

The Turfgrass Science Invitational | Welcome!

Welcome to The National Turfgrass Science Invitational and the 2025 GCSAA Conference and Trade Show! We encourage you to use the Invitational Page on the GCSAA website to keep up to date and locate the materials for the event. Please review the General Orientation packet for essential details. Be sure to read through the handbook and event information sections.

Competition Schedule

We will host a virtual team orientation on October 30th at 6:00pm ET This will be recorded and posted under event orientation on the GCSAA page.

An orientation session will occur on-site Monday, February 3rd at 4:00pm PT in the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, CA. in conjunction with the GCSAA Conference and Trade Show. All teams are expected to arrive in San Diego, check into the hotel, and attend the session. The event will begin at 8am on Tuesday, February 4th in the same ballroom as the on-site orientation. Upon completion of the knowledge test and case study portions, students will then be transported off-site to the golf course. They are expected to return for pick up at the main doors at the San Diego Convention Center around 5:45 p.m.

Coaches and advisors will not be transported to the competition site and instead will be offered complimentary entry into professional development sessions at the convention center. There will be an event review hosted prior to the Awards program on Wednesday, February 5th in the contest ballroom in the San Diego Convention Center at 7 am. Coaches, advisors, and teams will attend a professional development session on Wednesday, February 5th and will be offered complimentary admission into the Trade Show. Final dismissal will be on the evening of February 5th.

Event Details

Knowledge test will be held in a ballroom in the convention center with a maximum time limit of 60 minutes. Team Case Study challenges will follow the Knowledge Test with a time limit of 105 minutes. Rotational Practicums will occur on site at the golf course and will include both identification and problem solving challenges with a time limit of 240 minutes.

Equipment

All tools and equipment needed will be provided for the event, including pencils, clipboards, paper, calculators, and various pertinent equipment for the practicums and case studies.

Food and Beverage

Based on our schedule, we will be hosting a student box lunch. Please ensure any allergies have been communicated via the accommodations request.

Dress

Regardless of weather conditions, the Turfgrass Science Invitational Committee urges participants to dress appropriately and REFRAIN from wearing official dress, shorts, or open-toe shoes on competition day. Students WILL be required to wear official dress while in professional development and on the Trade Show floor. Please refer to the official guidelines from the National FFA organization for specific official dress requirements.

The Turfgrass Science Invitational Committee will not implement practicum or case study challenges that threaten participant safety due to weather. Practicums, such as fertilizer application will change to accommodate weather conditions in extreme cases.

Students will be allowed to bring cell phones to the event, but they must be turned in at the beginning of the event.

Recognition

All teams and individuals will be recognized at a session on February 5th at the San Diego Convention Center. Team participants, coaches, advisors, and family are welcome to attend. This ceremony will be streamed on GCSAAtv.

Please register your team(s) using the following link: [TSI Registration](#). Good luck with your preparation and once again, congratulations! Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Safe travels to all, and see you in sunny San Diego!

Sincerely,

Carson Letot, Ph.D.
Event Superintendent
v-cletot@usga.org

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