

# TeeOff News

Fourth Quarter 2023



Montecito Country Club



# President's Message *Andy Cordova*



As 2023 comes to a close, I can't believe how fast this year has gone by. It seems like just yesterday that we gathered at The Alisal for our annual election meeting while setting up our BMPs. Now the annual GCSACC Christmas party is over and we look forward to spending time with our families over the holidays.

Reflecting on 2023 as an association, we had an excellent year. Our numbers improved significantly in both overall attendance and from a financial standpoint. The increased participation in the Al Glaze auction translated to a much better financial year. Not only did our members make it a point to come to the events to support the chapter but also our vendors sponsored and donated to these events. Thank you to all of you who supported our chapter.

As we enter 2024 we continue this momentum with a great slate of upcoming events, starting with our annual election meeting on January 15<sup>th</sup>. This will be hosted by Visalia Country Club and superintendent Dominic Peluso. Visalia CC has always been a very generous supporter of our chapter, the course is always in excellent shape no matter the time of year, and we thoroughly enjoy going there. To round off the first half of the year, The Al Glaze Scholarship and Research Tournament will look slightly different this year. It will be on May 13<sup>th</sup> this year (not June as we are accustomed to) and it will be at the Challenge Course at Monarch Dunes here on the Central Coast. The Challenge course is a 12-hole par 3 course which will lend itself to a variety of setups, games, and sponsorship opportunities. We are very excited about the change and what we have planned.

The reason for the change in the timing for the Al Glaze is that we are adding an event in June. On June 10<sup>th</sup>, Montecito Country Club and Superintendent Tennessee McBroom have graciously offered to host an event that will not only showcase their newly renovated golf course but will also be filled with both educational and round table discussions with some of the prominent figures in our industry. This is shaping up to be an amazing event.

Mark these dates in your calendars and try to make it out to join us, you won't be disappointed. Thank you all for your valued support of our chapter. I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season and I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting in Visalia.

*Andy Cordova*

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## Delegate Meeting Recap

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### 2023 GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting Recap

The GCSAA Chapter Delegate Meeting was held October 24th and 25th at GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas. Each chapter was able to send a representative to meet all GCSAA board members, staff, other chapter delegates, and the individuals running for the 2024 GCSAA Board of Directors.

CEO Rhett Evans spoke about GCSAA's "Relentless Focus" on serving its members and meeting the challenges they face. A financial update was also covered as the GCSAA has a solid financial standing but did address concerns that they have dipped into reserves to continue to offer all the current programs, while offering new programs to help each of us superintendents. Other topics included membership growth (GCSAA has now surpassed 20,000 members), GCSAA show in Phoenix, Labor and workforce development, Rounds 4 Research, Endangered Species Act, and OSHA Heat Stress Standard.

Rounds 4 Research was spoken of highly and has substantially grown in the past couple of years. A couple exciting notes about Rounds 4 Research 2023

\$424,659 given to chapters.

2,032 Registered Bidders up 211 from 2022

1,547 Rounds donated. Up 92 from 2022

1,471 Rounds Purchased. Up 75 from 2022

Average Round Sold \$381

Rounds 4 Research benefits our Chapters/Research, allowing us to generate resources to fund research and help ensure golf's future. Interesting fact to me, was not all chapters participate in this event, and even most golf courses are not participating as well. We all should seriously think about donating to this great event.

Delegates met at GCSAA Headquarters in Lawrence. One main topic that was really stressed for members is Best Management Practices. BMPs for your facility will likely be mandatory in the near future as the GCSAA is working with the EPA in sustaining a great relationship. The BMPs show your facilities professional commitment and knowledge. There is a lot of talk about validation on the BMP's. Are you using them like we say we are? Another Main topic was Dues adjustment. GCSAA has always used CPI as their model to raise dues, but in reality, that only covers the cost of inflation. Discussions were held in small breakout groups and doing a dues adjustment along with CPI. The adjustment was generally supported if there was a media campaign explaining what new programs were being offered and the benefits, we were getting for the GCSAA. Some of these new programs spoken of were the First Green Program and Workforce Developments.

