carolinas GCSA Honorary, AA and Retired members, Educators, and Golf Course Owners. All complimentary registrations should call the office.

Seminar Selections
Seminar descriptions can be found on pages 14-34. Seminars are NOT included with the full conference package. Class sizes are limited so register early. Trade show pass is NOT included with seminar registration.

Full Conference Package
Your full conference package includes:
- General Education Session
- Trade Show Pass for Tuesday and Wednesday

Family Registration
Complimentary registration is offered to spouses/significant others and children of Carolinas GCSA members. Guests will have access to the trade show Tuesday and Wednesday.

Complimentary Parking
Complimentary parking in the large lot behind the Myrtle Beach Convention Center is made possible with the partnership by Carolina Fresh Farms, Envu, Freylit USA, Guruscapes, Molasses King and Progressive Turf, Nufarm, PBI-Gordon Corp. and Regal.

No Smoking Policy
The MBCC and all official Carolinas GCSA Conference and Show events will be smoke free.

Alcohol Policy
Alcohol is only allowed from host bars during Caroliona Night event on Tuesday night.

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CAROLINAS
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

2027 Annual Conference & Trade Show

November 15 – 17

Myrtle Beach Convention Center • Myrtle Beach, SC

Featuring:
- Championship Golf
- Sporting Clay Event
- More than 100 hours of education
- More than 100,000 sq. ft. of exhibits

Call 1-800-476-4272 or visit www.carolinasgcsa.org

PESTICIDE CREDITS AND GCSAA EDUCATION POINTS

	ID #	Seminar	Instructor	SC	NC	GA	TN	GCSAA Ed.Points.
Monday Morning 8:00-11:30 am	1	**NEW** Irrigation as a Cultural Practice: Improving Turfgrass Health Through Better Water Management	Becky Grubbs Bowling, Ph.D., Jim Huntoon	0	0	0	0	0.35
	2	Advanced Management of Ultradwarf Bermudagrass Golf Greens	Joe Roberts, Ph.D. Alejandra Sierra, Ph.D.	3	2	2	3	0.35
	3	Understanding Turfgrass Fungicides	Wendell Hutchens, Ph.D. Richard Latin, Ph.D.	3	3.5	3	3	0.35
	4	Successful Bentgrass Management on Greens and Fairways!	Jim Murphy, Ph.D., Roch Gaussoin, Ph.D.	2	3	3	3	0.35
	5	Physical and Chemical Soil Properties	Beth A. Guertal, Ph.D., Doug Soldat, Ph.D.	0	0	0	0	0.35
	6	Robotics Roundtable	Scott McElroy, Ph.D., Dan Meersman	0	0	0	0	0.35
	7	Practical Strategies for Managing Insect Pests - Cool Season Turfgrass	Zee Ahmed, Ph.D. Terri Billeisen, Ph.D.	3	3.5	3	3	0.35
Monday Afternoon 12:30-4:00 pm	8	Soil and Water Chemistry: Definitions, Discussions and Things to Do!	Becky Grubbs Bowling, Ph.D. Beth Guertal, Ph.D.	0	0	0	0	0.35
	9	Making Herbicides Work and Why They Sometimes Fail?	Travis Gannon, Ph.D., Bert McCarty, Ph.D.	3	3.5	3	3	0.35
	10	Smarter Spraying: Mapping Pests with GPS, Sensors, and Drones	Wendell Hutchens, Ph.D. David McCall, Ph.D., Ken Rost	0	0	0	0	0.35
	11	Advancing Turf Health Through Microbiome and Ecological Practices	Zee Ahmed, Ph.D. Joe Roberts, Ph.D.	3	3.5	3	3	0.35
	12	Fundamentals of Turfgrass Fertilization and Nutrient Management Planning	Alejandra Sierra, Ph.D. Doug Soldat, Ph.D.	0	0	0	0	0.35
	13	Aquatic Plant Management: Keeping Your Ponds Free of Unsightly Plants and Algae	Rob Richardson, Ph.D.	3	3.5	3	3	0.35
	14	You Pick the Pests: Turf Insect Management	Terri Billeisen, Ph.D.	3	3.5	3	3	0.35
Tuesday Morning • 8:00-11:30 am	15	From Selection to Perfection: Science -Driven Bunker Success	Chris Neff	0	0	0	0	0.35
	16	Strategies for Goosegrass, Annual Bluegrass, Crabgrass, Doveweed and Other Growing Weed Problems!	Jim Brosnan, Ph.D. Scott McElroy, Ph.D.	3	3.5	3	3	0.35
	17	Getting to the Root of Soilborne Diseases - Warm Season Turfgrasses	Jim Kerns, Ph.D. Joe Roberts, Ph.D.	3	3.5	3	3	0.35
	18	How to Stay Cool when Cool-Season Putting Greens Decline!	Lee Butler, David McCall, Ph.D.	3	3.5	3	3	0.35
	19	Winter Management of UltraDwarf Bermudagrass Putting Greens	Jordan Booth, CGCS, Ph.D. Mike Richardson, Ph.D.	3	3.5	3	3	0.35
	20	Aging Putting Green, Root Zone & Management of Organic Matter	Roch Gaussoin, Ph.D. Jim Murphy, Ph.D.	0	0	3	0	0.35
	21	The Architecture of Successful Renovation	Moderator: Nick Mazzella Panelists: Mike Koprowski, Brian Schneider Carson Shaw, Andy Staples	0	0	0	0	0.35
	22	Building Strong Foundation: Expectations and Communications between Golf Course Superintendents and Assistants	Matt Jones, CGCS, Terry Woods Brian Stiehler, CGCS, MG Chad Stockton	0	0	0	0	0.35
	23	Everything You Need to Know About Ultradwarf Bermudagrass!	Moderator: Billy Bagwell Panelists: Eric Dusa, CGCS, Ted Smith, III Matthew Smith	3	3.5	3	3	0.35
Tuesday Afternoon • 12:30-4 pm	24	The Ultimate Weed Control Guide - Panel	Moderator: Bert McCarty, Ph.D. Panelists: Jim Brosnan, Ph.D., Travis Gannon, Ph.D. Scott McElroy, Ph.D.	3	3.5	3	3	0.35
	25	Elevating Excellence: Strategic Approaches to Leadership, Scheduling and Wellness in Golf Course Management	Billy Bagwell, Steve Hamilton, CGCS Chris Neff	0	0	0	0	0.35
	26	Nematodes: Past, Present, and Future Directions for Management of these Elusive Pests!	David McCall, Ph.D. Joe Roberts, Ph.D.	3	3.5	3	3	0.35
	27	Fundamentals of Wetting Agents	Mike Richardson, Ph.D.	0	0	3	0	0.35
	28	Pesticides 101 - Fundamentals of Safe and Effective Pesticide Use in Turfgrass Management!	Zee Ahmed, Ph.D, Lee Butler Navdeep Godara, Ph.D.	3	3.5	3	3	0.35
	29	Creeping Bentgrass Putting Green Management in the Carolinas	Jim Kerns, Ph.D., Brandon Ingle Todd Lawrence, CGCS, Jeremy Prosser Jeff Van Pelt	1.5	3.5	3	3	0.35
	30	Current Trends in Research and Innovations from USGA	George Waters, Daniel O'Brien, Ph.D. Wes Stewart	0	0	0	0	0.35
	31	Cutting Unit 101: Understanding the Fundamentals	Trent Manning	0	0	0	0	0.35
		General Education Session	*Pesticide credits applied for*	.5	.5	1	1	0.35

