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For more than 35 years we've known it's the best way! The Final Word In Turf Nutrition

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When it comes to nice places to work in this world, a golf course has to rank right up there. And when your course lies high above the Pacific in beautiful Santa Cruz, California, life is good. That’s what Don Paul, CGCS enjoys at the DeLaveaga Golf Course in Santa Cruz, with its entertainment and easygoing life-style, is just a perfect fit for Don.

Don’s golf course, DeLaveaga, is an 18-hole Municipal Course owned and operated by the City of Santa Cruz. The course is located in DeLaveaga Park, a 500-acre park donated to the City to use for recreational purposes. The golf course takes up 175 acres of the park and is completely surrounded by natural forest. The course averages a robust 75,000 rounds a year.

Architect Bert Stamps designed DeLaveaga. It plays to a par of 72 and measures 6,300 yards. The course opened in 1970 and has a full driving range, BBQ facility, and restaurant and bar. The course is operated by the City of Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation staff and has no management company involvement. The maintenance staff numbers 12, including Don, his able assistant Miles Hicks, and quality mechanic Gene Lynberg. All employees are unionized City Maintenance Workers who receive a full benefits package plus salary. The course is a member of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program and is working toward full certification.

Although there are no plans to expand the golf course, Don has stayed busy with a number of improvement projects. The maintenance building and yard have been expanded to facilitate equipment storage and interior improvements to the office, break room, locker room, and restrooms. Bunkers are being renovated both in-house and with the help of a contractor. They are replacing the old sand with an improved whiter one, adding new drainage, and reshaping the contours and edges. Don says, “I’ve learned a lot of patience in being involved with these projects, from dealing with City government requirements and red tape, to working with different contractors. One of the most difficult things through all that is trying to produce the results we are looking for.” On top of that, Don is currently seeking a consultant to develop a Golf Course Master Plan for the entire facility.

Don’s been at DeLaveaga for nine years where he earned his GCSAA Superintendent Certification in October of 1998. Prior to DeLaveaga, he spent three years as Assistant Superintendent at Marin CC. He also worked on the crew at both Spyglass Hill and Poppy Hills for one-year stints. Don is originally from Corvallis, Oregon and was involved with two golf courses there before moving to California in 1988. Don received his BS degree from Oregon State in Horticulture with a Turf Management Concentration. Don credits his success in the business to the great mentors he’s had over the years. It started with OSU professor Tom Cook, and followed with superintendents Tom Zoller, Dick Fluter, Paul Colleran, Michael Sauls, and Stan Burgess. Don is also quick to credit his father who introduced him to the game of golf at age eight. “My dad gets a lot of credit, for introducing me to the game, teaching me to appreciate the game and the etiquette involved, being my biggest fan and supporter through high school golf.” “He allowed me the opportunity to play thousands of golf courses and encouraged me to pursue the Golf Course Superintendent Field.”

For fun, Don plays golf at least once a week and tries to play tennis twice a week. He’s single and loves walking the beaches of Santa Cruz, hanging out with friends, and listening to music. He also enjoys going to church. As far as aspirations go, Don has a great outlook on life, “I just want to be happy in whatever I’m doing, wherever I’m doing it.” And being a well-respected Golf Course Superintendent in beautiful Santa Cruz, it sounds like Don’s got things on his own personal “Cruz control.”
Final Thoughts . . .  
By Bob Costa, CGCS

The Numbers Don’t Lie  
With the inaugural assistants tournament on the horizon, an interesting statistic was uncovered that I found surprising. As of May 2001, the association had only 65 assistant superintendent members, this out of a membership that includes 214 superintendents. Clearly, these numbers suggest that a significant percentage of assistant superintendents aren’t members. In searching for an explanation, I concluded that the likely reason is that for many, their respective clubs do not pay their dues.

With a commitment by the GCSANC Board to expand the association’s worth to members, specifically Assistants, one could hardly question the value of a GCSANC membership. If the annual dues are the primary limiting factor, there is some comfort knowing that, unlike the requirement for A and B members, Class C membership does not require dual membership with GCSAA. I encourage those of you who have Assistants who are not members to give it some consideration. Allowing them to participate in this month’s event would be a good way to initiate them into the association.

On behalf of those who have worked hard to make this event a reality, I extend an invitation to all of our members and nonmembers. Regrettably, I will be unable to attend, as I will be traveling to Israel in early July. However, I will look forward to hearing the stories of success from the meeting.