The afternoon session provided us to hear from and interact with candidates for the 2024 GCSAA Board of Directors. The delegates were provided with ample time to interact and ask questions of the candidates. Those running for the GCSAA Board in 2024 are:

For president – Jeff L. White, CGCS

For vice president – T.A. Barker, CGCS

For secretary/treasurer – Paul L. Carter, CGCS, and Douglas D. Dykstra, CGCS

For director – Gregory Jones, CGCS, MG, Ryan Kraushofer, CGCS, Christopher Reverie and Marc E. Weston, CGCS

The Annual Meeting and Election will take place 8-10 a.m. on Feb.1 in Phoenix as part of the 2024 GCSAA Conference and Trade Show.

It was a great honor and privilege for me to be able to attend and represent GCSACC.

Thanks,

Elliot Weber

## From the Field *Jeff Jensen, GCSAA Field Staff, Southwest Region*



I hope this finds everyone doing well and getting a little downtime as we near the holidays. As we approach the end of 2023, there is some important information from the EPA that I want to share with you.

Through EPA’s Vulnerable Species Pilot, the Agency has identified an initial set of “pilot” listed species and is proposing pesticide mitigation measures designed to reduce the pilot species’ exposures to conventional pesticides from non-residential outdoor uses of those pesticides. According to the EPA, these twenty-seven pilot species are particularly vulnerable to the potential effects of pesticides due to a combination of factors including a limited geographic range, small population size, and general susceptibility to environmental stressors where effects to even a small number of individuals may be highly impactful to populations or the entire species.

To proactively address this situation, the Vulnerable Species Pilot focuses on implementing early protections for multiple types of registered pesticides (e.g., insecticides, herbicides) to protect the pilot species. It will establish Pesticide Use Limitations Areas (PULAs). PULAs are spatial files that allow users to determine if their intended pesticide or herbicide application falls within a location where additional restrictions or mitigations are necessary to protect listed species or their designated critical habitat.

In some cases, these restrictions will completely ban the use of all pesticides or herbicides and with others it will enforce strict mitigations (potentially based off the use of state BMP guides). GCSAA is working with the EPA to make sure these potential mitigations are workable for golf facilities (as opposed to using agricultural BMPs). Pesticide users will be able to identify species and restrictions/mitigations through directions on the pesticide label that will direct users to the online portal Bulletins Live.

The EPA has indicated the pilot project could be implemented as early as Spring of 2024, but lawsuits are likely to be filed to block the implementation. GCSAA will continue to work closely with the EPA on the pilot project as well as determining next steps for the golf industry.


A comprehensive webinar on the EPA/ESA is available at <https://www.gcsaa.org/education/my-learning-hub> under the Compliance Category. Education points are available for members viewing the webinar. More information will be forthcoming from GCSAA as well as your local chapter.

Thank you for your continued support of GCSAA and I hope you all have a great holiday season. I look forward to seeing you at the chapter events scheduled for early 2024.



**Gavin Dickson**  
[gavin@grassrootsturfsupply.com](mailto:gavin@grassrootsturfsupply.com)


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## TEE-OFF News

### Superintendent Profile

#### Landon White– Copper River Country Club

Landon is one of our newest Board of Directors, and the Superintendent at Copper River Country Club. He has graciously jumped into his position by hosting the 2023 Charity Tournament at his club, which was a huge success. We sat down with Landon to find out some of the Ins and Outs of his day to day life, and what he enjoys doing in his time away from the course:

Q: Where did you go to school, and what was your major?

A: I graduated from Rutgers University with a 2 year certificate in Turfgrass Management the fall of 2015

Q: What was your first paying job in the industry?

