

MAY 2023

# HEARTBEAT

THE HEART OF AMERCIA GCSAA

**S&R TOURNAMENT**

MISSION HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

**JUNE 5TH, 2023**



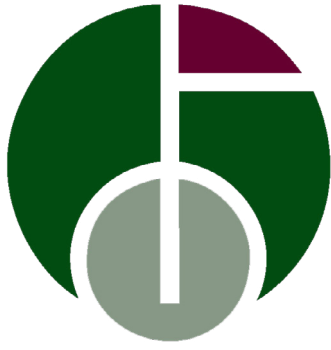
Heart of America Chapter

**GCSAA**



*Presidential Club*





# HEARTBEAT

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

## MAY 2023 EDITION

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**May 10th**

**Joint Meeting with KGCSA**  
Heritage Park Golf Course

**May 15th -21st**

**Advent Health Championship**  
Blue Hills Country Club  
Volunteers Needed!

**June 5th**

**S&R Tournament**  
Mission Hills County Club

**September 21st**

**Vendor Appreciation**  
Sunflower Hills Golf Course

**October 16th - 17th**

**Fall Out Tournament**  
Old Kinderhook & Lake Valley Golf Courses

**October 30th**

**Battle of the Heart Tournament**  
Blue Hills Country Club

**November 8th**

**Annual Meeting**  
The 180 Room

**November 13th**

**Equipment Managers Program**  
Overland Park Golf Course

**Heart of America GCSAA**

10100 N Ambassador Dr  
Kansas City, MO 64153

(816)-561-5323

www.hagcsa.org

### SCHOLARSHIP & RESEARCH TOURNAMENT



**Monday, June 5, 2023**  
Mission Hills Country Club

7:30am – Check In  
9:00am – Shotgun

At the Turn - Lunch

1:30pm – LIVE Auction, Hors d' oeuvres,  
Awards and Scholarship Presentations

4 person scramble

**\$900 per team; \$250 for singles**

(includes: Golf, Cart, Lunch, Hors d' oeuvres, Skins Game,  
Gary Woodland Hole, Hole in One Hole, and One Mulligan per player)

**Host Superintendent:**  
Justin Hunter

#### SUPERINTENDENTS

You are encouraged to form a club team  
with colleagues, members and valued  
customers from your facility.

#### BRING CASH

(2 Opportunities)

50/50 Pot – Registration Desk (\$1 per ticket)

*Half to Winner; Half to S&R Fund*

50/50 Pot – Hole #14/Closet to the Pin (\$10 per player)

*Half to Winner; Half to KSU Turf Club*

**CAR POOLING  
RECOMMENDED**



**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**

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# President's Message



*Dear Heart Members,*

- The word I always come back to for this year has been “adapting”. HAGCSA will come across several issues this year that the board will have to adapt to and create a great education and networking experience for our members. One issue that is currently being discussed is the future of the Common Ground and how it will look going forward. MAGIC has come to us and stated they will be providing recertification all in one day. The next issue has been a Declining MO Cup Challenge event hosted at the Lake of the Ozarks. The board is aware of all these challenges and we are doing our best to adapt and come out on top!
- I want to thank all the members that came out to Harris Park on March 16th and helped Chris and his facility come back to life. Aaron Stansbury did an amazing job setting this community service project up and HAGCSA members did an outstanding job lending a hand.
- I was able to attend this year's Chapter Symposium at GCSAA Headquarters. Over 20 Chapters were represented at the symposium, and several new ideas and challenges were brought up during the two-day program. Adapting to the world after COVID has been challenging for Chapters throughout the country and doing the same old thing has not been the answer. I continue to challenge our board to bring new ideas to the table.
- I hope to see everyone make it to this year's Joint Event with KGCSAA at Heritage Golf Course on May 10th. Our relationship with nearby Chapters will always be important with joint support for GCSAA. If you follow Ethan Shamet on Twitter, you know that he has taken the Poa Cure program on full throttle. This is a great time to come out and ask questions about the program and see for yourself the changes he has made. Thank you, Ethan, for hosting this event!
- Don't forget to sign up for the 2023 HAGCSA Scholarship and Research Tournament hosted by Justin Hunt at Mission Hills Country Club on June 5th. We will see you there!

Thank you,

*Jonathan Bennett*

**HAGCSA President**



## Scholarship & Research Tournament

~ S&R Mission Statement ~

"Organize and generate the financial means to enrich the game of golf through funding regionally based research and scholarship to qualified applicants."

