



## **OFFICE OF DIRECTOR**



**MATTHEW RUSCH**

**THE THOMPSON GOLF GROUP  
GILBERT, ARIZONA**

**GCSAA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

**PERSONAL DATA**

**Name:** Mr. Matthew Rusch

**Title:** Director of Agronomy

**Home:** 22610 S 194th Pl

**Club / Course:** The Thompson Golf Group

**City:** Queen Creek

**Number of Holes:** 135

**State:** AZ

**Type of Course:** all public

**Zip:** 85142-8967

**Primary Phone:** (303)862-1320

**Business Phone:** (480)988-0004

---

**Responsibilities:** Main Role: Lead agronomy programs and oversee turf management standards for all golf courses under my supervision.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Set agronomic strategies for each golf course
2. Oversee superintendents and turf staff.
3. Develop capital improvement plans for turf and grounds.
4. Ensure regulatory compliance in chemical/fertilizer use.
5. Manage vendor relationships and equipment planning.
6. set annual budgets and CapEx with each superintendent

**Responsible to:** Ryan Thompson- CEO

**EDUCATIONAL DATA**

| Institution | City | State | Degree Date | Major                                   |
|-------------|------|-------|-------------|-----------------------------------------|
|             |      |       |             | Assoc Degree Turf/Plant<br>or 2 yr cert |

**EMPLOYMENT DATA**

| Employer                    | Title of Position                   | Start Date | End Date   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| The Thompson Golf Group     | Director of Agronomy                | 6/30/2025  |            |
| Dove Valley Ranch Golf Club | Director of Agronomy                | 12/18/2023 |            |
| Longbow Golf Course         | Director of Agronomy                | 12/1/2022  |            |
| Thompson Golf               | Director Of Agronomy                | 2/22/2022  |            |
| Trilogy Golf Club           | Golf Course Superintendent          | 11/8/2018  | 12/22/2021 |
| Mountain Brook Golf Club    | Golf Course Superintendent          | 11/8/2018  | 12/22/2021 |
| Dove Valley Ranch Golf Club | Golf Course Superintendent          | 11/8/2018  | 12/22/2021 |
| DVR Management, LLC         | Regional Golf Course Superintendent | 11/8/2018  | 12/22/2021 |
| Applewood Golf Course       | Golf Course Superintendent          | 11/28/2005 | 9/12/2014  |
| San Marcos Golf Resort      | Director of Agronomy                |            | 11/7/2018  |

**CIVIC PARTICIPATION**

I have been apart of the cactus and pine gcsa for almost 11 years, serving as just a director for 6 years, and now have been on the executive board for 2 years as secretary. i have been the golf committee chairman for 4 years, running successful golf events at many clubs through the Phoenix and Tucson area. Have been apart of 2 First Green events, and one of which i hosted at Longbow GC, which is one of the clubs i oversee in the PHX area. Currently i am serving on the national bylaws committee for the GCSAA, this will be the first year to volunteer to be apart of a committee and looking forward to a successful term.

#### GCSAA ACTIVITIES

| Committee                           | Position  | Start Date | End Date  |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| 2025 Standards and Bylaws Committee | Volunteer | 3/1/2025   | 2/28/2026 |

#### LOCAL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

| Chapter              | Position       | Start Date | End Date   |
|----------------------|----------------|------------|------------|
| Cactus and Pine GCSA | Secretary      | 1/1/2025   |            |
| Cactus and Pine GCSA | Secretary      | 1/19/2023  | 12/31/2024 |
| Cactus and Pine GCSA | Director       | 11/8/2021  | 12/31/2022 |
| Cactus and Pine GCSA | Director       | 8/17/2020  | 8/17/2021  |
| Cactus and Pine GCSA | Director       | 5/31/2017  | 5/31/2018  |
| Rocky Mountain GCSA  | Vice-president | 10/15/2013 | 10/4/2014  |

#### ALLIED ASSOCIATION DATA

| Name | Position | Start Date | End Date |
|------|----------|------------|----------|
|      |          |            |          |

#### IMPORTANT NOTE:

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

#### 500 WORD STATEMENT

I am honored to seek the opportunity to serve on the GCSAA Board of Directors. Throughout my career, I have been driven by a commitment to advancing our profession, supporting my fellow superintendents, and strengthening the communities we impact each day.

Growing up in the game of golf and working my way through every role on the course has given me deep respect for the people who make this industry thrive. Over the past 19 years as a superintendent, I have led teams through limited staff, budget constraints, environmental challenges, and evolving golfer expectations. These experiences have taught me that leadership is not about personal recognition, but about creating environments where our teams can succeed, grow, and find purpose in their work.

I have been actively involved at the chapter level, serving as board member, golf committee chair, and secretary, I have collaborated with industry partners on initiatives to improve water conservation practices, employee development, and the overall perception of our profession. I believe that our association's greatest strength is the diversity of its members , from municipal to private facilities, from rural communities to major metroplex areas – and that GCSAA must continue to be the unifying voice that advocates for all.

**DATE  
SUBMITTED:**

7/15/2025 5:35:03 PM

**SIGNATURE:**

\_\_\_\_\_



Sheila Finney ~ GCSAA Nominating Committee Chairman Senior Director, Member Programs  
GCSAA  
1421 Research Park Drive  
Lawrence, KS 66049

June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Re: Mr. Matt Rusch – GCSAA Board of Director 2026 Nomination for Candidacy

Dear Sheila Finney,

On Behalf of the Cactus & Pine, GCSA Board of Directors representing our Chapter's membership, we would like to officially support the nomination efforts for Mr. Matt Rusch whom would like to be considered for nomination for the GCSAA 2026 National Board of Directors.

Please accept this nomination and his bid for this exciting opportunity. Our Chapter is honored and excited to be able to support Matt in any way possible. He has been extremely committed to our Chapter, State and the golf industry. We appreciate all that Matt does, especially while serving on the Cactus & Pine Board of Directors.

Thank you again for considering his name to be part of the 2026 GCSAA Board of Directors, list of Candidates' for this upcoming election process.

Sincerely,

Rob Collins ~ Director of Agronomy ~ Paradise Valley Country Club

*Rob Collins, Director of Agronomy*

Cactus & Pine, GCSA

2025/2026 Board President

[rcollins@paradisevalleycc.com](mailto:rcollins@paradisevalleycc.com)

4700 E. Thomas Road ~ Suite 108 Phoenix, AZ 85018

Office: 480-609-6778 Cell: 480-600-3786

[www.cactusandpine.com](http://www.cactusandpine.com)

[carmella@cactusandpine.com](mailto:carmella@cactusandpine.com)