

Scottie Hines, CGCS, Golf Course Superintendent at Windsong Farm Golf Club in Independence, MN, traveled to Washington, D.C., April 16 with nine peer members of

taxation and environmental issues.

“Scottie’s participation in National Golf Day serves an important role for the association,”

## Mr. President Returns to Washington

the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Government Relations Committee to meet with members of Congress as part of National Golf Day.

The goal of the visits with lawmakers was to promote the true face of golf, one that better reflects the economic, human and environmental benefits of the industry across the nation. The Government Relations Committee also discussed with their federal elected officials immigration,



GCSAA Government Relations Committee Chairman Rafael Barajas, CGCS, said. “This important event allows our federally elected officials the opportunity to understand the golf industry’s concerns. It was truly an honor to work with Scottie, GCSAA’s

Government Relations Committee and the leaders of golf’s allied organizations to speak up as a unified voice to ensure lawmakers have an accurate perception of the golf industry.”

The Capitol Hill visits coincided with those of WE ARE GOLF, a coalition led by four of the golf industry's leading associations and supported by other small businesses. Founded by GCSAA, the National Golf Course Owners Association, The PGA of America, and the Club Managers Association of America, WE ARE GOLF is a broad-based coalition that seeks to maximize the industry's synergy and reduce redundancy. Its growing membership includes participation from association members, multi-course owners, manufacturers and golf facilities.

Beyond better demonstrating golf's profound economic clout, WE ARE GOLF illustrates the industry's environmental sustainability initiatives, its health and wellness benefits, and its unparalleled charitable giving. First and foremost, the goal of WE ARE GOLF is to get members of Congress to understand golf's contributions to communities across the country when they're developing and advancing important legislation – just as all small businesses want. WE ARE GOLF will work to share information, case studies and articles with media, elected officials, regulators and other



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key constituents so they are better informed on issues of concern.

“GCSAA has long had a strong advocacy program,” GCSAA CEO Rhett Evans said. “We had a great presence in Washington, and several of our members have built solid relationships with their congressmen. The work the GCSAA Government Relations Committee does is of great benefit to our members and the industry.”

The committee, along with several GCSAA board members, GCSAA members and staff, made visits to the offices of more than four dozen members of Congress to advocate on behalf of GCSAA and the golf industry.

Hines also participated on April 15 in the Government Relations Committee meeting in Washington. During the meeting, the committee addressed priority issues, as well as

discussed updates on GCSAA public policy concerning general permits for pesticide applications, H-2B rules, ADA accessibility guidelines, Endangered Species Act litigation and more. Committee members also discussed local resources regarding pesticide and fertilizer advocacy efforts.

### About GCSAA

GCSAA is a leading golf organization and has as its focus golf course management. Since 1926, GCSAA has been the top professional association for the

men and women who manage golf courses in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to nearly 18,000 members in more than 72 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. Find GCSAA on Facebook, follow GCSAA on Twitter, and visit GCSAA at [www.gcsaa.org](http://www.gcsaa.org).



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