



# THE NEWSLETTER

July 2012

of the **Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England, Inc.**

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## GCSAA Field Staff Representative Kevin Doyle

By Jeff Urquhart, Editor

This past March GCSAA announced its Northeast Field Staff position had been filled by Kevin Doyle. I recently sat down with him to discuss his new role.

I was at my shop waiting for a big SUV tattooed with GCSAA logos, membership applications flying out the back window and a megaphone blaring "Join GCSAA!!!" But instead, Kevin showed up in a modest 4-door sedan with no logos or anything pertaining to GCSAA. When the Field Staff position was first announced most people assumed it was to solely gain more members or to compete with the USGA Turf Advisory Service, but that is not at all true. Kevin stated, "I'm not Big Brother, and that was a preconceived notion coming in, oh here comes GCSAA to do this or to do that." He is here to bring the resources to us that are available from GCSAA.

Kevin lived in Massachusetts for thirty years but now resides in New Hampshire with his wife Susan of 12 years and two daughters Kathleyn and Bailey. He has always worked on a golf course in some aspect, with his most recent employment at Londonderry Country Club in Londonderry NH where he was the Superintendent for 9 years. Although working on the course was enjoyable, Kevin has always wanted to be on the business side of the golf course industry; which motivated him to go back to school to get his Masters in Business. Kevin was then on the search for a new career in golf. "I was checking GCSAA job board online and there it was, the timing was perfect." Although he was hired this past March, the Field Staff program has been running for 4 years now because GCSAA is taking its time working through the budgeting process to make the position as successful as possible.

Kevin's territory (if you want to call it that, it's more like a Nation) is all of New England, New York, New Jersey and Ontario. While I was trying to write all of this down he mentioned that he was on his way to Jay Peak, Vermont later that day. I have a hard time driving 25 minutes to Norfolk never-mind half way to the North Pole in the drop of a hat! Within those regions he offers services to 16 different Associations that are affiliated with GCSAA, GCSANE being one of the largest. The major goal of the program is bringing all the information from Kansas and GCSAA.org right to your doorstep.

You will most definitely see him at most of the monthly meetings, he asks that you're not at all apprehensive (or put your drink down) and please approach him with questions or concerns with regards to GCSAA. "I'm not a policeman, I'm there to make sure they understand the current topics that are affecting our industry." ❖



Kevin Doyle



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# Thoughts From Your Association Manager



Wetlands come into play at the 369-yard, par-4 11th hole at The Golf Club of New England. (L.C. Lambrecht/USGA)

July 19th, I attended the USGA Junior Amateur Championship at the Golf Club of New England in Stratham, New Hampshire. The Championship is for boys that haven't reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday by the end of the Championship and that have a handicap index that does not exceed 6.4. Most are from the United States but some come from other countries.

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The course weaves through 450 acres of land and is an impressive layout. It's big, bold, beautiful and impeccably maintained by Superintendent Jeff Baker, Assistant Superintendent Jess Hamilton, both are GCSA of New England Members, and a dedicated staff of hard working and enthusiastic team members. They deserve a tremendous amount of credit for the tireless amount of work and long hours they put in before and during the event.

Other members of the GCSA of New England working the event were Jim Skorulski, the USGA's on-site agronomist, Joe Sprague, the Massachusetts Golf Association's Executive Director who served as a USGA Rules Official, and Scott Whitcomb, the Massachusetts Golf Association's Director of Field Operations, who also served as a USGA Rules Official.

The July meeting at Pleasant Valley Country Club was a treat for all who attended. The course was in fantastic condition and the hard work of Donny D'Errico and his staff was evident by the striking conditions. The golf shop and clubhouse staff did all they could to make the day memorable. It truly was a fun-filled day. The registration glitches have been worked out and the process went smoothly and quickly. Thanks to Garrett Whitney for his help developing the skins card we'll be using at the meetings. The card, separate from the scorecard, allows scores to be compiled quickly. If anyone has an idea they think might be useful for us to consider, please let me know. We're always looking for good ideas and show no shame adopting them.

