

GCSAA NEWS RELEASE

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SUPERINTENDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN NEW CHAMPIONSHIP

Golf course superintendents are pleased to be involved with PGA professionals, managers and presidents of the nation's country clubs in a national golf championship recently created by the John Deere Company.

The announcement was made by Riley L. Stottern, CGCS, president of the 7,000-member Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), with headquarters in Lawrence, Kan.

The event -- the John Deere/PGA Professional-Superintendent Championship -- will feature four-man teams competing in a scramble format at the 41 PGA Sections throughout the country.

Qualifying is scheduled between June and September, with the 36-hole Championship in November. The date and site will be announced later. Teams will be made up of the PGA Professional, the club's course superintendent, club president and club manager.

"It is gratifying, and fitting," observed Stottern, "that superintendents are recognized as among the most important people in the game of golf. It is they who make and keep our nation's golf courses playable. Many superintendents play golf frequently not only because they enjoy the game and are good, but also because they know it is the best way to understand how to keep their courses in the best possible playing condition.

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"GCSAA thanks John Deere for its development of the tournament. Our members are looking forward with great enthusiasm to playing in it with the PGA professionals, club presidents and managers, who also are so essential to the game and industry."

Gary Gottschalk, manager of John Deere's Golf and Turf Division, said the firm is "excited about the concept. This program provides an opportunity for the club professional and club superintendent to play together on a team with other club officials. I am not aware of any other competition like it."

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