



New Hampshire Golf Course Superintendents Association

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The NHGCsa Scholarship Awards — Winter School Program Application —

Section 1 – Personal Information

Name Sean Murphy Date 12/14/25
Permanent Address 17 Beaumont Dr
City / State / Zip Dover NH 03820
Phone () (603)-767-9193 E-Mail Address Seanmurphy0930@gmail.com

Section 2 – Employment History

Please list your work history for the last 5 years, current employer at the top.

Name of Employer:	Dates Employed:	Responsibilities Included:
Cocheco country club	March 2021-Current	Carts/pro Shop Grounds crew
New England Sports hub	November 24-March 25	Assistant golf pro

Section 3 – Educational Background

List in chronological order high schools attended, then colleges. *It is very important that this information is complete.*

Name & Location of Institution:	Dates Attended:	Date of Graduation:
Dover High School	2019-2022	June 10 2022
Great Bay community College	2023-2024	

Please list any turf related continuing education classes attended in the last two years. This includes but is not limited to pesticide recertification classes, turf shows, association sponsored meetings or events.

Name & Location of Institution:	Dates Attended:

Section 4 – Other Pertinent Information

Do you currently have a NH Pesticide License?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Which Winter School program are you applying to?

UMass Turf School

Have you been accepted for the upcoming winter school session?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Section 5 - Essay

Attach a typewritten essay (no less than 1000 words) detailing your career plans in the turf industry, what you hope to learn at Winter School, how you plan to utilize what you learn in your current position, and why you feel you are a deserving candidate.

Section 6 – Recommendation

Please attach 2 letters of recommendation, one needs to be from your current Superintendent/Turf Care Manager, and one from a personal acquaintance outside the turf industry, who is willing to vouch for your dedication, work ethic, and personality.

Certification

I certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Sean Murphy

Applicant's Signature

12/14/25

Date

I have developed a growing passion for the turf industry over the past several years. I grew up on a horse farm, which gave me a strong appreciation for the outdoors and taught me the importance of hard work, being productive and responsibilities. I currently work at Cochecho Country Club, a golf course in New Hampshire where I have been very loyal to the course. I started out in the pro shop and now work on the grounds crew. This is my fifth year and I plan to continue working here for a while. I love the work and get along great with everyone on the crew and even the members. I enjoy the early mornings and doing work where you can see how much of a difference it makes.

My long term goal is to continue advancing in the field and maybe eventually move into an assistant superintendent role, or potentially even a superintendent position later in my career. It is a lot of work but would be extremely rewarding to be in charge of a golf course or some sort of property in my career. It is very rewarding to look at something you are in charge of and know you are the reason it looks that good.

Although I love working in New Hampshire, the winter season limits how much time we can spend working outdoors. I have always thought about taking a trip down south at some point in the future to experience a different climate, grasses, and just see how different courses operate. I do not have a set career plan yet, but turf management has captured my interest, and I am excited to continue learning and see where this path takes me. I have always known I want to work outdoors and not in an office, and turf grass is the position for me to do that.

My main goal is to gain knowledge that I can apply directly to both my everyday life and my work on the golf course. I have an interest in lawn care as well, so learning more about maintaining healthy home lawns would be extremely valuable to me. I would love to always have a house with a lawn I can take care of. After this class I will have a lot of useful information to apply to not only my lawn, but any lawn in the future. I have also considered having a side job fertilizing lawns. I'm hoping this class will explain to me all the different applications and when it's best to put them down as well as learning about licensing to be able to do that. I enjoy talking with the assistant superintendents and superintendent at my course, especially when they discuss turf diseases, chemicals and anything else that I am not yet familiar with. I want to learn what

these diseases and chemicals are, why they are used, and how they affect turf, soil health, environmental safety, and people.

I already have some basic knowledge of mowers and golf course equipment, but I want to learn more about the different types of equipment, their specific uses, and why it's needed on the course. *Understanding how and why certain equipment is used will not only help me in my current position, it is something I am highly interested in.* I absolutely love to learn new things that catch my attention. This year I learned a lot of new things, one of them being how to mow fairways, and it's awesome to get all these new skills that I can use in my career.. It will also help others because I love to share information so I will be passing it all along to coworkers or anyone who doesn't already know that information.

