

FREE BALL MARK REPAIR TOOLS PROVIDED AT CHARLES SCHWAB CUP CHAMPIONSHIP

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California (GCSANC) distributed free ball mark repair tools at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship at Sonoma Golf Club. The championship, won by Jim Thorpe, featured the top 30 money winners on the Champions Tour, plus Jay Hass and Loren Roberts battling it out for the million-dollar Schwab annuity. Ball mark repair tool distribution took place at the Play Golf America booth from October 26 through October 29, 2006.

"In addition to seeing some spectacular golf, attendees were able to stop by the Play Golf America booth for a free repair tool and quickly learn how to properly fix a ball mark," states GCSANC program chairman Chris Mains. "Just as folks seek tips on how to improve their golf game, the superintendents want to share quick tips on proper ball mark repair which will help improve putting surfaces as well as on-course playing experiences for golfers."



Len Tallo of Lawson Products worked at the GCSANC Ball mark repair tool booth at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship

Through the efforts of GCSANC members, more than 15,000 repair tools have been distributed to the public free of charge, each bearing the chapter logo and accompanied with handy instructions. Also, at local golf courses throughout the year, superintendents display posters that demonstrate proper ball mark repair techniques. In addition to the booth at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship, ball mark repair tools were distributed at Welcome to Golf Day, Play Golf America Day and during Women's Golf Week.

(Continued on page 15)

CALIFORNIA HONORS SEVEN WHO WORK FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

The California Department of Pesticide Regulation honored seven diverse groups - from a top-ranked golf course in Placer County to a pair of Fresno advisors who assist immigrant farmers--for their work to sustain California's environment.

DPR presented its IPM Innovator Awards today at the California Environmental Protection Agency headquarters. IPM -- integrated pest management--promotes natural pest solutions to build a healthier environment that sustains itself with less chemical intervention.

"These Innovators are an eclectic group, but they share one important characteristic," said DPR Director Mary-Ann Warmerdam. "Each award winner has created an enduring partnership with nature -- not just to co-exist, but to contribute to a sustainable environment and economy. And each one of these recipients is building on the success of our previous IPM Innovators."

DPR's IPM Innovator program has recognized nearly 100 individuals and organizations since 1994. They represent a range of business and community interests, including farms and other businesses, community groups, schools, and advocacy organizations. Most importantly, all have actively shared their successful ideas with others.

The seven new IPM Innovators and highlights of their accomplishments:

- Lahontan Golf Club, Truckee and Kevin Breen, CGCS
- The Cooperative Extension Small Farm Program, Fresno
- Ecology Action of Santa Cruz
- Lodi Rules for Sustainable Winegrowing and six San Joaquin County growers
- Natural Resources Conservation Service in Butte, Glenn, Sutter, and Yuba counties
- The Pear Doctor, also known as Broc Zoller, in Lake County
- Ty Parkinson, Bill Chandler and the Stone Fruit Pest Management Alliance in Fresno County

Kevin Breen, CGCS at Lahontan Golf Club, said, "Of the numerous awards and recognition that Lahontan has garnered over the years, this means the most to me. The awards ceremony was a representation of all facets of the agricultural industry, and to be the second golf course (the first being The

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 7)

FREE BALL MARK REPAIR TOOLS PROVIDED AT CHARLES SCHWAB CUP CHAMPIONSHIP

The GCSANC ball mark repair education program is supported by superintendents in Northern California and has the backing of other allied golf associations including the PGA TOUR, Champions Tour, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), California Golf Course Superintendents Association (CGCSA), Northern California Golf Association (NCGA), California Alliance for Golf (CAG) and the Northern California PGA (NCPGA).

Working closely in conjunction with the NCPGA in its growth of the game efforts through Play Golf America, this GCSANC outreach program has been recognized as a best practice by the PGA of America. "We applaud the GCSANC and its members for their commitment to help bring new players to the game while also increasing awareness about golf course etiquette through ball mark repair education," stated NCPGA Growth of the Game Director Carol Pence.

(Continued from page 7)

CALIFORNIA HONORS SEVEN WHO WORK FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

Pebble Beach Co. in 1999) to be recognized amongst a group containing organic farmers is humbling.

"This is a great opportunity to utilize the momentum of this award to organize golf courses regionally in order to demonstrate the environmental stewardship that exists not only at Lahontan but at other facilities as well."

Breen will work with the Environmental Institute for Golf in developing case studies in 2007. Water quality monitoring, SOP for pesticide selection and snow mold trials are topics that will be developed for presentations in the coming year. "My wish is for this award and Lahontan to be utilized as an example that golf and the environment are at their best when they exist in a sustainable, balanced ecosystem," Breen said. Lahontan Golf Club opened in 1998 as part of a private, gated community on 880 acres.

For more on the Award and the winners visit:
<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/pressrls/2006/061026.htm>.

Be Kind To Your Turf...
Your Members Will
Appreciate It!

The CAT 257
Multi Terrain Loader
"Low Ground Pressure"



PETERSON
TRACTOR CO.



Call John Parodi @ 925.899.2414

www.petersontractor.com

A
1

TURF
EQUIPMENT
SHARPENING, INC.

"WITH US YOU ARE
MOWING THE NEXT DAY"

COMPETITIVE RATES

*FAST, RELIABLE SERVICE FOR ON-SITE MOBILE
PRECISION GRINDING AND RELIEF GRINDING

*COMPREHENSIVE TROUBLE SHOOTING

*36 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN MOWING INDUSTRY

*SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

*NO JOB TOO SMALL

408-427-7323