



GCSAA Collegiate Turf Bowl Policy

Purpose:

The GCSAA Collegiate Turf Bowl is designed to help future golf course superintendents develop and test the knowledge identified as critical to the profession in all areas of agronomy, business management, communication, environmental management and leadership.

Eligibility:

To participate in the GCSAA Collegiate Turf Bowl Competition, students must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

- Must be currently enrolled in an undergraduate turf program or have graduated at the end of the most recent fall semester but not yet entered a graduate program or begun full-time employment at a golf facility
- Meet GCSAA student member eligibility criteria
- Be a registered attendee at the GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry Show

Registration:

Each individual competing in the turf bowl needs to be registered for the GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry Show. GCSAA student members receive complimentary registration.

Each participating student is required to sign in as part of a participating team prior to the beginning of the competition.

- Teams are composed of up to four (4) undergraduate students who meet the eligibility requirements outlined above.
 - When a school presents a team of fewer than four undergraduate students, and in the case of limited space, GCSAA reserves the right to assign students from another school to that team in order to create a team of four.

Study Materials:

Each fall, GCSAA provides faculty advisors with a study guide highlighting areas that should be studied to be successful in this competition. After the study guide is emailed to faculty advisors, it will be posted to the GCSAA website (www.gcsaa.org).

Grading:

The competition consists of several testing formats, to include, but not limited to:

- Essay
- Multiple choice
- Identification
- Short Answer
- Fill in the blank

The essay format of the exam is graded by superintendents via a triple-blind grading process with a scoring rubric. The identification, short answer and fill in the blank formats are graded by subject matter experts/faculty advisors. A grader is assigned to an individual section of the exam. This grader scores each exam within their assigned section.

Scores from each of the three graders are added to create the total essay score. Scores from each section are then added to create a team's final score. The team with the highest overall score wins the GCSAA Collegiate Turf Bowl competition. If two or more teams have the same overall score, placement will be determined in the following manner:

1. The tiebreaker will first be determined by the highest overall score of the written essay section of the exam.
2. If a tie still exists, the placement will be determined by the overall score of the multiple choice section of the exam.
3. If after the first two steps are taken and a tie still exists, then the placement shall be shared among the tied teams. If the tie involves one of the top ten placements, then any available prize money shall be added together and divided by the number of teams involved in the tie.
 - a. In the case of a 1st place tie, each team involved will share the traveling trophy. The year will be equally divided by the number of first place teams.

Awards:

Teams finishing in the top ten will receive recognition and designated prizes at the awards ceremony. Prizes will be given in the following amounts:

- First Place: \$4000
- Second Place: \$2000
- Third Place: \$1000
- Fourth Place: \$800
- Fifth Place: \$700
- Sixth – Tenth Place: \$300

In addition to any other monetary and/or recognition prizes, the first place team will also receive the traveling trophy for the year.

- GCSAA will send the traveling trophy to the turf club after engraving of the team name is completed. The trophy will be returned by the school to GCSAA headquarters by December 1 of that calendar year.
- In case of a first place tie, refer to the grading section to determine how the traveling trophy will be shared.
- In the situation of a team with students from more than one school winning, the prize money will be shared and time with the trophy will be shared equally by each school.