Let’s Take A Vote  
Last year, I proposed the concept of allowing Class C members to serve as Directors. With Board approval, we introduced our first candidate Jason Green, prior to January’s annual meeting. At the last minute it was brought to the Board’s attention that bylaws change would be required and Jason was forced to withdraw his candidacy. In April, the Board approved the necessary changes to bylaws affecting Class C membership and now all that is left is to put it to vote. Because the objective is to allow eligible Class C members the opportunity to participate in the 2002 election, a special vote will be conducted at this year’s GCSANC Institute in November. GCSANC Bylaws require amendments to be made at the annual meeting or a special meeting called by the President. The Institute was chosen because of the remaining scheduled meetings, it provides the best forum for discussion and the largest voting member turnout. More information will be made available in the upcoming months.

New Addition  
Plans are in the works to develop an association trip to an A’s game during the month of September. Board members Bob Lapic and Vince Keats are working on the details of the event, which will be open to all GCSANC members, their families and guests. After the challenges of a long summer it may provide welcome relief for all. The only questions that remains are how many games out the A’s will be and will Jason Giambi be wearing Yankee pinstripes.

Great Show  
For the third time in the past decade Mike Garvale and Palo Alto Hills have played host to a NorCal event. I’m sure all that participated in the Superintendent/Pro event would agree that the staff and Mike put on a great show. Many thanks to Mike and also to Jeff Shafer, who worked extremely hard coordinating this event.

Office Notes  
By Barb Mikel

GCSANC supports a program to provide financial assistance to those members and nonmembers meeting the requirements of the Scholarship program. The dollar amount varies depending on individual need, academic environment and Association resources. This year $4000 has been budgeted to the Scholarship Program. A Scholarship Award from GCSANC would provide a large percentage of total cost of either program. If you or someone you know is interested in the Scholarship program, contact Joel Ahern, San Jose Country Club, to learn more about this process. Many association members have already benefited from this Scholarship program, maybe you can be next!

Doing the business of GCSANC often brings the question, “Where the heck is Diamond Springs”? My usual answer is halfway between Sacramento and South Lake Tahoe on Highway 49 just off Highway 50 in El Dorado County. “How’d you ever get there? Well, in 1993 I decided to move myself and my company to “God’s Country.” My company, Easi Data Processing, was then located on Saratoga Avenue in San Jose, California (now Saratoga & Highway 85.) GCSANC was a three-year client of my company and the Board was agreeable to continuation of office, administrative and accounting services to GCSANC from my new location! (During April at GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence Kansas, I discovered I am one of a few Association Mangers/Executive Secretaries maintaining an official business office. Most work from their homes.) If you are heading up to South Lake Tahoe on Highway 50, stop by and say hello!

Speaking of saying hello, I do like to talk with all GCSANC members. So if you want to speak to me live, the best time is between 12:00 and 5:00 pm. I won’t always be in the office and I try to reserve mornings for other clients and projects requiring ‘no interruptions.’ Having a business listing for GCSANC brings a lot of interesting phone calls! I get people calling for information about golf courses all over the Northern California area. People wanting directions to courses and even the occasion ‘tee time’ call! The information operators must come to the office listing first when searching for a golf listing!
Inaugural Assistant’s Meeting at DeLaveaga

DeLaveaga GC and Don Paul, CGCS will host the first annual GCSANC Assistant Superintendent meeting Monday July 9th. Superintendents are encouraged to send their member and nonmember assistants. The meeting will address topics and issues relating to the Assistant Superintendent. Superintendent and Affiliates are also encouraged to attend the meeting and play golf.

The meeting will begin at 9:00 am and feature the Olympic Club superintendent John Fleming and USGA Green Section Agronomist Patrick Gross. Lunch is scheduled for 11:30 and golf shotgun at 1:00 pm.

For further information, contact Jason Green at (408) 254-2795.

Jay Walkinshaw, Joel Ahern, John Pina, John Maltabano at Palo Alto Hills

The Evolving Role of the Assistant Superintendent

By Gary K. Carls CGCS

As GCSANC prepares for its first Assistant Meeting, I thought I would take a look at the evolving role of the Assistant Superintendent. This role has changed and grown over the years to where we are in the present day. It is fairly safe to say that almost all of us who are currently superintendents, were at some point in our careers, Assistants.

In the early years of our profession, the assistant was probably more often than not, just a crewmember who showed a little more eagerness than the others to learn. Although there were a lot of different tasks to learn on the course, the superintendent in most cases was responsible for the more critical tasks such as fertilization, irrigation or chemical applications. The assistant in most cases was more of a foreman who was there to assure that the rest of the crew accomplished their daily tasks. Although they may have possessed more formal education than the rest of the staff, they usually did not attend college. By fulfilling the role as an assistant, the opportunity was there to later advance to the position of superintendent through hard work and a willingness to learn.

The role of the modern assistant is in many ways the same, although the degree of sophistication has greatly advanced. In many cases the goal of the assistant is still to advance to the superintendent position through hard work and learning. Today the role of the assistant has evolved to include many responsibilities that in the past were those of the golf course superintendent. Ever expanding administrative tasks have taken the superintendent off the golf course and into the office or meetings. The assistant has more responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the golf course than he has ever had.