A: Mowing my grandma's lawn was my first paying job. Honestly was what probably sparked my passion for my career. Only jobs outside of golf I had were selling snow cones and bagger, cart pusher and cashier for a grocery store.

Q: What's the most exciting part of your job?

A: Honestly, figuring out what challenge I need to overcome each day. I love that my job is different every single day. Being outside and bringing your dog to work. You can't beat that.

Q: Where did you work before this position?

A: I was the grow in Superintendent for Copper Rock Golf Course in Hurricane, UT. I finished the grow in and hosted a LPGA event in my 3 year tenure there. It was awesome. I learned a ton and it's opened up doors for sure.

Q: What's your most-used productivity hack?

A: I pride myself in the use of TDR's and our onsite weather station. Giving the plant the amount of water it needs is vital and helps me sleep better at night. I'm also really good at building a budget and sticking to it.

Q: What is your favorite animal?

A: Dogs (1000%) I have a dog named Divot. He's a standard sized golden doodle and the closest thing you'll find to a human in an animal form. He tends to not want to associate with other dogs but loves golfers.

Q: What's your favorite food?

A: You can't go wrong with burgers or pizza. I could eat those everyday!

Q: Do you have any hidden talents or hobbies?

A: Right now all my extra time is used up playing dad to my 3 little kids. When I do find time I love riding my electric mountain bike and hunting.

Q: Are you a sports fan? Who are your favorite teams?

A: I love sports. My favorite team is the Utah Jazz. I'm a die hard fan for them. Other sports I'll watch, but I don't usually have favorite teams. I like just watching the sport not having favorites.

Q: What's your favorite thing to do on the weekends?

A: Day trips to the beach or finding a new trail to hike in Yosemite or Sequoia National Parks. I'm usually good with a pizza night with friends and playing some cards though.

Q: Can you speak more than one language?

A: I speak Spanish fluently. I served a religious mission in Southern Mexico for 2 years and it's been quite useful in my career to know Spanish. Haha

Q: Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

A: In 10 years I would love to be back in Utah closer to family still as a Superintendent or a Director of Agronomy. I would prefer Southern Utah, but my family lives up North so I'm open to that too.

Q: What three items would you take with you to a deserted island?

A: Hammock, Machete & a water filter. I could make that a vacation with those tools.

Q: What's your idea of a perfect day?

A: I'm the commander of my destiny. Almost everyday is my favorite. I've always had that type of prospective on life and call myself lucky to have the life I do. I don't wish for anything more.

And with that we say "Thank You" to Landon for taking the time to let all of us get to know him a little better. Hopefully everyone can have that same mindset to appreciate and be grateful for each day we have.

## Charity Tournament Recap Copper River Country Club 11/6/2023

The First Tee of Fresno was this years Charity Tournament recipient. We were able to donate \$2,000. The success of the event this year can be in Thanks to Copper River CC, and Landon White for providing the location at a great deal, Matt Graves of Belkorp for sponsoring the lunch, Irene Cline for making the lunch happen, and all of the attendees who took part. We also had fantastic weather, making for a great day all around.



Past and Present Superintendents of Copper River CC. Bill Griffith and Landon White



Tom Lipscomb, Craig Johnson, Scott Furtak, and Dereck Stone getting ready to take off.



Irene Cline and Lunch Sponsor Matt Graves of Belkorp at the Taco/ Nacho Bar

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## Christmas Party Recap Windows on the Water 12/2/2023

The Holiday event and Morro Bay Boat Parade was a wonderful event as always. Below are just a FEW of the wonderful friends and colleagues who were able to come together and celebrate this season. We want to “Thank” all of our Sponsors who graciously help to host the event each year and we look forward to seeing everyone at the party. If you have not attended in the past, you should make it a priority for 2024!



