

Turf's Up in the Inland Empire



Spring 2023

Manito Golf & Country Club and the Summer Golf Outing

Every time you gather with your peers it is a learning experience, regardless of the location. And, meeting on a golf course offers a meaningful and applicable opportunity to directly share what is happening in the region.

We thank golf course superintendent, Jacob Teaford, and Manito Golf & Country Club, for hosting the Inland Empire GCSA, Monday, June 26, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. This will be a four-person shamble format. You are welcome to submit your team to play, and partial teams are also welcome. Manito Golf & Country Club golf course is a par 71, 6504-yard, 18-hole championship course and was the home of the 1944 PGA Championship.



Don't miss this chance to spend time with your fellow members before the season and the heat ramps up even further and your time is further consumed.

Hole sponsorships will be available and appreciated! You are welcome to reserve your sponsorship now.

Treat yourself — and your employees — to this experience. Registration is open soon. Visit the calendar event on our website, iegcsa.org, to register or to support the event through your hole sponsorship. Pay online or request an invoice.



2023 Crew Tournament



2023 is year three for the annual crew tournament! We can't say there hasn't been a crew tournament in our history, but 2021 put it back on the calendar with the opportunity to participate in the Northwest Crew Championship along with the Oregon GCSA and WWGCSA, and it has grown from year to year! Follow up play in the Summer Outing with play in the Crew Tournament, August 8, at Palouse Ridge Golf Course, Mike Bednar, superintendent. More information will be available this summer.



Two Important Events are Successful Because of Volunteers

It is a big job! Time and effort was spent to ensure we were ready for our silent auction for rounds at the Spokane Golf Show and it was led by Mike Kingsley, retired superintendent of MeadowWood Golf Course. And in the end, we were successful thanks to the golf courses supporting our programs through their donations and our volunteers (mainly Mike) who tirelessly

continued page 2

What's Upcoming?

Inland Empire GCSA Summer Outing *June 26, 2023*

Inland Empire GCSA Northwest Crew Challenge *August 8, 2023*

Pesticide Meeting *Oct. 23, 2023*

Northwest Crew Challenge Championship *TBA*

Fall Meeting & Trade Show *Nov. 13 & 14, 2023*



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The Future of Golf

**Cory See, IEGCSA Board Member
Superintendent
Fossil Island Golf Club, Kemmerer, Wyo.**

The rich will get richer and the poor will get poorer. The future of golf will simply be between the haves and have-nots. Some courses will have the resources and some won't. The biggest resource that golf courses will have to fight for is water. A quick look at the Southwest will tell you about everything you need to know about water and golf courses. The Colorado River is at historic lows, Lake Mead is apparently lined with dead bodies, and everyone is trying to secure water for their golf course for the future. All of this is happening while many places in the country are having historic rain and snow, although it is just only temporary help to a long-term problem.

The rich will always have the money or connections to secure water for their course. What if you are not at an exclusive private course? What if you do not have money or connections? You will be left to fend for yourself. And that's okay... for now...because we live in the Northwest and it's a small issue at this point. But, the issue is gaining momentum. It would be wise to look at water-reducing options on your course while you still have control.

What do the BMPs say?

"Potable water supplies in many areas ... are limited, and demand continues to grow. Our challenge is to find solutions to maintain quality of golf while using less water."

Page 24, *Best Management Practices for*

Wyoming Golf Courses.

1. Use effluent water when and where possible. This is an absolute no brainer for courses that have this option. This is basically recycling water.
2. Convert out-of-play turf areas to native, no mow, or alternate ground cover.
3. Use drought-tolerant grasses to help maintain a high-quality surface while minimizing water.
4. If you have water rights, do your due diligence to make sure everything is in order, and know what your rights entitle you to, what order you are in and how much water you are entitled to.

"BMP and educational programs are necessary to change the public's mindset toward the inevitable changes in water-related issues." Page 24, *Best Management Practices for Wyoming Golf Courses.*

This wording above tells me just how drastic the inevitable changes are going to be. Apparently, they will be so drastic that we will have educational programs to "change the public's mind(set) toward the inevitable changes." If these changes are going to be so drastic that we are having classes for the golfers to



understand the inevitable changes, then these changes sound like a little more than replacing some rough and using different types of grasses here and there. Instead of cutting 20% of your water use they may ask you to only use 20%. That's drastic! That's worth a golf intervention education program. What would you do? What could you do?

While these changes may be years off for us, it is a new reality for many courses in the country and it will make its way to us. Consider thoughtfully preparing your golf course.

Successful Because of Volunteers from page 1



collected the rounds, set up and tore down our booth, and all who spent their weekend representing us in our booth. Thank you to Dan and Cassie Frederiksen, The Club at Blackrock; and Jim Ewing, Liberty Lake Golf Course, for assisting Mike Kingsley at the show. When the event ended, it was time to contact all the winners. You would think that would be easy, but it takes time as some people changed their mind. Patience is the key and we thank Kingsley for his seemingly endless supply. In addition to the live event, thank you to Kal Zaranec, Circling Raven, for handling the successful online auction that continued the fun and bidding for several courses.