Don Hearn,  
Association Manager  
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# London Games Raise Excitement for Golf's Olympic Inclusion

By Rex Hoggard

Olympic golf, a largely theoretical concept for many fans that has focused on familiar formats and as-yet-unbuilt golf courses, will inch closer to reality today when the 2012 Games get underway in London.

We can't be the only ones who will be daydreaming during Friday's Opening Ceremony about golf's place in the 2016 Games in Rio, and this week's Cut Line checks under the hood of golf's Olympic movement.

## Made Cut

**A stroke of genius.** There was plenty of talk last week about the format selected for golf in the '16 Games, with Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews chief Peter Dawson suggesting that match play or a team competition may be a better fit for future Games. Those who dismiss stroke play as a viable option, however, must not have been paying attention last Sunday. Adam Scott's heartbreaking loss combined with Ernie Els' 72<sup>nd</sup>-hole heroics at Lytham is all the argument one needs for stroke play.

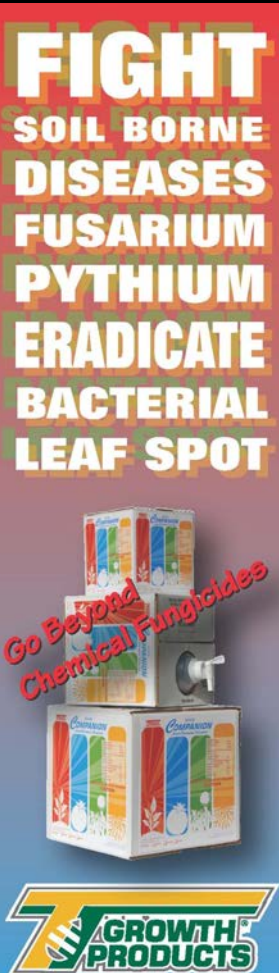
Critics claim stroke play is a default format for deciding championships and therefore not a good fit for the Olympic Games, but Cut Line's pretty sure the ancient Greeks never tried to reinvent the wheel.

**Bunker mentality.** In a preemptive move, the PGA of America declared all of South Carolina "through the green." Actually, officials ruled that all sandy areas at Kiawah's Ocean Course will play as waste areas, not bunkers, for next month's PGA Championship. This move is in contrast to the 2010 PGA at Whistling Straits when all areas of the course were designated as bunkers. Officials say at Kiawah the sand is natural compared with Whistling Straits where . . . well, nothing is natural.


In an unrelated item Dustin Johnson just ruled all of Wisconsin unplayable.

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## Made Cut-Did Not Finish (MDF)

**Devilish details.** When officials pitched golf for the 2016 Games, one of the initial concerns was how to fit two weeks of golf competition, one for the men and one for the women, into an already crowded summer dance card.

Officials assured Olympic organizers that none of the game's major championships would conflict with the '16 Games, and the PGA of America offered to move the PGA Championship to the last week of July to fulfill that promise.

Still to be determined, however, is when the Open Championship will be played and what impact the Games will have on that year's Ryder Cup, FedEx Cup playoffs and women's majors, which will include the Evian Masters in France.

**On course.** Perhaps the most concerning element for officials as the '16 Games inch closer is an ongoing land dispute in Brazil for the property where architect Gil Hanse is scheduled to build golf's 2016 Olympic venue.

Last week at Lytham, Dawson was asked about the property dispute and he sounded confident the course would be ready in time for a "test event" in 2015.

"Better progress to report from Rio than we had last time we met, and I'm confident that we're going forward," Dawson said. "We're obviously keeping a close eye on it. It is Rio 2016's responsibility to provide the venue, not the International Golf Federation's. But we're involved."

As one official familiar with the situation explained to Cut Line last week at Lytham, "These things work themselves out in their own special way. It's just how things happen (in South America)."

