

March 20, 2026

Nomination for Shane Hadwick for OGCSA Superintendent of The Year Award

If the OGCSA Superintendent of the year award goes to the superintendent that exemplifies the mission of the OGCSA and enhances the image of its members it would be hard to imagine a more qualified example than Shane Hadwick at Orchard Hills Golf and Country Club.

My personal path has had me on a variety of golf course maintenance crews throughout the OGCSA network. I have had the pleasure and good fortune to work with some of the past OGCSA Superintendent of the Year award winners. I can say without hesitation that Shane is very deserving to be listed among them and in my opinion, overdue for the recognition. I have been a member of Shane's crew since spring of 2021 and have been impressed with his leadership, work ethic, consistency and on course results throughout my time.

Shane is a respected member of the OGCSA & past president (2019-2021) who consistently supports the OGCSA, its mission and members. He is the fourth generation of superintendents in his family and is the embodiment of what a superintendent should strive to be. He is consistently delivering excellent playing conditions while also mentoring those in the industry that are looking to follow his example. Almost to a fault, he makes it a point to purchase his supplies locally within the greater Washougal community. Shane looks forward to the annual service projects and participates with genuine enthusiasm. He leads by example and is a steady force his club and crew.

He leads his crew with deference and professionalism while maintaining a healthy respect for life away from the work. In an industry in which the job often requires doing more with less he consistently finds a way to deliver and never takes the challenges at hand too seriously. Be it membership opinions and requests, budgets, staffing, weather, the ever-increasing number of rounds played & stress on the course and the always unseen challenges that inevitably arise Shane always steps up to meet the moment.

In 2024 and 2025 Orchard Hills underwent significant course enhancements that included bunker renovation (renovating existing bunkers, removal and addition), extensive tree removal, and the replacement & addition of teeing grounds. Rounds played also increased throughout this time and Shane led his crew to make it all happen without closing the course or affecting playability. A strong case could be made that course conditions even improved through this time.

In June of 2025, just as the busy summer season was underway and before the last round of renovations that included the tee projects, the maintenance crew was dealt a monumental blow with the sudden passing of our mechanic of over 25 years, Tyler Henry.

Tyler was a central figure at Orchard Hills that kept our fleet, and quite frankly the entire club functioning. He was the ultimate glue guy and not easily replaceable as a mechanic, let alone a teammate and friend. Shane, with no good alternatives, stepped up and continued to deliver the goods. It was hard and uncomfortable at times, but also impressive in how he managed to keep things going without his most valuable team member. He ended up personally absorbing Tyler's role throughout the summer and well into the fall, while again continuing to deliver premium playing conditions through an incredibly difficult situation.

Orchard Hills is the golf course that it is because of Shane Hadwick and his dedication and care for his craft and crew. I have worked and seen firsthand some tremendous individuals in this industry, but I must say Shane is a Super's Super. He is 1 of 1 and easily the most authentic example of the profession. He takes pride in his work, handles the challenges as they come and delivers superior course conditions to the best of his ability while leading by example and keeping the mood light. If there is a more deserving superintendent of the year for 2025 I look forward to hearing their story because it would be hard for me to believe anyone has dealt with more and still been able to exemplify the good of this profession and organization. In 2025 he raised the bar yet again and set a tremendous example for the OGCSA and its members. I hope the time for him has come to be recognized by his peers for not just his efforts but also his results.

Written & Submitted by:

Kyle Chrisman
OGCSA Member
Orchard Hills Maintenance Crew Member
Greenkeepers Golf Club Founder

This nomination is submitted with the endorsement from the following:

Jay Schaffer
Orchard Hills CC First Assistant
OGCSA Member

Enzo Combs
Orchard Hills CC Second Assistant
OGCSA Member

The Orchard Hills Greens Committee
Joe Gomez: Committee Chair
Kurt Braun: Board Liaison

The entire Orchard Hills CC Maintenance Crew