Also making a huge impact were the volunteers for the spring meeting silent auction. Our allied members were incredible with their support and each one is appreciated! We have to especially mention the generosity of **Lane Mountain Sand, Pacific Golf & Turf** and **Turfstar Western**. We appreciate our team of "Mikes" who pulled it off — Mike Bednar and Mike Dietz, both of Palouse Ridge, and Mike Kingsley!



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2023 Spring Meeting at Wildhorse Resort!

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**Thank you to our hosts:
Sean Hoolehan, CGCS,
Tyler Gabriel, and
Wildhorse Resort!**

Results:

Team Net 73:

- Sean Hoolehan, CGCS**
- Ivan Gibbs**
- Drew Rountree**
- Mike Dietz**

Team Gross 75:

- Tyler Gabriel**
- Cory See**
- Alex Day**
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Attending Chapter Leadership Symposium

Darcy Otto, Secretary/Treasurer Inland Empire GCSA, Avondale Golf Club

On March 21-22, I was able to attend the GCSAA Leadership Conference in Lawrence, Kan. On the first day we were welcomed by CEO Rhett Evans and other officers on the board of directors. BMP facility adoption updates were given as well as GCSAA Advocacy/National Golf Day/Grassroots Ambassador updates. I was able to attend this leadership seminar 11 years ago, but this time all of us were given the full tour of the GCSAA Headquarters and were introduced to every department and an explanation of what they do for us as members. This was a great opportunity to put some names to faces.



On day two we had a tremendous speaker, Jodie Cunningham, who spoke on the current status of today's job market — shocking information. She explained why we are in the current employment shortage and how this is just the beginning. She has worked in the personnel department of the L.A. Rams and for the 4 seasons Resort, and she currently owns Optimus Talent Partners. Cunningham gave some great insight to recruiting, retaining and maintaining your employees.



This is a great opportunity for anyone who is becoming an officer for your Inland Empire Board of Directors, you will gain a much better understanding of the GCSAA and how they do help us on a day-to-day basis. It is an opportunity you will gladly accept if the opportunity arises.

(Left: Darcy Otto, Lori Russell, Alex Bliss, and Ryan Knapp)



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Our Solution to Communicating with Members

Nate Cahill, The River Club, Boise, Idaho

What do I write? How do I convey my thoughts onto this screen/paper? Those are just a couple of the questions that plague me when trying to communicate in type — to no one's fault but my own. It has always been a struggle for me to convey myself in type. Since being at The River Club, I have tried to do short reports about the course from time to time. The general manager and I talked about this needing to be more of a focal point this year. I still struggled.

Being in a management role in my career for over 22+ years, I needed to be better at communicating with the membership. I ask myself, "How do I go about that?" As I mentioned to you, I struggle to convey my thoughts through text. So, I brought the idea of creating a YouTube channel to the general manager. He and I both thought that would be a good way for me to interact more with the membership. With our eye on the future reconstruction project of the course, it would also be a way to keep the membership informed throughout that process.

My goal is to post short videos of what we, as maintenance staff, do on the golf course. The first video was a simple how-to on fixing ball marks. This came about from input from members. It may have 150 views, but the response from the members that did view it was great. That was a good way to begin. I wasn't trying to be a viral sensation.

Then came the crew's response of making a video, which I did not see coming. I did most of the first video on my own and without most of them knowing about my plans. This was an exercise for my own growth. Once I told them we were on YouTube, the excitement level grew. The ideas they were coming up with were amazing. They even were critiquing each other more on the jobs they were doing. The cameras and phones were out all the time taking video. I had to put a damper on it and bring it under control. We were a month out from aerifying greens at the time. I told them they could help with the video I wanted to make explaining the processes we use for aerifying greens. They showed up the first morning of aerification with two or three GoPro cameras and selfie sticks. They got more than enough footage and angles for a video. That could have been the most smiles on faces I had ever seen over the two- and half-day process.

Finally, this fall we finished the voice-over and editing, and posted the video. The lesson I learned is next time I will post the informative video and allow the crew to post their version, too. I can't wait for next season to make some more videos. Something that was a challenge to start, has now grown a little bit. Something I thought I would be fully responsible for now has evolved a little bit. I may not let the reigns lose completely, but I will let the lead out a little longer.

**WANTED: High resolution (horizontal)
pictures for our website banner!
Please email to iegcsa@iegcsa.org**

NTA Supported OSU Research Recently Released

2.14.23 -OSU's Tall Fescue Research Study Complete

The turfgrass research team at Oregon State University has completed the study supported by the Northwest Turfgrass Association on the optimal mowing height and nitrogen fertilization for improving tall fescue turf quality in winter.

The study looks at tall fescue, which performs well in the Pacific Northwest in the warmer months but tends to thin, be susceptible to disease and contamination from annual bluegrass in the winter months. Can those winter issues be minimized and therefore more properties enjoy the benefits of tall fescue year-round? Check out the report for an answer - visit <http://www.nwturfgrass.net/>

*A portion of your membership dues helps
support NTA Funded Research!*

NTA Hits Nearly \$1.5 Million in Recent Donations

The Northwest Turfgrass Association has donated \$1,484,000 to turfgrass research and education programs in the past 25 years.

The NTA, which has been around for the past 75 years, has a detailed breakdown of its contributions for the period for 1997 to 2022 — visit <http://www.nwturfgrass.net/>



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The Inland Empire GCSA is established to serve members, advance the profession and promote the enjoyment of golf through responsible golf course management practices.