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## LPGA PARTNERS WITH GCSAA FOR AN AGRONOMIST

The Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) has partnered with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) to add a full-time agronomist to its tournament operations team.

The agronomist will assist LPGA tournament operations staff in developing consistent course conditions and serve as a liaison between the LPGA and the host facility golf course management team. The GCSAA will conduct a national search for the position beginning next month and have targeted early July as the start date for the candidate.

"We announced this to the Tour members at last night's player meeting and the response could not have been more enthusiastic," said LPGA Commissioner Carolyn F. Bivens. "We are fortunate to play at terrific venues, and having a full-time agronomist will only enhance our competitions and the stages on which we play." The position will be a GCSAA employee, however, he or she will work closely with the LPGA staff and golf course superintendents at LPGA tournament sites. The desired outcome is to achieve consistent course set up conditions (fairway width, height of cut for roughs and fairways, green speed, etc.) for the LPGA events.

"We are pleased to offer this service to the LPGA," said GCSAA Chief Executive Officer Steve Mona, a member of the LPGA Commissioner's Advisory Council. "A need was identified and we have the means to fulfill it. Having a full-time agronomist will be a significant benefit to the staff and players."

June