



OFFICE OF DIRECTOR



JENNIFER L. TORRES

WESTLAKE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

JACKSON, NEW JERSEY

**GCSAA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

PERSONAL DATA

Name: Mrs. Jennifer L Torres

Title: Golf Course Superintendent

Home: 3602 Nashua St

Club / Course: Westlake Golf and Country Club

City: Browns Mills

Number of Holes: 18

State: NJ

Type of Course: Private

Zip: 08015-3791

Primary Phone: (609)668-0008

Business Phone: (732)833-7274

Responsibilities: As the Golf Course superintendent at Westlake Golf and Country Club there are many responsibilities that fall on my shoulders. We have a small staff here of seven during the growing season, which does not include an Assistant Superintendent that typically takes some of the responsibilities off the Superintendent. It is on me to develop the plans for both the budget and maintenance of the course each year. Westlake is a private golf course located within a 55 and up community with 1400 homes located around the course. The community owns the course which is managed by our company, Linx Golf Management. I am responsible for communicating to the Greens Committee the needs of the course and issues that may be impacting conditions. During the time I have been employed at Westlake Golf and Country Club the Board of Trustees has authorized the irrigation upgrade that began in April of 2021. I was responsible not only for day-to-day operations of the course, but also the install of the new pump station by Watertonics and the communication with Hydro Designs for the design of the new HDPE/Rainbird irrigation system that was installed last fall. We are still working with Middletown Irrigation finishing up the last of the adjustments and will work closely over the next two years if any issues arise. On top of those responsibilities the maintenance of the course is key. The soils here are poor and have led to issues Westlake has dealt with for years. With the communication that has taken place between Westlake, the greens committee, and Linx Golf Management we have purchased a Wiedenmann Terra Spike attachment that is making a huge difference in the conditions of our fairways. Rainfall now can penetrate the soils rather than sit on the top. Another responsibility here at Westlake is the management of the 22 ponds that are located throughout the course. Our contract states that the buffer area must be mowed 4 times a year. With the size of our staff this was just not possible and we had to look into other options. This year we purchased an RC Mower that will allow us to mow the steep slopes of the ponds safely and fulfill our contractual obligations in a timely manner. The key to success at Westlake is the ability to deal with the members and all residents of the community. I not only must succeed with meeting the contractual agreements between Westlake and my employer at Linx Golf Management, but I also have to do so in a way that keeps all parties happy. That is no easy task.

Responsible to: Greens Committee

EDUCATIONAL DATA

Institution	City	State	Degree Date	Major
Rutgers University/Cook College	New Brunswick	NJ	3/10/2006	1-year Turf Certificate from an Accredited Univers

EMPLOYMENT DATA

Employer	Title of Position	Start Date	End Date
Westlake Golf and Country Club	Golf Course Superintendent	10/28/2019	
Makefield Highlands Golf Club	Golf Course Superintendent	5/2/2016	10/25/2019

Makefield Highlands Golf Club	Assistant Golf Course Superintendent	6/4/2012	3/14/2016
Indian Spring Golf Course	Assistant Golf Course Supt.	6/19/2006	6/3/2012
Fountain Green Golf Course	Turfgrass Student	5/1/2003	6/1/2006

CIVIC PARTICIPATION

Over the course of my career, I have made it a point to be involved in organizations to better our community. During the time my children were young I felt the need to volunteer as a coach for their sports teams. It began at the younger level in baseball and soccer while we lived on the Army Base at Fort Dix. Once we moved our children took to soccer as the year-round sport. I coached their travel teams up to U-16 when I knew the team needed more than I could give them. At that point I became the supportive parent. I also served on the Pemberton Soccer Club Executive Board for a number of years as the Recording Secretary. During that time, I helped get information together to finally get our 501c3 designation. As my children got older and I became involved in the Turf Industry I was encouraged by Cece Peabody, our Chapter Executive at the time, to become a Grassroots Ambassador for GCSAA. Since 2017 I have enjoyed being a voice for the industry. Being armed with our BMP's and speaking to our leaders in NJ and in Washington DC. to educate them on the positive steps we make everyday to protect our environment. I also was inspired to take a position on our NJ Golf Course Superintendents Association Board of Directors in 2019. Since then, I have been an active member of our chapter leading numerous committees. I am also a member of the Tri-State Turf Research Foundation helping in any way I can to give back to the industry that has changed my life.

