



Technician's name: Kurt Lading

Golf facility: Indian Hills Country Club

Nominating superintendent's name: Jeff White, CGCS

Why should your equipment technician be considered for the Most Valuable Technician Award?

Kurt is one of the biggest assets to our team here at IHCC. He maintains a fairly large equipment fleet for an 18-hole facility. He is a team player, helping any other department that asks. He goes the extra mile to make sure the fleet is operating safely and performs the duties expected.

He spends a lot of time self-educating, networking, and researching issues related to his job. He doesn't just swap a part out and send the unit back into the field. He tries to identify what caused the failure/issue and make sure it doesn't happen again. He helps train the staff in equipment safety, operation, and maintenance.

Does the nominee have any formal equipment technician education/training and/or industry certifications? Please list.

Kurt is a Navy veteran and learned much about the equipment technician trade there. He also has attended several service schools (Toro, Jake, etc.).

He learns a lot from networking with others in the industry, participating in webinars, and doing his own research. We plan to have him work through the GCSAA EM Certification Exams this off-season. He has been certified in a variety of product lines in the past (Kohler, Briggs, etc.).

Explain how the nominee emphasizes shop management (organization, cleanliness, etc.) at your facility.

Coming from a military background, Kurt's shop is very neat, detailed and organized at all times. Tools, equipment and supplies are clean, stored safely and properly. His inventory is maintained in a very neat, detailed, and easy to find manner. The way the shop is setup and maintained is built for efficiency, production and safety.

Explain how the nominee manages costs/budgets/inventory while maintaining high-quality, dependable resources.

Kurt does an excellent job of maintaining our fleet valued at nearly \$1.8M with minimal resources. His budget has not increased in the past five years. Even as the equipment fleet expands and ages, he finds ways to control costs and maintain a quality and fully functional fleet.

Explain how the nominee embodies and promotes safety in the workplace.

Kurt is constantly on the staff to operate, store, clean up and maintain a safe fleet of equipment. His shop is immaculate at all times.

He identifies possible hazards and remedies the situation immediately. He works hard to make sure the staff, as well as himself, doesn't get injured by following proper safety measures and taking more precautions than necessary to insure a safe workplace.

Explain how the nominee demonstrates a commitment to environmentally conscious practices.

We have several systems and SOPs in place in the shop to minimize risk to the environment. He makes sure our precautionary measures, such as grease separators, used oil storage, etc., are functioning and maintained correctly.

Our shop sits 25 feet from a stream; so our risk levels and potential damage to environmentally sensitive areas is high. He makes sure all possible hazards and spills are taken care and avoided. We have switched most of our oils, fluids, and lubricants over to bio-type products.