Through this course, I hope to take on more responsibility at my current golf course and eventually explore opportunities at other courses as time goes on. I also believe that the skills and knowledge gained from this class will help lead to better pay and will give me a competitive advantage over other people applying for jobs in the future. I plan to apply what I learn immediately in my current role as a grounds crew worker at the golf course. After completing this course, I want to be able to identify turf diseases, spot issues and either deal with them properly or if I don't know let someone know who could help me deal with it. This course will help me become more confident and informed when it comes to turf management. I can also apply all the new knowledge and skills I will learn to help at any job I have in the future.

I believe I am a deserving candidate for this scholarship because I am highly motivated and committed to succeeding. In every job I have had, it has been clear that I am one of the hardest workers. My work ethic has always been strong, and it is something I take pride in. I have always been taught to work your hardest all the time, especially when no one is watching. I do my best, not only for my own growth, but also because I want to see the people around me succeed as well. Turf school is something I am very passionate about. I want to do well in this course and prove to myself I am able to do it. Throughout middle school and high school, no particular class stood out to me or sparked a strong interest. This was a big reason I did not continue my education at a four year college. Once I began working on the grounds crew at a

golf course, I discovered a field that really excites me. For the first time, I felt passionate about the work I was doing. Once I heard there was a way to learn even more that motivated me to return to a school and continue learning. This time it's something that I like.

I am taking this course with the intention of getting as much out of it as possible. I am completing it on my own time, which motivates me to work even harder and stay committed. School has never been something I have loved, but now with the opportunity to go back and learn about something I want to hear about excites me a lot. I plan to apply the knowledge and skills I gain to my current job and carry them forward into my future career. This scholarship would help me continue pursuing a path I am very passionate about, and I am confident that I will make the most of this opportunity.

Thank you very much for taking the time to review and consider my scholarship application. I'm looking forward to the UMass winter turf school.

Sean Murphy

17 Beaumont Drive

Dover, NH 03820

(603) 767-9193

Seanmurphy0930@gmail.com

New Hampshire Golf Course Superintendents Association Scholarship
Committee:

Re: Sean Murphy Recommendation

Sean Murphy completed his fifth season at Cochecho Country Club in 2025, his first on the grounds crew after four in pro shop operations.

Sean has performed maintenance tasks from mowing the pool lawn, raking bunkers and filling divots to equipment operation, golf course construction, irrigation and drainage. Sean has a strong work ethic, a positive attitude and works well by himself or with other team members. He is a quick and eager learner. Sean has been and continues to be a valuable member of the maintenance team at Cochecho.

I recommend Sean for a scholarship with no reservations. I ask you to consider his continuous employment at Cochecho and successful first year on the grounds crew as a testament to the work ethic, self-reliance and commitment that he has shown at Cochecho Country Club for five years. He is a fine young man and we are all very proud of him.

Sincerely,

Anthony Perra

Golf Course Superintendent

Cochecho Country Club

I am writing to offer my strong recommendation for Sean Murphy in support of the New Hampshire Golf Course Superintendents Association.

I have known Sean my entire life because his parents owned the horse barn where my mom rode. We got along great right away, he is very kind, respectful and hardworking. Even as a young kid he was always busy doing something. Sean has a great work ethic, every time we worked together at the barn he was always early and would show up everyday ready to work.

Sean also worked with some of my friends at Cochecho Country Club when he started in the pro shop. They would make comments about him saying something like it's nice to work with someone who cares. The most recent example of Sean being himself is my apartment door broke. No one else cared to try and fix it but the first time he saw it, some tools came out and it was fixed in two minutes. Sean has never been one to talk about school, it's always sports and cars. So when he brought up going back to school I was shocked. After learning about the turf school and what it covers I was no longer surprised it is the perfect fit for him. Sean has been talking about turf school and how excited he is for it.

Based on my lifelong experience knowing Sean, I can confidently say he is hardworking, dependable and passionate. I can not recommend him enough for this scholarship, someone like Sean will not let it go to waste.

Sincerely,
Gavin Hills