GCSAA ACTIVITIES

Committee	Position	Start Date	End Date
2022 Communications Outreach/GCM Editorial Board Task Group	Volunteer	3/1/2022	2/28/2023
GCM Editorial Board Task Group	Volunteer	3/1/2021	2/28/2022
BMP Grants Task Group	Member Superintendent	3/1/2019	2/28/2020
Grassroots Ambassadors		7/1/2017	

LOCAL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Chapter	Position	Start Date	End Date
GCSA of New Jersey	Director	11/30/2021	
GCSA of New Jersey	Government Relations Liaison	11/1/2020	
GCSA of New Jersey	Education Programming	11/1/2020	
GCSA of New Jersey	Director	11/1/2020	11/30/2021
GCSA of New Jersey	Director	11/15/2019	11/17/2020

ALLIED ASSOCIATION DATA

Name	Position	Start Date	End Date
Tri-State Turf Research Foundation	Director	March 2022	Current

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Only Class A superintendents whose classification truly reflects their current employment are eligible for office in GCSAA.

500 WORD STATEMENT

I feel the need more than ever to represent our industry at the highest level as a member of the GCSAA Board of Directors. After working in this career for almost 20 years I have seen the difficulties we all experience finding qualified employees to assist in the daily operations of our courses. After attending this year's US Women's Open in Pine Needles, NC and being surrounded by others like myself we came to the conclusion, now is the time to be seen. We want to help the industry grow and invite people into this career. Had we all not known someone that was working in the industry, our stories would be very different. I now work in a career that I love thanks to a mentor that introduced me to the Turf Industry. That connection grew into something I never imagined it could. I would love to be that connection for someone else. If we could bring the love of the golf course and a career that can support the dreams of others like myself, wouldn't that serve the mission of GCSAA to serve its members, advance their profession and improve communities through the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. I would love the opportunity to be that person that helps bring more people into the industry helping to solve our labor issues while opening doors to those that never looked to golf as a career. I would love to expand ideas that have been talked about in the past. Bringing Superintendents to schools and sharing what a career in turf looks like. Partnering with our tech schools to be a source of knowledge and a place for students to do real internships during the summers. We can be a place that students look to for a path forward. It's a win, win.

**DATE
SUBMITTED:**

7/7/2022 7:56:53 AM

SIGNATURE: _____



1 Pine Lake Circle
Jackson, NJ 08527
jtorres@linxgm.com
609-668-0008

June 26, 2022

GCSAA Nominating Committee- John R. Fulling (Chairman), Renee Geyer, Damon B. Hitti, Alex J. Stuedemann, CGCS . Ryan L. Swilley,

I understand this is not the traditional way to run for the National Board at GCSAA, but I feel the desire to do just that. I have asked my chapter for their nomination, but was told on Friday that I have not followed their path to this step, by being in each and every seat on the GCSANJ Chapter Board. They do not feel comfortable supporting me in this journey at this time. As a Class A Superintendent in good standing with GCSAA I would like to have the opportunity to represent our entire membership at its highest level. I have a passion to give back to the industry that has changed my life and the support of many members as well. Past GCSAA President Mark Kuhns has written a letter of support which you will find attached to this letter. I would love the opportunity to serve our association.

Very truly yours,

Jennifer Torres
Superintendent
Westlake Golf and Country Club
Linx Golf Management
GCSANJ Board of Directors
GCSAA Grassroots Ambassador
Tri-State Turfgrass Research Foundation
3602 Nashua Street
Browns Mills, NJ 08015

June 26, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Jennifer Torres for a number of years now. She has been involved in the golf course management industry for nearly 20 years. Jennifer has been involved in various functions with GCSAA. She has worked with the GCSAA BMP task group helping to develop sustainable environmental standards to support the golfing industry. Jennifer has also participated in National Golf Day and is a Grassroots Ambassador for GCSAA.

Ms. Torres is a graduate of the Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management Program and she graduated with high honors. I am instructor for the Rutgers program and our students get a well-rounded education in golf turf management. She also received the Award for professional Excellence from Rutgers in 2018.

Jennifer's History in golf turf management speaks for itself. She has gone down the rocky road from internships and assistant positions to her present role as Superintendent of Westlake Golf and Country Club. She is a leader in a male dominated profession. She has overcome many obstacles to become a recognized leader in our industry. She now serves on the board of directors of GCSANJ.

Jennifer has become a leader for women in golf and has volunteered her time to participate in various functions that support women in golf. She also volunteered, with a large gathering of female volunteers, at the 2022 U.S. Women's Open. She is an industrious person that believes in and supports our profession.

It is time for a change in our male dominated industry. It is time for all to support diversity and change. Jennifer is running for a director position of GCSAA. If nominated, I will fully support her bid to achieve this goal. Her experience demonstrates her leadership abilities and her desire to become a leader on a national level.

Sincerely,



Mark D. Kuhns
V.P. of Business Development



C: (908) 337-2406