



Canadian Golf Superintendents Association

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025

Introduction

This report gives an overview of the activities of the CGSA over the past fiscal year.

Membership

CGSA finished our fiscal year with over 1100 members. This number shows an increase in overall paid membership of over 5% and our core categories of Superintendent, Assistant and Equipment Technicians have increased over 4% from the previous year. Launched in 2024 our Club Membership continues to gain momentum and allows Clubs to see savings by involving additional staff members in the association.

CGSA continues our partnership with the NGCOA Canada to offer various programs and discounts available to members; including Toro, Brett Young, Rain Bird, GM and NAPA Canada to name a few. Members are encouraged to look into the portfolio prior to making purchases.

The Board of Directors approved a new Short Course Scholarship for those who were attending the University of Guelph program. They also increased the overall scholarship amounts to be awarded to \$10,000 making a significant move towards helping turf students financially.

The association approved offering the suite of on demand educational sessions tagged as the *CGSA Live Learning Centre* available to all members as part of their membership fee. This allows all members to participate in educational sessions that are presented at our annual conference. Many of these are also available for continuing education credits through the CGSA as well as most provinces for their IPM or pesticide recertification programs.

CGSA also conducted and produced the *Canadian Golf Maintenance Department Compensation Study*. This report was conducted in cooperation with several regional partners; BCGSA, STA, MGSA, OVTA, QGSA and Atlantic GSA. The results of this report are an important piece of research for Superintendents and the industry allowing golf courses to do valuable comparisons to remain competitive in the marketplace.

CGSA was pleased to recognize our 2024 award winners:

- Jim McGarvey, AGS Emeritus as John B. Steel Distinguished Service Award Winner;
- Reid Solodan, AGS, Superintendent at Canmore Golf & Curling Club in Canmore, AB as the CGSA/Envu Superintendent of the Year;

- Robin Sadler, MS, Superintendent at Mickelson National Golf Club in Calgary, AB as the CGSA/Rain Bird Environmental Achievement Award Winner;
- Sean Leach, former Assistant Superintendent at Point Grey Golf & Country Club in Vancouver, BC as CGSA/Toro Assistant Superintendent of the Year;
- Sean Brillinger, Superintendent at Glencairn Golf Club in Halton Hills, ON as the Gordon Witteveen Superintendent Authored Article of the Year, presented in partnership with Toro.

CGSA continues to search out initiatives that will serve our membership, promote the position of Superintendent and others in the industry.

Financial

The 2024 – 2025 fiscal year proved to be another positive year financially for the association. Our annual revenues were up over 2023 – 2024 and expenses were minimally down over that same time period.

CGSA reports a year end surplus of \$65,050.

Activities

CGSA recognized 26 Superintendents who hosted National Tournaments this past season during those events.

CGSA currently has 16 Master Superintendents, 37 Accredited Golf Superintendents and 9 Accredited Assistant Golf Superintendents on our roster. There were 2 successful members who challenged the AAGS exam this past fiscal year; congratulations to both Nicholas Turner, AAGS and Samuel Anstey, AAGS on your achievement! All Superintendent and Assistant members are encouraged to look into our accreditation programs and take the next step in your professional development.

CGSA participated in various events throughout the calendar year with representatives attending the GCSAA Conference in San Diego, Alberta GSA Conference in Canmore, MGSA Conference in Winnipeg, MGSA 75th Anniversary Celebration, the NGCOA Canada Conference in Calgary, the RBC Canadian Open and the CPKC Women's Open.

CGSA continues its partnership with the NGCOA Canada and the GEO Foundation to promote and manage *Sustainable Golf Canada*. This program is available to all members to participate and work towards a more sustainable environment for golf courses.

CGSA participated alongside our international partners in Thank a Superintendent/ Greenkeeper Day, that was held in September 2025. We saw excellent engagement throughout the world. CGSA highlighted Superintendents and Assistants from across the country through this initiative.

CGSA maintains a voice at the National Allied Golf Associations (NAGA), where our CEO serves as Chair. Last year NAGA held an in-person meeting with key board members from all groups for discussion and collaboration during the CPKC Women's Open in Mississauga, Ontario.

Committees

The CGSA reinstated regular committee meetings this past year. With a total of six committees and 47 active volunteers. These committee members are a valued part of our operations and assist in identifying current challenges, future initiatives and input on CGSA's activities.

Some of those committee discussions have resulted in the creation of provincial Best Management Practices by the Environment Committee along with the Assistants Committee making recommendations for more HR programming (available on the conference program in 2026) and the new Assistants / First Timers Lounge (at the 2026 conference).

Events

This year we hosted 3 events; The Canadian Golf Course Management Conference, in partnership with the Ontario Golf Superintendents Association; The Summer Shamble and The Fall Field Day.

The CGCMC was hosted in Niagara Falls, Ontario in February 2025. CGSA partnered with the OGSA to host this event. Overall, the event was successful with final attendance exceeding expectations. A total of 22 hours of education were presented, with social events encouraging networking and connection. In addition to a sold-out trade show with 77 exhibiting companies showing new equipment and services available to golf course turf professionals.

The Summer Shamble was hosted in Kelowna, British Columbia at The Okanagan Golf Club, Host Superintendent was Gary Stadnek. The course was in fantastic shape to welcome our group. A seminar presentation was done by Javier Campos of The Cal Club.

The Fall Field Day was hosted at Club de Golf Laval sur le Lac in Laval sur le Lac, Quebec with Host Superintendent Luc Ladouceur. The day prior, a 9-hole best ball tournament was held at Club de Golf Islesmere with Host Superintendent Don Gordon. A seminar on GEO conducted by Jonathan Smith was held before golfers headed out. All functions were well attended and offered exceptional experiences.

Nominations

Nominations were received for the following positions:

Atlantic Director – Matthew Blackburn, AGS

Ontario Director – Colin Young

Manitoba Director – Dustin How, AGS

Vice President – Cameron Kusiek

President – Tyler McComas

Unfortunately given the unexpected passing of Alan Morton late last year CGSA has not been successful in securing a new Quebec Director at the time of print. While the position remains open, CGSA continues to work to secure an individual to represent this important position.

Sponsorships

CGSA would like to extend appreciation to the various suppliers who have supported the activities and membership over the past year.

Special thanks to:

- Platinum Plus Sponsor – The Toro Company
- Platinum Sponsor – Envu Canada
- Gold Sponsor – Syngenta Canada
- Silver Sponsor – Rain Bird International
- Opening SociALL Sponsor – Brett Young Ltd.
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Thank you to all sponsors that supported our events including the following companies:

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In Closing

CGSA looks forward to the next fiscal year as the association celebrates it's 60th Anniversary. We appreciate the continued support and engagement of all our members.