Monterey to Host 1995 GCSAA Golf Championship

Five courses along the Monterey Peninsula in California will host the 1995 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Golf Championship scheduled for Feb. 20-21.

Presented in partnership with The Toro Company, the association's 45th championship will test a field of approximately 480 GCSAA members and affiliates.

The host courses for GCSAA's championship are The Golf Club at Quail Lodge, Old Del Monte Golf Course, Poppy Hills Golf Course, Rancho Canada Golf Club and The Bayonet.

The Golf Club at Quail Lodge, designed by Robert Muir Graves, was host to the United States Golf Association's 1975 Senior Amateur and annually is the site of the California Women's State Amateur. The 6,515-yard layout plays to a par 71 and has a slope rating of 126. Dennis Kerr is the golf course superintendent.

Old Del Monte Golf Course, designed by Charles Maud, originally was a nine-hole layout that opened in 1895. Old Del Monte is reportedly the oldest golf course west of the Mississippi River. At par 72, it plays to 6,278 yards with a slope of 122. Pete Bibber is the golf course superintendent.

Poppy Hills Golf Course, designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr., is owned and operated by the Northern California Golf Association and has been a part of the PGA Tour's AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am rotation since 1991. The par-72 venue plays to 6,613 yards and has a slope of 143. Manny Sousa is the golf course superintendent.

Rancho Canada Golf Club, designed by Robert Dean Putman, is characterized by large, fairly flat greens. Participants in GCSAA's championship will play the West Course, a 6,613-yard, par-72 layout with a slope of 126. Tim Greenwald is the golf course superintendent.

In anticipation of a large number of participants, a fifth course was added to GCSAA's '95 tournament rotation. The Bayonet, designed by Gen. Robert McClure and located at Fort Ord, is a 7,000-yard, par-72 layout with a slope of 132. The military opened the Bayonet and its companion course on the base, The Black Horse, to public play last year. Nick Moana is the golf course superintendent.

A more detailed look at the 1995 GCSAA championship courses can be found in the September 1994 issue of Golf Course Management magazine.

The tournament will precede GCSAA's 66th International Golf Course Conference and Show in San Francisco. Tournament registration information was included in GCSAA's conference and show Early Bird brochure, which was mailed to GCSAA members Aug. 1.

Toro's support of the GCSAA Golf Championship will include a number of added activities, such as complimentary receptions, continental breakfasts, a complimentary victory banquet, a new and expanded array of tee prizes and a hole-in-one contest with a new car as the prize. Toro also is sponsoring the 1995 GCSAA tournament book. Any funds provided by Toro that are not used for the event will be donated to GCSAA's Scholarship & Research Foundation.

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GCSAA San Francisco Hotel Rooms Available Through NST

For those planning to attend the 66th GCSAA Show & Conference in San Francisco in February, it's none too early to make your hotel reservations. As in past years, North Star Turf has secured a block of rooms in conjunction with the event.

A limited number of rooms remain available at the Sir Francis Drake for those interested. The newly renovated Drake is conveniently located seven blocks from the Moscone Center near Union Square. Contact Dan Miller or Joe Campbell at North Star Turf, 612/484-8411, for more information.