



Mike Barrett

Fall has arrived and brought with it some much needed rainfall. Overall, this past summer provided some of the nicest weather I can remember as a transition zone Superintendent. At Argyle, our total rounds played never caught up after the long and cool spring, but the beautiful weather was perfect for our members and guests to enjoy the course. Now that fall has officially arrived, my staff is thinning out, the course has healed from aerification, the grass is slowing down and the days are getting noticeably shorter each week. I am looking forward to a great show of color from the trees on and around the course.

I would like to thank everyone who donated to Rounds 4 Research this year, we raised \$1,500 for our association. The Board is currently reviewing several projects that will benefit our members and the golf industry as a whole. If you weren't able to donate this year, the process is very easy and can be completed on line at [rounds4research.com](http://rounds4research.com) by clicking the Donate a Round box.

In order to operate successfully, today's golf facilities need resources in place to fuel innovation, address challenges brought on by Mother Nature and respond to regulatory pressures. The Rounds 4 Research program is addressing the critical shortage of funding for ongoing, university-based agronomic research, education, advocacy programs and course operations. Thanks for your help!

The Board is working hard to continually improve our association and provide top quality information, education, networking opportunities and industry support to our membership. I believe we have done a great job with this, however, we all have full time jobs and many constraints on our time. I am asking for your help to help us improve our association and provide you an opportunity to give back to the association and industry. I am interested in revamping several committees to assist in the following areas:

Education - To provide and promote quality educational programs for the membership. In addition, the committee will recommend research projects and review and suggest scholarship applicants.

Membership Services - To work with the membership Chairperson planning social events throughout the year. These events will include a "Family Picnic" and "Evening Out" for our members.

Golf - To work with the Chairperson to increase attendance at our golf events.

If you are interested in serving on one of these committees, please contact me at [mikebarrettgcs@verizon.net](mailto:mikebarrettgcs@verizon.net) or Theresa Baria at [maagcs@earthlink.net](mailto:maagcs@earthlink.net).

December is right around the corner and so is the MAAGCS Annual Meeting. This year, the meeting will be held at Argyle Country Club on December 8<sup>th</sup>. My time on the Board has been very rewarding and has given me the opportunity to meet many great contacts. I have gotten to know leaders of the GCSAA including the CEO, Rhett Evans, Government Relations Director, Chava McKeel, Director of Chapter Outreach, Steve Randall and several current and past National Board members. Serving on any board can be a challenge and I understand how busy we all are with our day to day lives and careers, however, if you love the golf industry and want to be a part of it's future success, I am asking for your support. If you are interested in stepping up and giving back to the industry that you have chosen for your career, please contact Jon Lobenstine or Theresa Baria. If you would like to talk about my personal experiences and what I have learned, please give me a call at 240-876-9465.