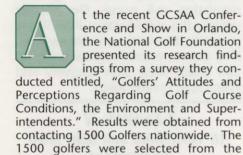
N.G.F. Research Update

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ally in its sports research work. These 1500 golfers represented all facets of golfers from the casual player to the very committed golfer and from both the public and private club golfer.

30,000 people that the NGF surveys annu-

I will not attempt to give all the results from this survey. A complete report will be presented in the next few issues of Golf Course Management magazine. This article will simply highlight some of the more interesting facts developed by the survey.

(): How do you view the golf course superintendent?

A: 56% Facilities manager46% Skilled blue collar worker19% Business person6% Didn't know

2% Unskilled, uneducated worker
What responsibilities does the superintendent have?

A: 88% Manages golf course 37% Responsible for environmental conditions 22% Courses' landscapes

22% Courses' landscapes19% Person who mows greens11% Person who manages the golf facility

Interestingly, only **76**% believe the golf course superintendent to be responsible for conditions on the course.

62% believe the superintendent is best equipped to teach golfers about ecology and conditions on the golf course.

Given that superintendents are responsible for course conditions, why does a golfer choose to play a particular course?

A: 72% Cost/price of green fees 68% Availability of tee times 69% Quality of course conditions 44% Closeness to home 33% Course design

What conditions on a course do you find most bothersome?

A: (From most to least bothersome)
Ball marks on greens

(But they will fix them)
Poor tees
Inadequate drinking water on course
Poor bunkers
Rough too high
Greens too slow

The above question was answered by all 1500 golfers. The following responses were taken from only the avid golfers:

A: (From most to least bothersome)
Poor bunkers
Recently aerated greens
Ball marks
Poor tees
Frost delays

Surfaces too wet

In regards to golf and the environment: 90% of golfers believe in protecting the environment, whereas only 87% of non-golfers hold this view.

42% of golfers support spending money to protect the environment; **42%** of former golfers hold similar views, while **38%** of non-golfers support spending money on the environment.

The survey indicates that many people are neutral about the value of golf courses and their "pollution" effects!

The above is just a quick sampling of some of the survey results. As mentioned earlier, the complete survey results can be found in upcoming issues of GCM magazine.

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