**Date:** Monday, June 5, 2023

**Location:** Mission Hills Country Club  
5400 Mission Dr.  
Shawnee Mission, KS 66208

**Host Superintendent:** Justin Hunt

**Schedule:** 7:30am – Registration  
9:00am – Shotgun  
10:30am – Lunch (at the turn)  
1:30pm – LIVE Auction  
Appetizers / Awards  
Scholarship Presentations

**Format:** Four-person scramble

**Cost:** \$900 per team; \$250 per single  
(includes: golf, lunch, beverages on the course, reception, skins game, Gary Woodland Hole, Hole in One Opportunity, and four mulligans per team)

### GAMES/CONTESTS (Included in cost)

- ✓ Skins - Half the pot goes to the skins winner, the other half goes to the Fund.
- ✓ Gary Woodland Hole - Your team is given a 350+ yard drive. – **Hole #18**
- ✓ Hole in One Opportunity - You receive a hole-in-one if anyone in your group lands on the green. – **Hole #3**
- ✓ Mulligans - One mulligan per player / four per team (no tickets; honor system)

**Dress Code:** Country Club Attire - Collared Shirt, Soft Spikes and No Jeans/Cargo Pants. NO Hats in Clubhouse.

**\$\$ BRING CASH \$\$**  
(2 Opportunities)

- **50/50 Pot** – Registration Desk (\$1 per ticket)  
*Half to Winner; Half to S&R Fund*
- **50/50 Pot** – Hole #14/Closet to the Pin (\$10 per player)  
*Half to Winner; Half to KSU Turf Club*

**CARPOOLING  
RECOMMENDED**



**TITLE SPONSOR**

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**Reservation Deadline: Monday, May 29, 2023**



## REGISTER ONLINE AT:

<https://web.hagcsa.org/events/SCHOLARSHIP-and-RESEARCH-TOURNAMENT-7089/details>

### POLICIES:

**No Onsite Payments.**

**Refund Policy:** Full refund with a 72 "business" hour notice. No refund within 72 hours of event. "No Shows" will be billed.

**Cancellation Policy:** The Heart of America GCSA reserves the right to cancel any event not meeting the minimum requirements.



## HARRIS PARK MAINTENANCE DAY

A huge thank you to all the volunteers of time, labor, and equipment used at the Harris Park Maintenance Day event, on March 16th, 2023. The day turned out to be a tremendous success despite the “up in the air call” on the weather. Rain and dropping temperatures were forecasted, but volunteers came together to accomplish most of our tasks in the window we were given. To avoid implications with weather, chemical applications to clean-up fairways and pre-emergent for the rough were applied several days in advance.



The day of the event was focused on cleaning, tilling, re-planting, and mulching the landscape beds on property. Plants and bedding material were generously donated by SiteOne Landscape Supply. Once the delivery arrived, volunteers wasted no time unloading the truck and getting right to work. The transition of the landscape beds after two hours of work was like night and day. After working up an appetite, the group was provided with barbecue sandwiches and beverages donated from Van Wall Equipment and Chris Harris.

Once again, a special thanks to all those that helped make this event come together so well. Chris was extremely excited about the results and the visual impact it will have on his community. We look forward to having a close relationship with Chris and Harris Park in the future.







**DATE:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023

**LOCATION:** Heritage Park Golf Course  
16447 Constance St, Olathe, KS 66062

**HOST SUPERINTENDENT:** Ethan Shamet

**SCHEDULE:** 10:00am – Registration  
10:30am – Meeting/Program & Lunch  
12:00pm – Shotgun  
Following – Awards (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Last Places; Plus Contest Holes)

**COST:** \$65 per person (Lunch Only: \$25)

**TOPIC:** Poacure **SPEAKER:** Kyung Han, Moghu USA

**GCSAA Points:** Applied for

**FORMAT:** 2 man shamble; Two/HAGCSA vs Two/KGCSA

**RESERVATION DEADLINE:** Wednesday, May 3, 2023

## JOINT MEETING with Kansas GCSA

*Promoting the welfare of the game of golf, the professional image and well-being of individual members, and to unite golf course superintendents in the Kansas City area.*

### TITLE SPONSORS



## REGISTER ONLINE AT:

<https://web.hagcsa.org/events/JOINT-MEETING-with-KGCSA-2023-7087/details>

### POLICIES:

Invoicing: Not Allowed.

Refund Policy: Full refund with a 24 "business" hour notice. No refund within 24 hours of event. "No Shows" will be billed.

