Election 2001 candidates at a glance

President

Name: Tommy D. Witt
Age: 47
Course: Director of golf management at StillWaters Resort, Dadeville, Ala.
Former head superintendent at: Wynstone Golf Club in Barrington, Ill.; Bent Tree Country Club in Dallas; Austin (Texas) Country Club; and Riverhill Club, Kerrville, Texas.
Years GCSAA member: 19
GCSAA posts held: On the board of directors since 1994, he currently serves as vice president. He serves as the chairman of the chapter relations and tournament committees, and is vice chairman of the membership standards resource group and the industrial advisory council. He is also a member of the Golden Tee Club.
Other associations: Witt is a member of the Alabama GCSA, the Midwest Association of GCS and the Georgia Course Superintendents Association. He has served as president of both the Central Texas GCSA and the Lone Star GCSA, and was vice president of the North Texas GCSA.
Education: Bachelor’s degree in turfgrass management and agronomy from Texas A&M University.
Goals: “It is incumbent upon the GCSAA president to utilize the skills, talents and expertise of each board member, the headquarters’ staff, the committee process and GCSSA members themselves to identify, develop and provide those programs and services that are necessary for superintendents to be competitive, to continue learning and to do their job.
“It’s not a lofty goal to work together to propel the profession forward.”

Vice President

Name: Michael Wallace
Age: 50
Course: Manager at the Hop Meadow Country Club in Simsbury, Conn.
Former head superintendent at: Rockledge GC and Buena Vista GC, West Hartford, Conn.
Years GCSAA member: 23
GCSAA posts: He currently serves as chairman of the research committee and is vice chairman of the chapter relations and Web strategy committees. He is a lifetime member of the Golden Tee Club.
Other associations: Wallace is a member of the Connecticut Association of GCS and served that association as both president and vice president. He is also a member of the Environmenal Industry Council of Connecticut.
Education: Associate’s degree in turf management from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture in Amherst, Mass.
Goals: “My first goal is to give Tommy all the support that I can in moving the association forward. Obviously, Web strategies and developments will continue to be investigated to discover what options are there for the association.
“With PDI, regardless of the votes in Dallas, we’re re-vamping our educational programs and will continue to do that. The profession has grown dramatically since the 50’s and 60’s when my father was a superintendent, and PDI is the next logical step for our members. The challenge is there in front of us, and we should grasp it and just go after the opportunity.”

Secretary/Treasurer

Name: Jon D. Maddern
Age: 42
Course: Superintendent at Elk Ridge Golf Club in Atlanta, Mich.
Former head superintendent at: Golf, grounds and parks superintendent for the city of Farmington Hills, Mich., and superintendent at Hillcrest Country Club in Mt. Clemens, Mich.
Years in the GCSAA: 24
GCSAA posts: He has served on the board of directors since 1998. He currently serves as chairman of the scholarship and career development committees and is board liaison on the faculty resource group.
Other associations: Maddern is a member of the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association and the Greater Detroit GCSA. He is a member of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation, which he has served as vice president and president. Maddern is also a member of the Golf Association of Michigan and the Michigan Golf Foundation.
Education: Turfgrass management certificate from Michigan State.
Goals: “I’d like to see more affordable and accessible educational programs. I believe that education and the Internet will be two key issues this year in the association. The PDI is a product that the membership has been extremely involved in as compared to 1993 when other things were tried and members had no say in them. I feel it is a worthwhile endeavor to grow and improve the profession.
“My second goal is to continue to strengthen the association’s involvement with individual chapters. Communication with and between chapters will be a strong focus point for the association and myself.”

Name: Mark J. Woodward
Age: 48
Course: Parks are recreation administrator for the city of Mesa, Ariz., managing Dobson Ranch/Riverview Golf Courses.
Former head superintendent at: Superintendent/administrator at Dobson Ranch and Riverview.
Years GCSAA member: 22
GCSAA posts: Woodward has served on the board of directors since 1999. He currently serves as chairman of the certification and government relations committee and is vice chairman of the tournament committee.
Other associations: Woodward is a member and past president of the Cactus and Fine GCSA of Arizona. He has also served as a regent and instructor at the National Golf Foundation’s National Institute of Golf Management.
Education: Bachelor’s degree in environmental resources in agriculture from Arizona State University in Tempe and a master’s degree in business administration from the University of Phoenix in Mesa.
Goals: “I would like to see the association continue to move in its current direction of enhancing our educational opportunities and the many programs and services that we provide our membership. With these enhancements, communication with our members will be critical and should continue to be on the forefront, so all members of the GCSAA can take full advantage of what the association has to offer.”

Directors

Name: Tommy D. Witt
Education: Bachelor’s degree in turfgrass management and agronomy from Texas A&M University.
Goals: “It is incumbent upon the GCSAA president to utilize the skills, talents and experience of each board member, the headquarters’ staff, the committee process and GCSSA members themselves to identify, develop and provide those programs and services that are necessary for superintendents to be competitive, to continue learning and to do their job.
“It’s not a lofty goal to work together to propel the profession forward.”

Name: Michael Wallace
Education: Associate’s degree in turf management from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture in Amherst, Mass.
Goals: “My first goal is to give Tommy all the support that I can in moving the association forward. Obviously, Web strategies and developments will continue to be investigated to discover what options are there for the association.
“With PDI, regardless of the votes in Dallas, we’re re-vamping our educational programs and will continue to do that. The profession has grown dramatically since the 50’s and 60’s when my father was a superintendent, and PDI is the next logical step for our members. The challenge is there in front of us, and we should grasp it and just go after the opportunity.”
Name: Robert J. Maibusch  
Age: 43  
Course: Hinsdale Golf Club in Clarendon Hills, Ill.  
Former head superintendent at: N/A  
Years GCSAA member: 23  
GCSAA posts: Maibusch has been a member of the board of directors for one year. He currently serves as chairman of the publications committee and the limited budget resource group.  
Other associations: Maibusch is a member and past president of both the Chicagoland Association of GCS and the Midwest Association of GCS. He is also a member of the Illinois Turf Foundation, the USGA, the Michigan Turf Foundation and the Chicago District Golf Association. He is one of 23 persons in the world to achieve the Master Greenkeeper designation from the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association.  
Education: Bachelor's degree in turf management from Michigan State  
Goals: "Serving on the board this past year has been a tremendous opportunity for me. I am looking forward to the vote regarding the PDI. The process that was used to develop these standards was an example of members working together to accomplish the same goal. Either way with the vote, the association will remain focused on improving and providing the most relevant education and promoting golf course superintendents."