The increased use of computer-controlled irrigation has required more computer skills to operate the course on a daily basis. In many cases this responsibility has fallen to the assistant. The assistant has also assumed responsibility for fertilizer and chemical applications at many courses. With the increasing demand for technical skills to operate the golf course, there has been increasing demand for college-educated assistants. There is still the situation that allows for someone to make their way through the ranks, but the increasing demands placed upon us by our players and employers have made that a tougher road than it may have been in the past. In most cases we have responsibility for the largest budget at our facility and are responsible for the greatest asset, the golf course.

Next time you are away at a meeting or on vacation, consider the vital role your assistant plays in your absence. Also remember the mentors who have helped you advance in your career. I feel like I learned a lot from each superintendent I worked for or with. I was fortunate to work with several superintendents who really encouraged my career advancement. We all work in a profession that requires a lot of hard work and often requires sacrifice on the part of our families because of the time demands placed upon us. Show your assistant that you really appreciate their ability to make your job just a little more enjoyable. Please encourage your assistant to attend the upcoming meeting at DeLaveaga G.C. and meet some of his peers. It will be a great opportunity to become involved with GCSANC and get some great career insight from Mr. John Fleming of the Olympic Club and Mr. Pat Gross of the U.S.G.A. Hope every assistant gets the chance to attend.
## PALO ALTO HILLS SCORING RESULTS

### SUPT/PRO TEAM NET BEST BALL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Club/Company</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Prize</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Rich Bin/Dave Davies</td>
<td>Palo Alto GC</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Mark Doss/Roger Robarge</td>
<td>California Club</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>$75</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>John Snopkowski/Chris Dubas</td>
<td>Santa Teresa</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>$55</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>John Maltabano/John Pina</td>
<td>La Rinconada</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th</td>
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<td>67</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Jason Boldt/Sean Battistini</td>
<td>Vintor's GC</td>
<td>68</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Jeff Pace/Mike Clark</td>
<td>Oakmont GC</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>$30</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Chris Pryor/Forrest Arthur</td>
<td>The Preserve</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>Ted Anderson/Mike Hill</td>
<td>Moffett Field</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>$15</td>
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### 2 Person Team Net Best Ball

<table>
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<th>Score</th>
<th>Prize</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>R.Mitchell Irr. Designs</td>
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<td>Turf Star/Brentwood CC</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Mark Rogers/Gordon Cambell</td>
<td>Bay Area Fence/Sky West</td>
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<td>Tim Coles/Don Naumann</td>
<td>BlackBerry/Sierra Pacific</td>
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<td>6th</td>
<td>Mitch Fraser/Mark Barrentos</td>
<td>Turf Star</td>
<td>70</td>
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### Supt/Aff/Member/Guests Ind. Gross

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<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Club/Company</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Prize</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
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<td>78</td>
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<td>Mike Hill</td>
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<td>Seascape GC</td>
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<td>Carmel Valley</td>
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<td>6th</td>
<td>Mike Phillips</td>
<td>Pasadera GC</td>
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### Supt/Aff/Member/Guests Ind. Net

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<th>Prize</th>
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<td>California Club</td>
<td>70</td>
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<td>2nd</td>
<td>Dave Davies</td>
<td>Palo Alto GC</td>
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<td>$45</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>Scott McVicar</td>
<td>Pac Bell Park</td>
<td>72</td>
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<td>5th</td>
<td>Mitch Fraser</td>
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<td>6th</td>
<td>Sam Singh</td>
<td>Tilden GC</td>
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### Professional Gross

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<td>3rd</td>
<td>Gordon Cambell</td>
<td>Skywest GC</td>
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<td>6th</td>
<td>John Snopkowski</td>
<td>Santa Teresa</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>$65</td>
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### Closest To Pin - Supt/Aff/Member/Guests

- "#2 - Dave Archer, Pump Repair Service, 7' 6 1/2"
- "#5 - Mike Phillips, Pasadera GC, 6' 10"

### Closest To Pin - Professionals

- "#2 - John Snopkowski, Santa Teresa, 6'1"
- "#5 - Holly Juergens, Salinas GC, 5'8"

---

Mike Clark, CGCS with nice balance

Mike Ginelli from the fairway at Palo Alto Hills
Superintendent/Pro Tournament at Palo Alto Hills

TurfStar’s Mark Barientos strokes a putt

Garvare’s wonderful hand action

John Pina at impact (Too bad there’s water right).

