

# OGSA

ONTARIO GOLF  
SUPERINTENDENTS'  
ASSOCIATION

# The Association Exchange

## News from around Ontario

Compiled by:  
**Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association**

**Spring 2015**

### OGSA UPDATE

Schedule:

- June 1st—Pro/Super Challenge—Black Bear Ridge Golf Club—Host Bill Fach
- July 13th—President's Day Tournament—Lambton Golf & Country Club—Host Peter Kinch
- October 5th—Alex McClumpha Memorial Tournament—Markland Wood Golf Club—Host Owen Russell

After speaking with many fellow Superintendents around the province, most courses have emerged from the winter with minimal or isolated damage to the turf. This is a pleasant change to the widespread amount of damaged turf last spring. However, there are reports of extensive damage to numerous irrigation systems and hope that each property recovers from their repairs in a timely manner.

The OGSA board continues to be busy this spring and we are constantly looking at ways to more effectively serve and promote all our members. Surveys are a vital source of information to the board and thanks to all those who have completed surveys in the past so that we can continue to provide the best service and value. One issue we are regularly receiving comments about is the IPM public meeting. Our statistics over the last three years are showing that attendance at these meetings is dwindling with little or no people attending. I would like to report that we have formally submitted a request to the Ministry of Environment proposing a change to the current state of the public meeting. We hope to have a response from the MOE in the near future and will inform all members once we are notified.

Promotion of the Golf Course Superintendent and the OGSA continues to be a priority with the board. As a chapter delegate of the GCSAA we do have access to many of their resources. One of these resources is in the form of grants for association promotion. We have been in discussion the GCSAA and they are quite willing to provide the OGSA with a grant for a television commercial and possibly radio ads. The production of the advertisement is in the works and will be airing at some point this summer during an Ontario golf event.

Finally, I wish continued success to all as we enter into the most stressful part of the season.

- John McLinden

### Eastern Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association (EOGSA) UPDATE

On behalf of the EOGSA and the entire Board I want to thank the OGSA for the opportunity to submit a quick note regarding the upcoming season with the EOGSA.

Our event schedule is complete with our first regional event slated for Keystone Links on May 28<sup>th</sup> with our host Superintendent Rob Hendricks. Rounding out the events calendar are a July event at Rondell Glen, our August day at Ashbrook and of course the Bill Galbraith Memorial which returns this year to Black Bear Ridge on Sept 9. With over 20 teams already committed to this years event it will certainly sell out again with a full field of 36 teams and support from close to 20 corporate sponsorships.

It appears that courses have wintered rather well with only a bit of winter kill knocking back the poa in a few areas. Lets hope we have some cooperative weather this year as the last couple have certainly not been overly great.

If you have any questions regarding the EOGSA please go to [www.eogsa.ca](http://www.eogsa.ca). Our complete events calendar, history and contact information is available.

I look forward to seeing a great many of you at Keystone Links, please contact our event coordinator Aaron McConnell at Bay of Quinte to reserve your spot in our field days, Tim Colin regarding our corporate membership options and myself regarding the Galbraith entries.

Lets have a great 2015 season.

- Gary Morris

### Georgian Bay Golf Superintendents' Association (GBGSA) UPDATE

I would personally like to thank all of those who attended any of our four 2014 GBGSA events. A special thank you to the host Superintendents, Golf Professionals and their respective staff at all of the venues last season. Without the help of these individuals these events would not be possible. Lastly, a special thank you to the Board of Directors who volunteer their time to make these events a success.

Moving forward this season we will continue as an association to sponsor the following initiatives;

GBGSA (Jay Lavis Memorial) Scholarship  
BAGS Tour  
Guelph Turfgrass Institute  
Norman McCollum Bursary

The only funding available for us to support these worthwhile initiatives are the membership dues each year. This money goes directly towards our support of turfgrass students as well as junior golf within our region. Please click here to register and pay your 2015 member dues today.

The board of directors has decided to make a few changes for this season in regards to how many events we will be hosting and decided three was a good number. Having only three events will hopefully make it both more affordable and less time consuming for both the Suppliers and Superintendent Members. That being said, I would like to express a special thank you to all of our Suppliers for their continuous support throughout each season. Without them these events wouldn't be what they are!

If you are interested in hosting an event for the 2016 season please contact me at [nbell@muskokahighlands.com](mailto:nbell@muskokahighlands.com).

I wish you all a great spring and look forward to seeing you all at our first event!  
- Nicholas Bell

### Lake Simcoe Greenkeepers Association (LSGA) UPDATE

The LSGA is a small association that holds one fall event per year. The event is normally held during the last week of September and is always a fun day for Superintendents and their staff members to attend. It is a good chance to come out and meet your fellow greenskeepers in the area and to socialize and talk shop. This year's event has yet to be scheduled. I will send out information as soon as I have things finalized. If you would like to join our email list for the event please feel free to contact me at [mdodson@rogers.com](mailto:mdodson@rogers.com).

Thank You  
- Matt Dodson

### Northern Ontario Golf Superintendents Association (NOGSA) UPDATE

The month of April had started out with normal temperature and allowed the courses to dry out some. As we approach the 2nd half, low temperatures and precipitation had quickly turned the courses back to a mess of mud. The wet weather provided sand based greens the moisture they were striving for. Our frost is deep this spring and will make irrigation repairs difficult for most. All and all, most courses survived the winter months better than expected.

