GCSAA Recommended Bylaw Changes

If proposed changes to the bylaws of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) are enacted at the 1993 annual meeting in Anaheim, Calif., a new system of individual voting would replace delegate and proxy voting at GCSAA elections.

Under current GCSAA bylaws, any registered individuals can vote in GCSAA elections, or they can give their vote to a chapter delegate, or they can vote by proxy. If the change is enacted, voting for candidates for office and on other business matters would take place either by mail-in balloting prior to the annual meeting, or by on-site voting during the association’s annual conference and show. Each eligible GCSAA member would choose his voting method.

Other proposed bylaws changes would:
- authorize the board of directors to set annual dues, currently set by the membership, for all membership classes;
- authorize the board to change membership classification requirements, presently codified in the bylaws;
- allow amendments to the association’s stated purpose and definition all golf course superintendent;
- add membership classes (including non-superintendents);
- change nominating committee procedures;
- change the vote required to amend bylaws from two-thirds to a simple majority.

GCSAA President William R. Roberts, CGCS, presented the proposed bylaws changes, recommended by the Organizational Study Committee, to voting delegates at the association’s recent conference and show in New Orleans.

Roberts stressed that the association is a “business in a competitive business environment. It is our aim to establish organizational parameters that allow for a maximum degree of competitiveness in a dynamic business environment.” Noting that the bylaws had stood since the founding of the association, “one must ask whether a set of operational parameters that were initiated in 1926 haven’t become (instead) operational limitations that restrict our ability to realize our full potential impact on the industry.”