



**Technician's name:** Trent Manning

**Golf facility:** Ansley Golf Club

**Nominating superintendent's name:** Courtney Young

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

Trent Manning is the most valuable member of my team. Trent understands, through experience, all phases of the job. He started on the crew 22 years ago, became the irrigation technician and eventually the equipment technician. Trent moved on to sports field and golf construction. He then served as a field technician for Jerry Pate Turf, helping mechanics across the Georgia. Trent came back to the club 7 years ago as the Equipment Manager. He now oversees equipment operations at the club's two (27-miles apart) facilities.

Trent is a great trainer. Three of his assistants have gone on to be equipment managers at other courses. Trent also serves as the grounds facilities manager and has helped completely renovate the staff and equipment service areas at both courses. Trent is a leader in organizing other equipment managers. He serves on GCSAA's national committee for equipment managers, where he is helping to develop certification tests and standards. He serves on the Georgia Chapter GCSAA education committee and heads up the annual equipment technician's seminar. He has formed a local technicians group that gets together at each other's course for dinner and conversation. Trent developed a shared spreadsheet that cross-references various parts provided by multiple suppliers to help technicians in the group find the best price.

One of the things I like best about Trent is he executes my dreams. He built a water trailer out of scrap equipment that won a national CMAA blue ribbon for innovation. He designed and built a fertilizer mix and load tank. He even designed and fabricated a mechanism to test bunker firmness.

Away from the course, Trent volunteers with the county Search and Rescue team. He loves fishing (repeat angler of the year winner). Trent is also a BBQ judge, and he cooks for us at every quarterly green staff tournament & at thanksgiving. At home Trent is loved by his wife and two daughters.

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

Trent has formal training and various certificates. More significantly, Trent's expertise is being utilized to help produce formal industry certifications for the GCSAA.

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

Trent totally renovated the equipment service areas at both courses to get them close to his standard. He uses a floor cleaning machine to keep a mirror polish on the floor. Every tool has its place. Every piece of equipment has a service record. Heights of cut and equipment readiness status is posted for all turf managers to see. Trent anticipates upcoming equipment demands, and often seeks input from course managers on their needs. Trent goes on the course daily to inspect equipment performance.

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

Trent produces the annual budget for equipment services at both courses. Trent uses spreadsheets to track costs. Trent takes advantage of free freight days to order many parts. He always fills out POs. He tracks his assistants labor hours. He also provides critical input into our five-year equipment replacement plan. We don't lease any equipment. Trent makes everything last too long for that.

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

Trent installed taped and urethaned safety glass lines everywhere and installed and stocks a safety glass cubby for visitors. We cover one safety topic at each morning meeting. Trent always has a comment to emphasize safety. Part of Trent's job description is to train operators in the safe use of equipment.

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

Recycles Oil. Recycles metal. Recycles light bulbs. Recycles batteries. Recycles tires (And I'm sure I'm forgetting other items he recycles). Utilizes spill containment.