**Long view.** In less than a year, long putters have gone from relative afterthoughts to public enemy No. 1 in golf circles, the byproduct of victories in three of the last four majors by players using longer-than-standard-length putters.

On this U.S. Golf Association executive director Mike Davis was clear, no final decision has been made and golf's rules-makers have been looking into long putters, specifically anchoring, long before Keegan Bradley (PGA), Webb Simpson (U.S. Open) and Ernie Els (Open Championship) broke the Grand Slam mold.

"That has almost zero to do with it," Davis said at Lytham. "I do mean that. If we did something, we talked about this fresh look long before any of these guys won majors. To say that we reacted because of the last few guys who won would be unfair."

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If the drumbeat against long putters seems louder given its recent record that's understandable, but it's been pounding for some time. Bradley, Simpson and Els only expedited that process.

**Tweet of the week:** @Steve\_Flesch "For the record everyone, I don't believe that a club should be allowed to be anchored. The ball has gotten away from the USGA."

**Tweet of the week II:** @JasonDufner "I will gladly play with balata balls, persimmon heads, etc., just take the course back to 6,700-6,900 (yards). And 495 (yards) is a par 5!"

## Missed Cut

**Closed shops.** There is little doubt that the world's best athletes marching in Friday's Opening Ceremony in London are second to none. That's not always the case in golf.

Consider next week's WGC-Bridgestone Invitational, which currently features a field of 77 players including Robert Allenby.

Allenby is currently 101<sup>st</sup> in the Official World Golf Ranking, 97<sup>th</sup> in FedEx Cup points and has missed (eight) almost as many cuts as he's made (10) this season, and yet the Australian will have a spot in the limited-field, no-cut event via his status as a captain's pick for last year's Presidents Cup.

This is not a knock on Allenby, one of the game's top ball-strikers, just a system that rewards potential not performance.

Source: [www.golfchannel.com](http://www.golfchannel.com) July 27, 2012



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Jeff Urquhart, Editor

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Applications are reviewed as they arrive, and since seating is limited earlier applications have a higher probability of acceptance. The application deadline for international students is **September 21, 2012** to allow enough time for J-1 Visa processing.

For more information about Winter School and application materials, refer to:

<http://extension.umass.edu/turf/education/turf-winter-school>

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Tom Rowell (978) 317-0673  
Alan Vadala (774) 766-2516

## **North Shore Hydroseeding**

20 Wenham St., Danvers, MA 01923  
Hydroseeding and erosion control services.  
Brian King - (978) 762-8737 [www.nshydro.com](http://www.nshydro.com)

## **On-Course Golf Inc., Design/Build**

16 Maple Street, Acton, MA 01720  
We serve all your remodeling and renovation needs. You can trust your project with us! We make you look good!  
Sean Hanley (978) 337-6661 [www.on-coursegolf.com](http://www.on-coursegolf.com)

## **Putnam Pipe Corp.**

90 Elm St., Hopkinton, MA 01748  
Underground water, sewer, & drain pipe and fittings-Erosion and sediment control material. 24-hour service.  
David Putnam, Eli Potty - (508) 435-3090

## **Read Custom Soils**

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Terry Driscoll, Garrett Whitney – (888) 475-5526

## **Slater Farms (Holliston Sand Products)**

P. O. Box 1168, Tift Rd., Slatersville, RI 02876  
USGA recommended topdressing, root-zone mixes, compost, pea stone, angular & traditional bunker sand.  
Bob Chalifour, CGCS (Ret.) - (401) 766-5010 Cell: 860-908-7414

*continued on next page*

## ***Please Patronize these FRIENDS of the ASSOCIATION***

### **Sodco Inc.**

P. O. Box 2, Slocum, RI 02877  
Bluegrass/Fescue, Bluegrass/Rye, Bluegrass/Fescue/Rye, Bentgrass. Sean Moran, Pat Hogan - (800) 341-6900

