NGF to conduct major national course survey

JUPITER, Fla. — The National Golf Foundation will conduct a national golf facility operations-and-maintenance survey this spring, the results of which will be published in a special report to be available this fall.

The questionnaire will be mailed to the owners/operators of all 13,000 U.S. golf facilities in May. This report, among other things, will provide a comprehensive overview of golf course revenues and expenses on both a national and regional level.

It will, for example, enable golf course owners/operators or developers to compare their revenues and costs with the average for their area and type of facility.

The data being sought falls into the following areas:

- **Facility Characteristics:** e.g., the number of months open during a typical year, estimated rounds played annually, availability of a practice range.
- **Course Maintenance:** e.g., the average size of greens/fairways, source and amount of water used per year, type of irrigation system used.
- **Rates and Fees:** for example, the 1991 weekend and weekday and other greens fees, initiation fees and dues, the number of golf cars and related fees, and range ball rates.
- **Staff:** e.g., the number of full and part-time employees defined by job description.
- **Revenues:** the gross revenues broken out in terms of dues/fees, merchandise sales, lessons, club repair, food/beverage, etc.
- **Expenses:** the numbers broken down in terms of maintenance, major facility, pro shop, cart rental, range, food and beverage and general/administrative.
- **Capital Expenditures:** the amount spent from 1988-1990 on golf cars, maintenance equipment, cart path construction and nine other spending areas.

The new report will replace two survey reports (one on operations and the other on maintenance) the National Golf Foundation produced in 1985 and 1986.

Turf-Type Tall Fescue rated #1 four consecutive years.

Nationwide testing at 41 sites of turf-type tall fescues place Arid as #1, and the first choice for athletic fields, parks, playgrounds and public area lawns.

Paul Fullmer
Fullmer earns Ross Award

CHICAGO—Paul Fullmer, who has guided development of the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) for the past 22 years as executive secretary, has been named the 1992 winner of the organization's Donald Ross Award.

"Paul has been at the helm during one of the most dynamic growth periods in the history of golf course architecture in this country," President Tom Clark said. "His steady hand has enabled the society and its members to achieve recognition throughout the world as the premier design source."

The society has experienced rapid growth during the past decade and has become a high-profile member of the Allied Associations of Golf, and we wanted to recognize his consistent counsel and proactive programs by awarding Paul the Ross Award — the highest honor we can bestow."

The ASGCA presents the Ross Award annually to someone who has made a significant contribution to golf, specifically golf course architecture.

Fullmer grew up a Chicago sports fan and began covering his high school team for the local newspaper his junior year. At Notre Dame, he was both sports and managing editor of the school publication.

When he graduated in 1955 he became a sports reporter at the Aurora Beacon-News in Aurora, Ill. In 1967 he joined Selz, Seabolt & Associates, a Chicago-based public relations firm, and became ASGCA executive secretary in 1970.

His golf connection developed through his wife, Sandra, and her father, Percy Clifford, who was an ASGCA Fellow and one of the leading golf course architects in Mexico.

"Quite simply, I am deeply honored by the Ross Award," Fullmer said. "It means a great deal to me, especially because it comes from such great friends."