Cancellation Policy: The Heart of America GCSA reserves the right to cancel any event not meeting the minimum requirements.

### Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association

10100 N. Ambassador Dr., Suite 310, Kansas City, MO 64153; 816-561-5323; [kweitzel@naeda.com](mailto:kweitzel@naeda.com)





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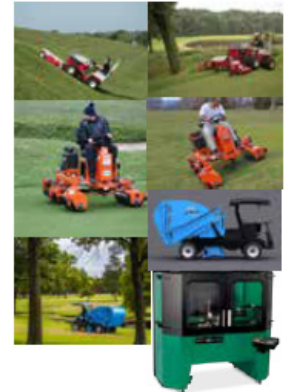


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## ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT SPOTLIGHT

AUSTIN POTEET

KANSAS CITY COUNTRY CLUB

Q&A

**Q1 - What's your title, golf course name, and how long have you worked there?**

**A1:** I am in my 3rd season as an assistant superintendent at The Kansas City Country Club.

**Q2 - What was the moment that got you into turf?**

**A2:** I started working at a golf course when I was 15 years old under Pat Rose. He made it super-exciting every day and I knew from then on that this was what I wanted to do with my career. I studied Environmental Science at Tusculum University. I completed three internships while in school. The first two years were at Seawane Golf Club in Hewlett Harbor, Long Island, New York. The second was at The Polo Club Of Boca Raton.

**Q3 - What hobbies do you have outside of golf?**

**A3:** My biggest hobby is playing with my dog Buddy. I also like to play lacrosse, baseball, football, and sand volleyball.

**Q4 - How has your transition of course management been? Have you had to adapt in any way?**

**A4:** KCCC is my first assistant position. I graduated in May of 2021 and then moved out here the same month! There was definitely a learning curve but I just had to gain confidence in myself and ask a lot of questions. It was a humbling transition and I have the best teammates in the office to help steer me in the right direction.

**Q5 - What are your professional goals?**

**A5:** One of my goals has been to participate in a golf course renovation. Hopefully, I'll get the chance to accomplish this while I'm at KCCC. One day I'd like to become a superintendent... Maybe somewhere closer to home (Tennessee) so I can spend more time with my family. I don't have a timeframe in mind and I have a lot more to learn before seeking a position like that.

**Q6 - What are you doing after your last shift of Member Guest?**

**A6:** I'm going home to my dog! Maybe I'll stop along the way home for a bite to eat and a little celebration with our other assistants.

**Q7 - Favorite part of your job?**

**A7:** My favorite part is being able to teach something new. It's easy to forget that not everyone knows how to use basic tool like a blower. For many of us it's second nature, but to a lot of people this is a foreign thing.

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# TONY'S

## TONY'S TEASERS (2)

$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$  (HINT: More popular than Cart Path Only!)

N - R

We did this many years ago and we are bringing it back.  
A riddle for each issue.

For each right answer – the recipient will be  
entered into a \$350 gift card drawing.  
Must be present at the Common Ground  
Conference to win.

We'll list the winner in the next issue.  
Entries to be sent to Andy Klein, Co-editor:  
[andy.klein@vanwall.com](mailto:andy.klein@vanwall.com)

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with The Toro Company.

**R4R overview:** An innovative program aimed at generating resources to fund research and help ensure golf's future. The premise is simple: Golf facilities can support the effort by donating rounds of golf for two or four or "stay and play" packages that are auctioned online.

**The Rounds 4 Research program** is addressing a critical shortage of funding for ongoing, university-based agronomic research, education, advocacy programs and course operations. You can help foster sustainability with a donation or by bidding on rounds during the online auction.

### Who's involved?

- Industry
- GCSAA – 19,000 members around the globe
- GCSAA Foundation – The philanthropic organization of GCSAA
- GCSAA Chapters – 97 chapters in North America
- Golf Facilities – Thousands of courses have donated rounds since 2012

**Groups who benefit:** Golfers, golf facilities, communities, universities, turfgrass foundations, allied golf associations, golf industry partners, and more.

### How is R4R good for the game?

Generated funds ensure the golf industry remains strong and viable. Rounds 4 Research is available to GCSAA chapters, to use as a platform for revenue generation through the online auction of rounds of golf.

