

GCSAA

GCSAA Survey Reveals Member Superintendent Responsibilities, Perceptions, Attitudes

A recently-completed Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) survey indicates members at all types of golf facilities are heavily involved in administrative and financial decisions executed by themselves and/or management.

In measuring decision-making responsibilities, respondents were asked to rank their influence in numerous areas on a scale of 1 (having no impact at all) to 5 (being the decision maker). Golf course superintendents had the greatest influence in the areas of chemical application (94.4 percent listed No. 5), mowing and maintenance schedules (93.7 percent listed No. 5) and chemical product purchase decisions (96.0 percent listed No. 4 or No. 5).

The survey also revealed superintendents are influential in expenditures of capital equipment (93.3 percent listed No. 3 through No. 5) and equipment (97.4 percent listed No. 3 through No. 5). In terms of golf car purchases, 46.9 percent are influential in categories No. 3 through 5.

Respondents also provided information as to the latest changes in the industry that have affected job performance. Results were divided by operating budget, with the lower end being less than \$250,000 annually and the upper end at more than \$700,000 annually. Regardless of budget level, one of the most frequent responses concerned providing conditions to meet the higher expectations of golfers while keeping within budgetary limits. Associated with that, facilities at all levels expressed a concern of finding and maintaining qualified labor to serve on golf course maintenance crews. A strong economy and non-traditional work schedule directly affect the available labor pool. Superintendents were virtually unanimous across the board in the positive impact alternative spikes have had in their work. Keeping abreast of the latest environmental issues was also a common response of all members.

Naumann's NorCal News

Kevin Hutchins is the new Superintendent at Presidio Golf Course in San Francisco. Kevin was from Eugene, Oregon. Kevin is replacing **Tom Brooks** who has moved to Northern Nevada . . . **Steve Carlton** is the new Superintendent at Mather AFB Golf Course. Steve has been the Superintendent at a golf course in Japan prior to his move back to the United States . . . **Mike Higuera** has moved from Mountain Shadows Golf Course in Rohnert Park to become the Superintendent at Seascapes Golf Course in Aptos. This is the same position that he had before he went to Mountain Shadows . . . **Jim McPhilomy** is the new Superintendent at Lions Gate Golf Course. Jim was the Superintendent at Saddle Creek CC prior to his move to the Bay Area.

Proposed Dues Increase To Appear On Ballot

The GCSANC Board of Directors unanimously approved a recommendation from the budget committee to place a dues increase before the membership on the April ballot. The budget committee's recommendation came after a thorough review of the GCSANC's current and projected financial status. Citing rising operational costs and the need to develop additional revenue for future programs Budget Committee Chairperson, Dave Davies, CGCS, proposed the following dues structure: Class A, B, C, and Associate - \$100.00. If approved, the budget committee proposed a similar increase for Affiliates of - \$145.00, Students - \$40.00, Retired - \$25.00, and Class A Life - no charge.

"The proposed fee schedule represents an approximate increase of 20% for Class A, B, C, and Associate members," Davies concluded. The voting member will have a chance to approve or disapprove the proposal at the Annual Meeting scheduled for April 6th at Castlewood Country Club.

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