COLORADO GOES SPIKELESS

ROCKVILLE, Md. — The Colorado Golf Association has scheduled four tournaments in which the use of metal spikes has been prohibited. Alternative cleats will be provided. According to Brian Golden, vice president of sales and marketing for Softspikes Inc., the Colorado Golf Association will provide Softspikes cleats for all those participating in the events: June 5-6 at Bear Creek Golf Club in Denver; Sept. 12-14 at Battlement Mesa Golf Club in Battlement Mesa; Sept. 16-17 at Sheraton Steamboat Golf Club in Steamboat Springs; and Sept. 22-24 at Fort Collins Country Club.

According to the CGA's stated policy, players will not be allowed to wear metal-spiked shoes. Upon entry, the CGA will send each player a set of Softspikes cleats, which they may use to replace metal spikes. Otherwise, players must wear spikeless golf shoes, tennis shoes, or other soft-soled shoes.

"We're excited about Softspikes," says Ed Mate, assistant executive director of the Colorado Golf Association, which is based in Englewood. "We're on the bandwagon, and we feel that it's inevitable that golf will go in that direction. We want to be one of the leaders, and that's why we've identified four of our tournaments to be spikeless."

Proponents of prohibiting metal spikes agree that spikeless tournaments are significant because they offer controlled circumstances in which to demonstrate the advantages of unblemished greens.

CACTUS & PINE SCHOLARSHIP

The Cactus and Pine Golf Course Superintendents Association has awarded a $250 scholarship to Wilford Mortensen, who will attend Rutgers University's turfgrass program.

Mortensen was recommended by Dan DeVere of Flagstaff Golf Maintenance Co., who has worked for as a general laborer, advancing to assistant at Edden Hills Golf Course. He will return to Flagstaff between college sessions.

Georgia Turfgrass Association Elects Officers

Mark Prinster has been elected president, succeeding Joe O'Donnell as head of a new slate of officers for the Georgia Turfgrass Association (GTA). Joining Prinster are Vice President Ken Morrow, Secretary Jeff Dobbs and Treasurer Mark Esoda.

GTA directors are Sarah Bundschuh, Paul Greenwell, Robert Mroz, William Shirley and Mike Waldron.

GTA Honors Burton

The Georgia Turfgrass Association (GTA) has bestowed Dr. Glenn Burton with its highest honor, the Lifetime Achievement Award, and made him the first inductee into the Turfgrass Hall of Fame.

Meeting at the 25th annual Georgia Turfgrass Conference and Show, GTA recognized the impact of the University of Georgia professor's bentgrass breeding program on the turf industry.

The GTA also recognized Jeremy Legg of the University of Georgia as Student of the Year; Post Landscape Services and Todd Tibbitts as Landscape Company of the Year; and Patten Seed/Super Sod and William Rosemore as Sod Producer of the Year; and Ken Morrow of Sod Atlanta as Professional of the Year.

Mark Hoban accepted the award for The Standard Club as Golf Course of the Year.

TPi Reports High Attendance

The Midwinter Conference of the Turfgrass Producers International (TPI) in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. was attended by nearly 650 people, a five-year high. Attendees from 43 states and the countries of Australia, Canada, England, The Netherlands and Norway participated in education sessions.

TPI's Summer Convention and Field Days will be hosted in Omaha, Neb., July 26-28.

For further information on the TPI Midwinter Conference, Summer Convention and Field Days, or for membership information, please contact Tom Ford at Turfgrass Producers International, 1855-A Hicks Road, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008; Tel. 708-765-9898, 1-800-405-TURF (8873).