

Dual membership passes, officers elected

By PETER BLAIS

ORLANDO, Fla. — GCSAA members voted overwhelmingly in favor of a bylaw amendment requiring new members to belong to both their national and regional associations during the recent International Conference and Show held here.

Voters also approved a new slate of officers, including the election of George Renault of Burning Tree Club in Bethesda, Md., as secretary/treasurer, meaning Renault will assume the presidency of the national association in early 1998.

The dual-membership question had been hotly debated in recent months as national directors toured the country explaining the advantages of requiring new members to belong to both their regional and

national associations.

Under the proposal, any local chapter wishing to remain affiliated with GCSAA could not accept a new Class A or B member unless he or she also joined the national organization. Some local chapters, particularly the smaller ones, feared potential new members would refuse to join the local chapter if they also had to spend \$210 (GCSAA's current annual dues fee) to join the national.

But the lopsided vote — 6,093 to 598 — seems to indicate the national association did a good job in making its case for dual membership with members.

"By the way the vote came out, you'd have to say the membership looked at this in a positive way and

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Grigg passes GCSAA gavel to his successor, Williams

By MARK LESLIE

ORLANDO, Fla. — Father-son Bob and Bruce Williams were both center stage at the annual Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) banquet here — Bob receiving the USGA Green Section Award and Bruce assuming the GCSAA presidency.

The USGA award recognizes persons for distinguished contributions to golf through work with turfgrass. Bob Williams was cited for his "professional commitment and dedication" that have proven "invaluable" to the GCSAA and the Chicagoland and Midwest chapters.

Reminding the audience of 1995, which he termed



Bruce Williams
GCSAA president

"the most difficult year of all time to grow turf," Williams said: "I feel that every one of my fellow superintendents has earned a piece of this plaque. I want to share this recognition with all my colleagues."

Succeeding Gary Grigg as president, Bruce Williams said, "You've had great success and I look forward to succeeding your legacy of leadership."

Thanking past presidents — which include his father — for their efforts and sacrifices and "all members for your support and faith in supporting me," he added: "The upcoming year should be exciting, busy, challenging, rewarding. I pledge that I

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Environmental Steward Award-winners (from left) Darren Davis, Bruce Wolfstrom and Timothy Kelly.

Environmental Stewards honored

ORLANDO, Fla. — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Foundation presented the fourth annual Environmental Steward Awards at the International Golf Course Conference and Show here.

The 1996 national winners are: Darren Davis of Olde Florida Golf Club in Naples, Fla.; Timothy Kelly of Village Links of Glen Ellyn in Glen Ellyn, Ill.; and Bruce Wolfstrom of Treetops Sylvan Resort in Gaylord, Mich. They were honored for natural habitat conservation, native vegetation preservation and active participation in The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses and Schools.

Ciba Turf and Ornamental Products, Rain Bird, Jacobsen Division of Textron and Lebanon Turf Products sponsored the awards. This year, more than \$22,000 was donated to the Foundation.

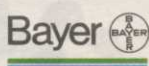
In addition to the national awards, 36 regional and merit winners were recognized at the session for their environmental commitment and stewardship.

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