New GCSAA Position Papers Nearing Completion

GCSAA's Government Relations program is developing three new association Position Papers.

Topics of the new Position Papers will be the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), water conservation and effluent water use.

The effort is in response to new developments and existing situations in the golf industry that the association's board of directors has decided are worthy of an official association position.

The ADA paper basically will outline the new law as it relates to golf operations and will contain GCSAA's formal position on how the golf industry should respond to the new requirements under the law.

GCSAA has decided that a position paper on the subject would serve as a helpful resource tool for the growing number of members who call association headquarters questioning how the new civil rights bill will affect them. Additionally, the paper is expected to become a valuable public relations tool in positioning the association and its members as socially responsible professionals responding to the needs of a growing segment of the golfing population.

A position paper dealing with the attributes and methods of water conservation also is in the works. It is being prepared in response to mounting concern for the nation's water supplies.

The water conservation position paper spells out the various ways that water can be conserved on the golf course and states the association's position on the subject—which is, basically, that GCSAA strongly encourages its members and others to employ proven water conservation practices.

A third new position paper will look into the matter of effluent water use on the golf course and also is being produced in response to growing concern over the country's dwindling water supplies.

GCSAA has long maintained that the use of effluent, or gray, water (partially treated wastewater) is a viable alternative to using potable water for irrigation purposes.

There are many advantages, and a few disadvantages, to using effluent water, all of which will be spelled out in the new position paper.

The position papers should be ready for approval by GCSAA's Board of Directors soon and will be made available for member and public consumption shortly thereafter.

For more information on any of the new position paper topics, contact GCSAA's government relations program at 1421 Research Park Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049-3859, Tel. 913/832-4470, FAX 913/832-4466.