GOVERNMENT UPDATE

Privacy issue worries clubs across nation

The National Club Association, comprising of 1,000 private social, athletic and recreational clubs, is keeping a wary eye on efforts to deprive golf clubs of private status.

The U.S. Supreme Court last year rebuffed the last threat to long-held privacy, New York City Local Law 63, which had been passed in 1984 and redefined all private clubs as public accommodations if they meet a three-pronged test.

The court held that NYC LL 63 affects only those clubs in New York City. The NCA claims the premise of its three-pronged test is not exclusive and does not stand alone. The decision affirmed the constitutional right of free association and privacy of truly private clubs.

The NCA also filed an amicus curiae brief in support of the court's decision. The brief was submitted to the court of appeals in California, which is currently hearing a case involving the constitutionality of a similar law in the state.

The court held that NYC LL 63 was not unconstitutional on its face but stated that its three-pronged test is not exclusive and does not stand alone. The decision affirmed the constitutional right of free association and privacy of truly private clubs.

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Pension bill to return

The new Congress is likely to revive a bill that would have made it simpler to transfer pension benefits when changing jobs.

The bill, which was killed at the end of the 1988 congressional session, would have lifted the prohibition on direct transfers of pension plan contributions to individual retirement accounts (IRAs). That would have allowed employees to take their pension contributions from one job to another.

The bill (H.R. 1961) also would have allowed some direct transfers from the former employer's pension fund to the new employer's fund.

Moore

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Next post was Crestmont Country Club in West Orange, N.J. Moore served 10 years at Hollywood Golf Course in Deal, N.J., before a similar stint at Winged Foot GC, in Mamaroneck, N.Y. He presided over course operations for the 1959 U.S. Open won by Billy Casper.

The West Haven, Conn., native was back in the Nutmeg State for 12 years at Woodway Country Club in Darien, then returned to Winged Foot in 1980.

After course supervision for the inaugural USGA Senior Open in 1980 and the 1984 Open won by Fuzzy Zoeller, Moore "semi-retired" to Brewer, where he oversees operations at the Captains GC, an 18-hole municipal course designed by Geoffrey Cornish and Brian Silva.

He also has helped the USGA in its Green Section turf advisory service and, to keep his green thumb active, works in a nursery.