A brief meeting has been held by Mark Kay (Stone Ridge, Elliot Lake), Peter Stos (Huron Pines, Blind River), Tim Thurston (Podolinsky Equipment Ltd) and I, Stuart McMillan (Lively Golf Club, Lively) in regards to our association. We are planning an annual superintendent golf day. My list of emails addresses for Northern Ontario Supers is outdated. If this interests you and you want a well deserved day of enjoyment, please send your email address to [smcmillan@livelygolf.com](mailto:smcmillan@livelygolf.com). You will receive and outlined detail of our meeting.

Good Luck and have an enjoyable season  
- Stuart McMillan

### Kent Essex Greenkeepers Society (KEGS) UPDATE

Schedule:

- June 18th—Sutton Creek Golf Club—Host Jessica Aytoun
- August 25th—Indian Hill GC—Host Shawn Greenbird
- September 24th—Maple City G & CC—Host—John Pickard

The K.E.G.S. is under a trio of representatives this season; President, Dan Friesen, Superintendent of 11 years at Orchard View Golf Club, in Ruthven Ontario, Vice President Derek Brown, Superintendent of 7 years at Talbot Trail Golf Club in Wheatley Ontario and O.G.S.A. Liaison Douglas Kennedy in his inaugural year as a Class A Superintendent at Seven Lakes Championship Golf & Estates in Lasalle Ontario. The association wishes past president of ten years Steve Hatch best wishes in his new found career in product sales. Having three individuals fill the void of former president Hatch, speaks volumes of his dedication to the association and the golf industry in Ontario. We are fortunate to have him as an associate member of the association now.

The K.E.G.S. will be hosting 2 events to the eastern limits of our membership boundaries, so we are hopeful to encourage other association members from London, Niagara Falls and Toronto to join a couple great days of golf and information sharing. Our August event will be hosted by Superintendent, Shaun Greenbird of Indian Hills Golf Club, near Grand Bend and our September event will be hosted by Class A Superintendent, John Pickard of Maple City Golf Club in Chatham.

All O.G.S.A. members are welcome to join any of scheduled events throughout the year.

- Douglas Kennedy

### Greater London & Area Golf Superintendents' (GLAGS) UPDATE

Things at this time of the year are always quite hectic. Mother Nature hasn't decided if she is 100% committed to allowing true spring weather to move in. For those courses with some winter damage, warm sunny days can't come quick enough. GLAGS had another successful winter seminar in February with over 90 attendees. Thanks to our co-sponsors Syngenta and OSC. Our golf dates are slowly coming together. So far we will be at Cobble Hills May 21, Mount Elgin July 21, Echo Valley in September, our fall scramble is at Sunningdale and the Syngenta cup challenge will be held at Riverbend. The special shopping privileges for Glags members at the Columbia Sportswear employees store will be held during the month of June. Have a good growing season.

- Mark Hagen

### Ottawa Valley Turfgrass Association (OVTA) UPDATE

On behalf of the Ottawa Valley Turf Association and the entire Board of Directors I want to thank the OGSA for the opportunity to submit a brief summary of the events we have slated for 2015.

At the time of writing this message after what seemed like a long, cold, winter we find ourselves on the cusp of another golf season. Most courses in the area are reporting seeing good signs below the tarps. Only a few properties are experiencing ice damage or snow mould. Many courses are slated for a late April opening, with many looking at the following week.

We do have a few changes this year. The former Fall Field Day will now be called the "Summer Field Day" and will be held at Eagle Creek Golf Club on Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. Host Superintendent is Brady Pink. We've also decided to resurrect the Family Fun Day which will be held on July 19<sup>th</sup> at Karter's Korner. This is a great way for members and their families to get together mid-season for an afternoon of fun. The OVTRF golf tournament is set for Tuesday October 6<sup>th</sup>, at Rivermead Golf Club. Host Superintendent is Derrick Powers.

The OVTRF will be conducting some water testing again this year, so stay tuned for the results later in the year.

Once again our past Winter Conference was a great success. We have confirmed the dates for the 2016 Conference (Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>), so stay tuned for the list of speakers and the agenda.

Good luck to all in the coming year, and don't forget to spend some quality time away from the course with family and friends.

- John Lamoureux

### Western Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association (WOGSA) UPDATE

The Western Ontario Golf Superintendents Association has a very simple mission statement, to run affordable, relaxed and informative golf events for members and guests to gather, network, and hopefully learn a bit in the process. For 2015, the WOGSA has 4 golf meetings scheduled which are:

- Tuesday June 2<sup>nd</sup>—Victoria Park East GC—Host Jason Sewell
- Tuesday July 14<sup>th</sup>—Flamborough Hills GC—Host Joe Adams
- Wednesday August 19<sup>th</sup>—Deerfield GC—Host Ian McIsaac
- Monday September 28<sup>th</sup>—Craigowan GC—Host Jerry Richard

The yearly membership fee for WOGSA is \$25.00 if paid by the July meeting and \$35.00 after that. Industry guests may attend a golf event for an additional \$10.00 fee on top of the days cost. More information is available at our website at [www.wogsa.ca](http://www.wogsa.ca).

- John Taylor