



Golf Retirement Plan for Superintendents

TO: Affiliated Chapter Presidents and Executive Directors/Secretaries

FM: Don Bretthauer, Director of Member/Chapter Services

RE: GCSAA's newest member benefit: Golf Retirement Plus

Recent GCSAA studies show that 70% of golf course superintendents do not have access to a retirement plan through their golf facilities.

Why? Because the cost, tax and regulatory burdens are prohibitive for most "small businesses" like golf facilities.

That's why GCSAA recently partnered with the PGA of America and the CMAA to offer our members an easy and affordable new retirement benefit: Golf Retirement Plus.

Golf Retirement Plus gives our members a convenient way to save for retirement. And now, we're counting on your leadership to communicate this new benefit information to your members.

Golf Retirement Plus provides members with the following benefits:

- **Affordability:** GCSAA golf course superintendents and assistant superintendents only need \$50 to start an account. This low minimum requirement makes it easy and affordable for members to build a retirement account and save on a regular basis. Contributions can also be made at the member's own pace. A customized program - based on the member's situation - can tailor an investment schedule to fit any budget.
- **Accepts individual and employer contributions:** GCSAA members and their employers can contribute to their accounts. These contributions are tax-deductible for employers. Employers can add to employees' accounts, whether as a yearly bonus, employee-employer contribution match, or percentage of salary. And the employers won't have to worry about the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) concerns, tax liabilities, investment decisions or administrative burdens of maintaining their own plan. (Please note: members will be taxed on employer contributions.)
- **Convenience:** Saving for retirement is so important in our industry - that's why GCSAA teamed with the PGA and CMAA. And by including all three association members in one retirement program, employers will have the convenience of handling one program for all the key staff at their clubs.
- **Reliable provider:** The Golf Retirement Plus investment provider, Security Benefit Life Insurance Company (SBL), is one of the nation's top-notch annuity providers and is one of the most respected names in the industry because of its expertise in variable annuities and financial strength and stability.
- **Numerous investment options:** With SBL, members can choose among 10 various investment options, depending on their age and risk tolerance.
- **Personalized retirement counseling:** GCSAA members have a dedicated Golf Retirement Plus services team available to provide program or account information and answer any questions they may have. Golf Retirement Plus Specialists know the program inside and out and are just a toll-free phone call away at 1-877-RET-PLUS (1-877-738-7587).

If you have any questions about the program or about this memo, please contact me directly at (785) 832-4418. Additionally, I would like to hear what your members are saying about this program.

Orangebrook West Course Reopens Completing Phase 1 of 6-Year Master Plan

The City of Hollywood and Golf Hollywood, a local golf course management company, are finalizing preparations for the re-opening of the 18-hole, par-71 West golf course.

"West Brook," closed since late April 1999, received \$300,000 in improvements from a city public bond project. Sanford Associates prepared a West course master plan for all 18 holes and construction drawings for the front nine. Tifton Golf Services completed the project in July.

The scope of work included renovation of the entire greens complexes including new bunkers, and slope and green surface contour changes on holes 1 through 9 and the practice putting green.

USGA-spec greens were installed, and Quality Grassing sprigged the greens with Tifdwarf.

The summer season was busy on "East Brook," the par-72, 18-hole track that shares the 230 acres of city property with the West course. Orangebrook members and guests are excited about the changes that Sanford has made to the West.

Grand Opening of "West Brook" took place Sept. 1. The Grand Opening golf tournament and ribbon-cutting ceremony followed Sept. 9.

Golf Hollywood is very excited about the City of Hollywood's commitment to improve the golf courses at Orangebrook. In July, a capital construction surcharge was approved to generate fees for ongoing construction projects.

Upon completion of the six-year master plan, all 36 holes will have fairway drainage improvements, USGA-spec greens, new bunkers, new forward tees, and all existing teeing areas will be renovated.

ROBERT KLITZ CGCS
General Manager