**Aquatic Credits* **Credits pending*

CAROLINAS GCSA CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW
NOVEMBER 16 – 18, 2026

Register online at www.carolinasgcsa.org
Registration will open at 10 am on Wednesday, September 9

■ **REGISTRATION OPTIONS**

EARLY BIRD FEE REGISTRATION Deadline: September 30, 2026 11:59 pm EST
ADVANCED FEE REGISTRATION Deadline: October 31, 2026 11:59 pm EST
STANDARD FEE REGISTRATION Starts: November 1, 2026 11:59 pm EST

	Early Bird Fee *Prior to Sept 30*		**Advanced Fee** *Oct 1-31*		**Standard Fee** *After Oct 31*	
	Member	**Non-Mem.**	**Member**	**Non-Mem.**	**Member**	**Non-Mem.**
Full Conference Package	190	230	210	250	240	280
*(Package includes General Education Session, Trade Show, **Excludes Seminars**)*						
SUNDAY						
Assistant Superintendent Reception	0	0	0	0	0	0
MONDAY						
■ **SEMINARS SELECTIONS** *See page 44*						
	Member	**Non-Mem.**	**Member**	**Non-Mem.**	**Member**	**Non-Mem.**
Mon. (8–11:30)	75	115	95	135	125	165
Mon. (12:30-4:00)	75	115	95	135	125	165
Medal Play	125	165	145	185	175	215
Senior Medal Play (Over 50)	125	165	145	185	175	215
Four Ball	125	165	145	185	175	215
Captain's Choice	125	165	145	185	175	215
Sporting Clay	95	135	115	155	145	185
TUESDAY						
■ **SEMINARS SELECTIONS** *See page 45*						
	Member	**Non-Mem.**	**Member**	**Non-Mem.**	**Member**	**Non-Mem.**
Tues. (8–11:30)	75	115	95	135	125	165
Tues. (12:30-4:00)	75	115	95	135	125	165
Trade Show Pass (T & W)	100	140	120	160	150	190
WEDNESDAY						
Fellowship Breakfast	0	0	0	0	0	0

2026 SUPERINTENDENT IMAGE CAMPAIGN

The Carolinas GCSA greatly appreciates the support of the following companies in promoting awareness and appreciation of the role of golf course superintendents.

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