# **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2012 LEAGUE OF SUPERHEROES**.

Syngenta honors all of the finalists of the 2012 TurfNet Superintendent of the Year Award.

CHAD DECKER Hollytree Country Club / Texas

GREG GAVELEK Longbow Golf <u>Club</u> / Arizona

ROCCO GRECO En-Joie Golf Course / New York

MATT KREGEL The Club at Strawberry Creek / Wisconsin

DAN MEERSMAN The Philadelphia Cricket Club / Pennsylvania

CHAD MONTGOMERY Naples Heritage Golf and Country Club / Florida

ANDY MORRIS Country Club of Peoria / Illinois

RICH TAYLOR Sahalee Country Club / Washington

DAN TOLSON 3 Creek Ranch / Wyoming

CURTIS TYRRELL Medinah Country Club / Illinois

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**TurfNet** 

## FINALISTS

Chad Decker Hollytree CC Tyler, Texas

Greg Gavelek Longbow Golf Club Mesa, Arizona

**Rocco Greco** En-Joie Golf Course Endicott, New York

Matt Kregel The Club at Strawberry Creek Kenosha, Wisconsin

Dan Meersman The Philadelphia Cricket Club Philadelphia Chad Montgomery Naples Heritage G&CC Naples, Florida

Andy Morris Country Club of Peoria Peoria Heights, Illinois

Rich Taylor Sahalee Country Club Sammamish, Washington

Dan Tolson 3 Creek Ranch Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Curtis Tyrrell Medinah Country Club Medinah, Illinois



# For those who control the uncontrollable

Syngenta is proud to sponsor the TurfNet Superintendent of the Year Award for the fifth year. Through this award, we are privileged to honor the passion, knowledge, creativity, and integrity you bring to your job every day.



As superintendents, you are asked to control the uncontrollable. You are required to create more with less, manage through droughts, restore courses after floods, craft pristine conditions all season long, which you elevate even more for tournaments, increase rounds, get the most out of an underpaid staff, all while educating your greens committee, the board of directors, your golf pro and golfers.

The Greek philosopher Epictetus once said, "It's not what happens to you, but how you react to it that matters." At Syngenta, we are simply in awe when we look at the

applications each year, see all obstacles in your way, and hear how you overcome them with professionalism, patience, and humility.

We are proud to do our small part by innovating new products such as Daconil Action<sup>™</sup>, Briskway<sup>™</sup>, Secure<sup>™</sup> and Appear<sup>™</sup> fungicides and developing programs such as The Syngenta Business Institute, an annual program we developed with Wake Forest University to provide financial, negotiating and leadership skills to superintendents. We do all of this out of a deep respect for the knowledge, creativity, and the long hours you put in every day to improve your courses and the game of golf.

We applaud and congratulate ALL of this year's nominees and wish you every success in 2013 and beyond. You are true leaders that are not only recognized by your colleagues, but by your community, Syngenta and TurfNet.

#### **Shawn Potter**

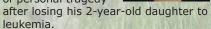
Head of Marketing - Turf, Landscape & Consumer Syngenta

## Superintendents of the Year Award Finalists

#### **Chad Decker** Hollytree CC, Tyler, TX

Chad Decker was

nominated for his ability to maintain a course that was built on a swamp and floods every spring and fall and devotion to his job in the face of personal tragedy



Longbow GC, Mesa, AZ Owners recognize how he turned what even they called a so-so track into one of the finest golf courses in the Phoenix area after a complex and unique

holes.

**Greg Gavelek** 



## **Rocco Greco**

En-Joie Golf Course Endicott, NY Rocco Greco's name

has become synonymous with flooding at this **Champions Tour** stop the past several years. His name also has become interchangeable with flood recovery.

#### **Dan Meersman** The Philadelphia (PA) Cricket Club

Dan Meersman has redefined career development at The Philadelphia Cricket Club. He started an industry retreat, requires staff to work pro events before sending them off to become head superintendents.

#### **Rich Taylor** Sahalee CC, Sammamish, WA

A self-described grind-it-out kind of person, Rich Taylor was recognized by club officials for consistently making Sahalee one of the hardest tee sheets to crack in the Northwest, And

he's been doing it for almost 30 years.

### **Dan Tolson**

3 Creek Ranch, Jackson Hole, WY

Dan Tolson was recognized for managing a golf course that thinks it is a wildlife sanctuary located on 710 acres. Runoff testing is so stringent that creek water is cleaner as it exits the property than when it enters it.

#### Matt Kregel

The Club at Strawberry Creek Kenosha, WI

Members here sav Strawberry Creek is the best conditioned course they have played, calling Matt Kregel a "genius" and comparing his work to conditions found at the nation's top courses.



#### Chad Montgomery Naples (FL) Heritage G&CC

Fifty members at Naples Heritage nominated Chad Montgomery for turning a what they described as a vanilla Florida real estate course into one that has become the envy of golfers from



around southwest Florida every winter.

#### **Andy Morris** CC of Peoria, Peoria Heights, IL

While other courses in the area were wilting under the summer heat, the Country Club of Peoria was perfect. and members say it was because of Andy Morris, who spent a lot of evenings



babysitting hot bentgrass.

#### **Curtis Tyrrell** Medinah CC, Medinah, IL

Despite near record heat the past two summers in the Chicago area, Curtis Tyrrell transformed the heavily played No. 3 Course at Medinah into a museum piece for the 2012 Ryder Cup.



See TurfNet.com for a list of all 109 nominees.