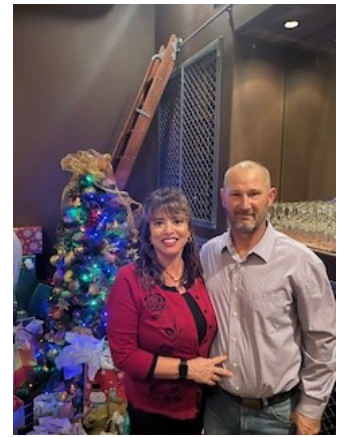
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Henderson, NV 89011



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[danny.vandecoevering@envu.com](mailto:danny.vandecoevering@envu.com)  
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## Safety Moment:

### *Identifying and Treating Sprains/Strains*

#### *Introduction*

Sprains and strains are among the most common workplace injuries. They are painful and debilitating for employees and costly for employers.

**Sprain** is an injury involving the stretching or tearing of a ligament (a tissue that connects bone to bone) or a joint capsule, which helps provide joint stability. Symptoms can include pain, inflammation, and, sometimes, the inability to move an affected limb. Sprains occur when a joint is forced beyond its normal range of motion, such as when one turns too quickly or rolls the ankle.

**Strain** is an injury that involves the stretching or tearing of a muscle or tendon. This happens when a muscle is stretched and suddenly contracts, as with running or jumping. Symptoms of an acute muscle strain can include pain, muscle spasm, loss of strength, and limited range of motion. Chronic strains are injuries that gradually build up from overuse or repetitive stress, resulting in tendinitis (inflammation of a tendon).

#### *The Causes of Sprains and Strains*

Sprains and strains can happen suddenly or develop over the course of days, weeks or months. When a worker is exposed to causative risk factors, they are more likely to develop a sprain or strain.

**Excessive force.** Many work tasks require high force loads on the human body. Muscle effort increases in response to high force requirements, increasing associated fatigue which can lead to injury.

**Excessive repetition.** Many work tasks and cycles are repetitive in nature and are frequently controlled by hourly or daily production targets and work processes. High task repetition, when combined with other risk factors such as high force and/or awkward postures, can contribute to the formation of injuries. A job is considered highly repetitive if the cycle time is 30 seconds or less.

**Awkward posture.** Awkward postures place excessive force on joints and overload the muscles and tendons around the effected joint. Joints of the body are most efficient when they operate closest to the mid-range motion of the joint. Risk of injury is increased when joints are worked outside of this mid-range repetitively or for sustained periods of time without adequate recovery time.

**Other environmental factors.** Slip, trip and fall hazards increase the risk of a sudden, acute soft tissue injury.

#### *Treating Sprain and Strain Injuries*

There are two methods for treating strains and sprains: RICE and Active Rehabilitation.

##### **RICE**

For the first couple of days, follow the 4 steps known as RICE therapy to help bring down swelling and support the injury:

1. **Rest** – stop any exercise or activities and try not to put any weight on the injury.
2. **Ice** – apply an ice pack (or a bag of frozen vegetables wrapped in a tea towel) to the injury for up to 20 minutes every 2 to 3 hours.
3. **Compression** – wrap a bandage around the injury to support it.  
**Elevate** – keep it raised on a pillow as much as possible.

When you can move the injured area without pain stopping you, try to keep moving it so the joint or muscle does not become stiff.

## Safety Moment Continued:

### *Identifying and Treating Sprains/Strains*

#### Active Rehabilitation

This protocol is centered around active care and implementing movement as soon as possible. The goal is to increase blood flow to the injured area to enhance the healing process.

Movement – Immediate but gentle restoration of active range of motion with gradual introduction of functional activities. Movement directly stimulates healing.

Adapt your usual movement in that area so that it is lighter and less stressful than it normally would be. But you should strive to do a double volume of load, range of motion, and stress to the area.

Start loading up the area, progressing to tolerate weight, as your body allows.

Exercise – This is implemented once the pain level has decreased, and movement of the injured area increases. Respect your pain level and boundaries.

Exercise will further increase circulation, adding fresh blood and removing debris from the damaged tissue.