Funds raised can be used to further efforts in the areas of research, advocacy and education. **Golfers and golf facilities are the ultimate beneficiaries of funds raised.**





R4R began in 2012

More than  
**\$2 million**  
raised

“It makes me feel good that the industry feels like the work I do here is valuable enough that they raise funds to help support my position. I’m not sure where I’d be and where the program would be without those Rounds 4 Research dollars.”

– Brian McDonald, a senior research assistant in the turfgrass program at Oregon State University

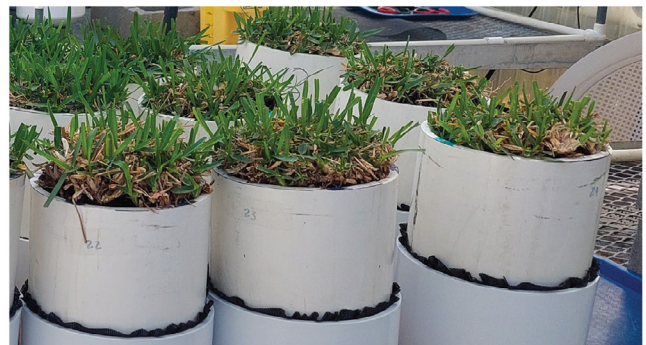
“Rounds 4 Research had been very beneficial to our chapter’s commitment to funding research for the Rutgers University Center for Turfgrass Science along with the recently launched New Jersey Turfgrass Economic Survey. We have also been able to immensely grow our Foundation’s scholarship program which benefits our members and their immediate family.”

– Maureen Sharples, executive director, GCSA of New Jersey

“All of our funds received from Rounds 4 Research are solely earmarked for research. Rounds for Research has provided us with an alternate revenue source for research. It has enabled our chapter to commit to new research projects on an annual basis that are valuable to all of our members. Prior to Rounds 4 Research, we were much more limited to new commitments.”

– Jennifer Bryan, Florida GCSA executive director

More than  
**10,000**  
rounds of golf  
have been donated  
and auctioned off



“Rounds for Research not only supports important local research, but it also gets people playing golf, a win-win for the industry.”

– Judson McNeil, president of The Toro Company Foundation.

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organizations have  
benefitted from R4R  
funds





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Heart of America Chapter

**GCSAA**

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**Dual Membership Requirement:**

**All Class A and Class B Membership** applicants must submit an application for membership or evidence of membership with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA Membership #) and must maintain that membership thereafter.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ GCSAA Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Club or Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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## JOB INFORMATION: LIST CURRENT EMPLOYMENT FIRST

| DATES EMPLOYED |          | EMPLOYER NAME & CITY/STATE | TITLE |
|----------------|----------|----------------------------|-------|
| From _____     | To _____ | _____                      | _____ |
| From _____     | To _____ | _____                      | _____ |

I hereby make application for membership in the Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association and attach herewith my dues for the current year. If accepted, I agree to uphold the by-laws of this Association and subscribe to the following code of ethics. To the end that confidence and respect may be enjoyed by members of our Association, the code of ethics is promulgated and observation of its provisions required.

- Every member shall take pride in his/her work and regard it as a profession in which all members strive to maintain its good name.
- Realizing that the best asset that a member can have is thorough knowledge of his/her business, he/she shall constantly try to improve his/her knowledge and effectiveness by freely exchanging experiences and ideas with fellow members and take advantage of all opportunities for improvement.
- He/she shall endeavor to maintain courteous relations with his/her employer and his/her associates and endeavor to have his/her employees take pride in doing their work well.
- In accomplishing his/her own and the Association's best interest, observance of the following suggestions are recommended.
  - Seeking Employment:** 1. Seek counsel of local associations when applying for a position in a new district; 2. Recommend only qualified GCSAA members; 3. Ascertain the wage scale in district in which you are seeking employment, then uphold that talk with the person who last held or now hold the position of Golf Course Superintendent.
  - Visiting:** 1. Announce your HAGCSA or GCSAA membership when visiting; 2. Always contact the Superintendent of the course you are visiting; 3. Honor requests for technical help from golf courses only when channeled through the superintendent of the course making the request.

Communication Consent: I agree to receive notices, advertisements, announcements, brochures, and other information from Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents of America via facsimile, telephone or e-mail. I further agree that my express permission to fax, telephone or e-mail me such notices and other information will continue and have no date expiration, unless a written request is received indicating a change in permission.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please include Annual Membership Dues with Application (Term: January to December):**

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**Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association**

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Class A • Term expires: 2023

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Class A • Term Expires: 2023

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Class A • Term Expires: 2023

#### PAST PRESIDENT

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