

# GCSA Turfgrass Management Application Form

## **Section 1 – Applicant Information**

Matthew Lawson

September 13, 2023

**Club:** Oswego Lake Country Club

### **Preferred Mailing Address (Home):**

6526 SE 60<sup>th</sup> Place  
Portland, OR 97206

**Cell Phone:** 503-583-1948

**Email:** mtlawsongolf4@gmail.com

## **Section 2 – Employer Information** *(Applicant is not an Oregon GCSA Member)*

**Name of Member:** Nolan Wenker, Superintendent


**Club:** Oswego Lake Country Club

**Cell Phone:** 503-998-4733

**Email:** nwenker@oswegolakecountryclub.com

**Member Since:** June 2001

**Current Classification:** A



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(Member's signature)

**Section 3 – Work History & Activities**

Type of Work	Employer	Employment Dates
Greenskeeper	Oswego Lake Country Club	April 2015 - Present
Greenskeeper	Redhawk Golf Course (Idaho)	May - October 2014
Greenskeeper, maintenance & landscaping	Tualatin Island Greens	1995-1996
Range, bag room, pro shop & player services	Willamette Valley Country Club	1994-1995
Range & bag room	Tualatin Country Club	1993-1994
Caddy	Oregon Golf Club	1990-1994

**List your activities outside of work (clubs, organizations, community service, etc.)**

- Avid recreational golfer, skier and father
- Member of Cascade Ski Club
- Former ski racing coach (Mt. Hood Meadows Race Team)

**Section 4 – Applicant Letter of Interest**

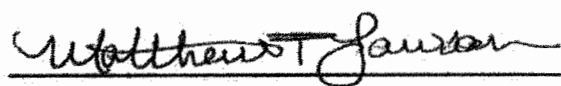
See attachment

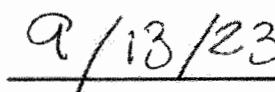
**Section 5 – Oregon GCSA Member Letter of Recommendation**

See attachment

**Certification**

I certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant's signature)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Matthew Lawson  
6526 SE 60<sup>th</sup> Place  
Portland, OR 97206

September 13, 2023

Dear scholarship committee members,

Golf was the first sport I was introduced to by my dad. He taught me to play and throughout my teenage years, I competed with the Oregon Golf Association and at my high school. The game has always been part of my life and in 1990 I began working in the industry.

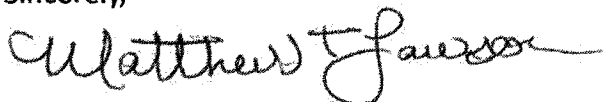
I'm interested in completing OSU's Turfgrass Management PACE course to help me reach my goal of becoming a golf course superintendent. This comprehensive program will provide an opportunity to continue learning and gain a more thorough understanding of topics relevant to this position. Participating in the PACE program will allow me to take the next step on my path toward excelling as a turfgrass management professional.

Over the past 30 years, having multiple jobs in golf has taught me about different elements of the industry and helped me develop a strong work ethic. I've had various positions leading up to my current role as a greenskeeper at a private golf facility. I enjoy working on the team that maintains the greens and want to further advance my career. In working toward this, I took OSU's Turfgrass Mathematics class in fall 2022 and acquired my commercial spray license from the Oregon Department of Agriculture in spring 2023.

In addition to my eight years of experience in the club setting, as well as completing the math class and obtaining my applicator's license, earning the PACE program certification will help me continue strengthening my skill set. As I work toward transitioning to a higher role in the turfgrass industry, this credential will be critical to building my resume. Being successful in my career will also impact my future by offering the means to provide for my family.

Thank you for considering me as a candidate for the PACE Course Series Scholarship. It will help continue advancing my education and career doing something I'm passionate about both personally and professionally.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Lawson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Matthew Lawson  
503.583.1948

*Play Where You Live*



9/15/23

Oregon GCSA Oregon State University Turfgrass Management PACE Course Series Scholarship Committee,

With this letter, please accept my strong recommendation in awarding Oswego Lake Country Club crew member Matthew Lawson the 2023 Oregon GCSA Oregon State University Turfgrass Management PACE Course Series Scholarship.

Matthew's work experience in the game of golf spans over 33 years with his beginnings as a caddy, bag room attendant and currently a member of the greens crew. Matthew has been a valuable part of the agronomic team at Oswego Lake Country Club since 2015, demonstrating a desire to learn and grow in the industry. Just one example of his upward trajectory and desire to grow in the industry is his recent attainment of an Oregon Commercial Pesticide License. Matt will continue to move up in roles and responsibilities in our organization with this demonstrated desire to be a leader in our industry.

The Oregon State University Turfgrass Management PACE Course Series Scholarship will provide Matthew foundational knowledge in the field of Turfgrass Management far beyond what can just be learned on the course. I have no doubt that Matthew will use this gained knowledge to become a leader in the industry for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Nolan Wenker, CGCS

Golf Course Superintendent

Oswego Lake Country Club

**OSWEGO LAKE COUNTRY CLUB**

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