USGA eyes environment in future research efforts

The United States Golf Association Turfgrass Research Committee has decided that beginning this year it will participate and act to protect and improve the environment as it relates to golf courses and new golf course construction.

The committee voted, when it met in early December at The Cloisters in Sea Island, Ga., that as a first step in addressing environmental issues, 1990s Turfgrass Research Committee budget will include funds to study what has and has not been accomplished in environmental research, and what should be done. The USGA will work in cooperation with the GCSAA.

The USGA Turfgrass Research Committee, which was formed in 1982, distributes research funds to colleges to further the development and refinement of turfgrasses. The USGA is providing grants totaling $740,300, covering 29 projects, in 1990.

That will increase the total allocated since 1983 to more than $3.6 million.

CMAA accredits seven

The Club Managers Association of America has accredited seven people as Certified Club Managers (CCM).

Earning the accreditation were Sharon A. Burwash of Pecan Point Country Club, Dennis M. Ebert of Crestwick Country Club, Catherine Evans of Heather Ridge Country Club, Daniel J. Farrell of Cavalry Club.

Also, Sandra Gervais of The Graduate Club, Graham Laxton of Vancouver Lawn Tennis & Badminton Club, and William L. Turner of Wheeler Consolidate Open Mess.

They qualified for certification by fulfilling requirements over a period of years in management, experience, education and CMAA activity.

The CCM examination contains 13 subject areas such as private club administration, managerial accounting, food and beverage operations and principles of management.

PLCAA starts new policy for foreign companies

The Professional Lawn Care Association of America has adopted a new policy regarding memberships of international companies and franchise operators.

Franchisors may now join and renew by paying annual membership dues based upon the system-wide sales dollar volume of the franchise. Franchisees join and renew by paying a reduced fee, based upon the direct cost of supplying membership mailings.

The new policy allows the parent company to ensure that each franchise is kept abreast of the latest training information, customer literature and issues management projects of PLCAA.

Any lawn care company based outside the United States will also be eligible for membership as an international member. Such members have the same privileges and voting rights as regular members, provided all criteria for regular membership classification have been met.

International members are eligible for a flat membership fee, rather than one based on sales volume. For more information, call the PLCAA at 1-800-458-3466 or, outside the United States, 404-977-5222.

Fla. mechanics establish association

The North Florida Turf Equipment Service Technicians Association has been established to raise the professional level of turf equipment mechanics.

The introduction of sophisticated hydraulic systems, safety devices, diesel engines and onboard computers require golf course mechanics to constantly familiarize themselves with new innovations.

NFTESTA will seek to educate members and program participants through the exchange of ideas and procedures involving equipment maintenance and repair.

Long-range goals include the formation of state and national organizations, along with the development of a certification program. Meetings are currently held bi-monthly at various golf courses.

People interested in participating or helping develop additional programs should contact NFTESTA, 1601 South 13th St., P.O. Box 16081, Jacksonville, Fla. 32245-6081.