### **Southwest Putting Greens of Boston**

P.O. Box 827, Westford, MA 01886  
Synthetic turf, tee lines, practice greens, outdoor and indoor practice facilities. Douglas Preston - (978) 250-5996

### **Stumps Are Us Inc.**

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Professional stump chipping service.  
Brendan McQuade - (603) 625-4165

### **Syngenta Professional Products**

111 Craigmere Circle, Avon, CT 06001  
Melissa Gugliotti (860) 221-5712

### **Tartan Farms, LLC**

P.O. Box 983, West Kingston, RI 02892  
Dave Wallace  
(401) 641-0306

### **Tom Irwin Inc.**

11 A St., Burlington, MA 01803  
Turf management products. Paul Skafas, Rob Larson,  
Chris Petersen, Greg Misodoulakis, Mike DeForge, Brian Luccini,  
Jeff Houde, Fred Murray (800) 582-5959

### **Tree Tech, Inc.**

6 Springbrook Rd., Foxboro, MA 02035  
Foxboro, Wellesley, Fall River Andy Felix - (508) 543-5644

### **Tuckahoe Turf Farms, Inc.**

P. O. Box 167, Wood River Junction, RI 02894  
Joe Farina (774) 260-0093

### **Turf Products Corp.**

157 Moody Rd., Enfield, CT 06082  
Distributors of Toro irrigation & maintenance equipment and other golf-related products. Tim Berge, Dave Beauvais, Nat Binns,  
Andy Malone - (800) 243-4355

### **Valley Green**

14 Copper Beech Drive, Kingston, MA 02364  
Phone: 413-533-0726 Fax: 413-533-0792  
"Wholesale distributor of turf products"

### **Winding Brook Turf Farm**

Wethersfield, CT 06109  
Scott Wheeler, Mike Krudwig, Sam Morgan - (800) 243-0232

# NEW Lower Rates to Help Make Advertising in The Newsletter More Budget Conscious

## THE NEWSLETTER 2012 DISPLAY ADVERTISING ORDER FORM

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Issues (List month and total number): \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Check: \_\_\_\_\_ (Made payable to "GCSANE")

<u>Member Rates:</u>	Monthly Rate	4 Times Per Yr. (Save 5%)	6 Times Per Yr. (Save 10%)	8 Times Per Yr. (Save 10%)	Annual Rate (Save 15%)
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<input type="checkbox"/> 1/4 page (vertical; 3.75" wide x 5" deep)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 90.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 342.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 486.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 648.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 918.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 page (horizontal; 7.5" wide x 5" deep)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 570.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 810.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1080.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1530.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page (vertical; 7.5" wide x 10" deep)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 760.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1080.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1440.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2040.00

**Non-Member Rates:** \*All payments must be received in full before the ad appears in The Newsletter.

<input type="checkbox"/> 1/4 page (vertical; 3.75" wide x 5" deep)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$120.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$456.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$648.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 864.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1224.00
<input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 page (horizontal; 7.5" wide x 5" deep)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$180.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$684.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$972.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1296.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1836.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page (vertical; 7.5" wide x 10" deep)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$240.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$912.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1296.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1728.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2448.00

***\*DEADLINE for ads: The first of the month for that month's issue.***

### Ad Preparation Specifications:

**File Specifications for Ads Supplied in Digital Format:** Ads may be sent either by email or by mailing a CD to the address below. Formats preferred are .GIF; .JPG and .PDF. Ads can also be accepted in Microsoft Word or Microsoft Publisher files. Full color is available with all ads.

**Advertising Design Services:** Design services are available by request and consultation and will be billed separately.

**Send all Newsletter ads to:**

Julie Heston

36 Elisha Mathewson Road, N. Scituate, RI 02857

Phone: 401-934-7660 / Fax: 401-934-9901

jheston@verizon.net