BRIEFS

MARTIN JOINS SIBBALD ASSOC.

ST. LOUIS — Randall Martin, long-time businessman and green committee chairman, has joined John Sibbald Associates, a 23-year-old search firm specializing in recruiting superintendents, general managers, and golf professionals for private clubs. Martin is former green committee chairman at Algonquin Golf Club in St. Louis and current chairman at Crystal Downs Country Club in Northern Michigan. He can be reached at 616-352-9421.

ENVIRONMENTAL GOLF ADDS PAIR

CALABASAS, Calif. — Environmental Golf has appointed Eric Bescoby director of golf course maintenance and John McNair director of golf management. Bescoby, formerly director of Rain Bird's golf division, will manage the business unit dedicated to golf course maintenance at current courses and seek to increase overall business. McNair, formerly general manager of Environmental Golf's Cherokee Run Golf Club in Conyers, Ga., will oversee golf course operations and the development of new management services.

CMAA CONFERENCE SET

SAN FRANCISCO — The Club Managers Association of America will hold its 72nd World Conference on Club Management and Regionalization in San Francisco from March 28 through March 4. Approximately 90 conference sessions will focus on a variety of topics. For more information contact 703-739-9500.

GOLF TRUST BUYS COOKS CREEK

CHARLESTON, S.C. — Golf Trust of America has closed its acquisition of Cooks Creek Golf Course, an 18-hole upscale, public facility located in Asheville, Ohio, near Columbus, for $6.1 million. The course will be leased to Cook/Rainieri Management.
MGM, Primadonna merge assets

LAS VEGAS — MGM Grand, Inc. and Primadonna Resorts, Inc. have approved, in principle, MGM Grand’s acquisition of Primadonna in an all-stock transaction. The merger is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 1999.

Primadonna Resorts, Inc. is an entertainment, hotel and gaming company. Primadonna owns Whiskey Pete’s, Buffalo Bill’s and the Primm Valley Resort in Primm, Nev., two championship courses in California, and a 50-percent interest in the New York - New York Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nev.

MGM Grand, Inc. is an entertainment, hotel and gaming company headquartered in Las Vegas. The company operates the MGM Grand Hotel/Casino there, the MGM Grand Hotel/Casino in Darwin, Australia, and the Primm Valley Resort. It also has a 50-percent interest in New York - New York and manages casinos in South Africa.

The terms of the merger provide for Primadonna’s stockholders to receive 0.33 shares of MGM Grand common stock for each share of Primadonna stock held, or a total of approximately 9.5 million shares of MGM Grand common stock. The transaction is subject to the execution of a definitive merger agreement, Primadonna shareholder approval and the satisfaction of various conditions to be contained in the merger agreement, including obtaining certain regulatory approvals.

OB markers

Members are encouraged to bring cell phones when golfing. If an emergency occurs, a golfer can go to the nearest out-of-bounds or water hazard, call the appropriate emergency number. "The way cell phone calls are routed," Taeger said, "you may want to ask the nearest fire department for the appropriate emergency number. The fire department then proceeds to that address and runs directly onto the golf course and emergency scene."

Taeger uses a stainless steel tape writer, which costs $200, to make tags. Each contains the address and emergency response phone number, then is nailed to the back of the 4- by 4-inch post.

Two recent emergencies led to the brainstorming and address tags. Last spring a member died of a heart attack on the 6th tee. Then, in August, a member of the club president Robert Flaherty’s foursome was stunned in the leg by a bee and collapsed, with shallow breathing and a slow heart beat.

In the case of the heart-attack victim, the emergency response time did not contribute to his death, but the call to the 6th tee caused confusion, Taeger said.

When the bee-sting incident was called in, emergency personnel responded quickly and saved the day. Soon afterward, Flaherty told Taeger of his frustration in trying to describe to the fire department how to get to the emergency site.

"Together, we formulated the idea of labeling the stakes," Taeger said. "We consulted the fire department and they agreed the idea had merit."

Defibrillators

Continued from previous page

As AEDs become cheaper and more commonplace, you should be alert to the benefits and costs to your facility. Course operators should carefully consider the issues raised in this article and others, such as the age of their golfing clientele and the reliability of local emergency response systems, before deciding to make an AED part of their emergency plans. Consult your insurer, if not an attorney, before doing so.

Dorothy Nelson Stookey is a partner in the 50-person, general practice law firm of Sherin and Lodgen LLP, with offices in Boston and Los Angeles. She specializes in the area of labor and employment law and is the head of the firm’s Golf and Hospitality Law Group.

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