

# Rake in? Rake out? Here's the solution

By TERRY BUCHEN

VASTERAS, Sweden — Where to place bunker rakes has long been a matter of debate in golf course maintenance circles.

From the course maintenance viewpoint, course managers prefer rakes be placed inside the bunkers so the person mowing around the bunker will not have to stop and move the rakes out of the way.

But, the United States Golf Association (USGA) and The Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews (R&A), the ruling bodies for the Rules of Golf worldwide, recommend bunker rakes be placed outside the bunkers and as far away from them as possible.

The rationale is that if a ball touches a rake inside the bunker then a violation of the Rules of Golf could occur if the ball moves when the rake is placed out of the way. That is why the governing bodies recommend rakes be placed outside the bunker to begin with.

The USGA briefly sided with the superintendent, recommending in 1979 that rakes be placed inside bunkers. But the association reversed its recommendation a year later. The USGA and R&A have agreed on the outside-the-bunker placement ever since.

Bo Borg, course manager at Surahammars Golfklubb here, has been using an alternative rake that helps alleviate the problem.

"We decided to use our unique bunker rake handle design to



The unique bunker rake design helps solve the dilemma of whether to place the rake inside or outside ON THE GREEN

compromise on the placement of the rakes by placing them inside the bunker," Borg said. "We did this by putting a 90-degree angle near the end of the rake handle, which allows the handle to be raised above the sand surface. Thus a ball has little chance of touching the rake whatsoever.

"This design also makes it much easier for golfers since they don't have to bend down quite as far to pick up the rake. The rake handle is approximately 1.8 meters long, with the last 0.3 meters bent 90 degrees. The rake head is 0.45 meters wide and the entire rake made of aluminum."

The 90-degree rake was originally designed by Lars-Erik Jacobsson of the Nar Golfklubb.

## GCSAA extends funding

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Building off momentum gained from the initial stages of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Foundation's "Investing in the Beauty of Golf" endowment campaign, its board of trustees has voted to extend the goal from \$3.5 million to \$5 million.

In addition, Herb Kohler, president and chairman of the board for Kohler Co., course architect Tom Fazio and GCSAA Secretary/Treasurer Tommy Witt have been selected to The Foundation's board of trustees. They replace retiring board members Jaime Ortiz-Patino, president of Valderrama Golf Club, and GCSAA past presidents Paul McGinnis and George Renault.

"The action taken by the trustees indicates the importance of this campaign, not only to the golf course maintenance industry, but to the game of golf," said board Chairman Ray Anderson, former U.S. Golf Association Executive Committee member. "Educational opportunities and research projects funded by The Foundation will have a lasting effect on all in the golf industry. This endeavor needs to be funded to an appropriate level."

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