Treatment – This can include physical therapy, massage therapy, and any number of other rehab techniques used to address specific injuries.

Generally speaking, RICE may be best reserved for acute muscle injuries (within the first few hours), and Active Rehabilitation may be best for acute ligament and cartilage injuries and aid long-term recovery.

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*Save The Dates*

**2024**

**January 15  
Annual Meeting  
Visalia CC**

**February  
GIS  
Phoenix, AZ.  
Jan 29- Feb 1  
California Room  
January 31**

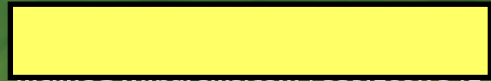
**Spring Meeting  
Date and Location  
TBD**

**Al Glaze  
May 13  
Monarch Dunes -Challenge Course**

**June 10  
Montecito CC**



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VENDOR PROFILE

John Allan



**Q: Do you have any mentors in your professional life?**

A: Scott Steinmaus was my advisor at Cal Poly and I still maintain moderate contact with him through industry meetings and Poly events. He was my Weed Science professor and my career path shifted after I took his courses. I also would also consider Joe Tompkins a mentor. Most folks reading I am sure know Joe. I worked at SLOCC while in college and Joe was always pushing me to work more hours despite me going to school full time. I think it taught me work ethic and dedication to the job. It also resulted in spot watering nightmares haha . I haven't seen Joe in years though. I wish him the best if he reads this.

**Q: What was your first paying job?**

A: I worked summers for a theatrical company in high school. It was also my mom's place of work. The company did the set up for concerts and plays. I put lights away and painted where needed.

**Q: What kind of music do you like?**

A: What kind of music do you like? Tool is hands down my favorite band although I appreciate modern reggae. And honestly, my kids are on the Taylor Swift bandwagon so my ears have been subjected to a lot of Swiftie jargon in recent months.

**Q: Do you like traveling?/ Favorite Place you've been?**

A: I am lucky that I get to travel a bit for a living although it's sometimes tough being away from home. I was recently in Antwerp, Belgium. I'd go back for the beer! I also really liked Bogota, Colombia. The food was great and the people were incredibly friendly.

**Q: What's the most exciting part of your job?**

A: I appreciate being able to travel to different parts of North America and talk to folks on the benefits of potassium nitrate. I deal in both turf and ornamental and conventional agriculture so there's a great mix of people and applications. Potassium nitrate is not a well known fertilizer so its fun sharing data and thinking outside of the box.

**Q: Where did you work before this position?**

A: I worked in retail for Wilbur Ellis in the Willamette Valley in Oregon

**Q: What's your most-used productivity hack?**

A: It may not be a hack, but I live and die by my Outlook calendar. It keeps me organized in both personal and work life

**Q: What's your favorite food?**

A: Sushi, no doubt. Even my kids love a family dinner at a sushi restaurant

**Q: What's your favorite movie?**

A: Tin Cup #1. The Bourne movies are a close second though

**Q: Do you have any pets?**

A: We have a dog. He's a neurotic rescue. Loves when you throw a ball to him but he'll never bring it back

**Q: What's your favorite thing to do on the weekends?**

A: Honey dos on Saturday along with kids sports. Follow it up with golf early am on Sunday with my usual group. Then follow up with football or golf on the couch depending on the season. End the day with Sunday dinner with the family and friends.

**Q: Do you play any sports?**

A: Golf is my #1 sport. I have an awesome wife that is ok with me playing most Sundays (although I think she wants me out of the house so she can sleep in). I also play coed softball with my wife and a group of friends I've known since college. We're getting a bit old to hang with the young bucks but we still hold our own and win a championship once a year.

**Q: What's your idea of a perfect day?**

A: A finishing score of 72 (because I'm not that good), come home to the 49ers or golf on the TV, a nap, then Sunday dinner with the family.

Thank you John for giving us the opportunity to get to know you a little better, We look forward to seeing you at future events!