Kevin Eppich lines up a tee shot

The Beautiful 18th at Palo Alto Hills CC

Naumann’s NorCal News

Mark Licon has left Ruby Hill CC in Pleasanton to become the Supt at The Bridges GC in San Ramon. He is replacing Mike Orren who moved on last fall...Chuck Pratt is the new Supt at Skywest GC in Hayward. He was the Supt at the newly opened Monarch Bay GC in San Leandro. Chuck was the Supt during the construction of the facility....Dick Rudolph has accepted the Supt position at Mountain Shadows GC in Rohnert Park. Dick was the Director of Maintenance at Aviara CC in the San Diego area.....Scott Stambaugh is the new Supt at Hiddenbrooke CC in Vallejo. Scott was the Supt at Snow Creek GC prior to his move back to the Bay Area....
Quick Profile

Name: Pat Finlen, CGCS
Employer: Bayonet & Black Horse Golf Courses
Position: Director of Golf Course Maintenance
Years in the Golf Business: 20
Previous Employment: Lake Quivira Golf & CC
Education: BS Business Administration
GCSANC Work or Interests: GCSANC Director of Research and Membership
Other Organizations: GCSAA Chapter Relations Committee
Family: Wife Denise, Daughter Jennifer (22), Son Nicholas (10)
Interests Outside of Golf: Hiking
Favorite Vacation: Montana and the Northwest
Favorite Course to Play: I like them all! Mountain golf is probably my favorite.
Course You’d Like to Visit: The Old Course
Strangest Thing You’ve Witnessed On The Golf Course: The President of the United States (Clinton) taking a leak next to a busy street.
What You’d Be Doing If You Weren’t Involved With Golf: Sales or working for a park.

Membership Report From May 16
Board of Directors Meeting

By Patrick Finlen, CGCS

James Bambino
Scott E. Carrier
Joel Erickson
Chanaan Fasanello
Tom Franco
Chris Flynn
Brad R. Griffig
Jean La Duc
Chris Mains
Tom Marchese
David Murphy
John Redmond
Allan Schlothauer

McCloud Golf Course
San Geronimo GC
CordeValle Golf Club
San Geronimo GC
Hunter Golf
Links At Spanish Bay
Poppy Ridge
City of San Jose
Spring Valley GC
Pebble Beach Golf Links
Western Farm Service
Almaden Country Club
Sierra Pacific Turf Supply
Retired
Class A
Class B
Class C
Affiliate
Class B
Associate
Class A Life
Class B
Associate
Affiliate
Class A Life

Did You Know???
In a 1948 salary survey the salary range for a superintendent was between $225 and $450 per month. In 1949 the average budget for 18 holes was $40,000.

Who Says You Need a Million Dollar Budget To Upgrade Your Irrigation System?

Hunter Golf specializes in helping superintendents upgrade their courses with top-of-the-line retrofit equipment. And we’re ready to work within your time frame – whether it’s five months or five years. Switch out a few inefficient heads and replace them with reliable Hunter rotors. Add Hunter field controllers with a two-mile maintenance radio when your budget allows. Or implement Hunter central control in affordable stages. Your Hunter Golf distributor can evaluate your current system and work out a realistic renovation plan. Give us a call today!
Andersons Golf products and Sierra Pacific Turf Supply have agreed to sponsor the inaugural Assistant Superintendents Meeting on July 9th at De Laveaga Golf Course.

The sale by the Scotts Company of its professional turf division to the Andersons Technologies marked the end of an era and the beginning of an exciting new chapter for some of the industries most popular and trusted control products and fertilizers. The new Andersons Golf Products division is the combining of Scotts ProTurf with the Andersons Tee Time line. The Andersons, a diversified turf and agricultural fertilizer company with over one billion dollars in annual sales, have developed a reputation for reliability and quality in the markets which they compete.

For years superintendents frequently asked if Scotts products could be made available on a local basis. With the golf industry switch to just in time delivery, local distribution is essential to meet industry requirements. The Andersons as they have done for over twenty-five years, are committed to selling their products through strong local distributors such as Sierra Pacific Turf Supply. Sierra Pacific has the ability to deliver Andersons Golf Products in bulk tenders, through custom application, in bulk sacks as well as fifty-pound bags. This service is coupled with strong agronomic expertise and product support through a highly trained sales force. Andersons Golf Products Territory Manager Bob Miller is also available to provide agronomic support and product information.

The Andersons Golf Products division provides the most comprehensive offering of quality fertilizers and control products available today. In the near future Scotts packaging will begin to disappear; to be replaced with the new Andersons Golf Products wording and logo. The commitment to quality, which was a Scotts trademark, will continue with Andersons Golf Products through long term production contracts with the Scotts Company and state of the art in house manufacturing and quality control.

The Andersons are committed to supporting the industry by developing new and innovative products for the 21st century. Several new granular herbicides, fungicides, and growth regulators are in the R & D pipeline for the near future.

Superintendents Show Support for Palo Alto Juniors and Oakland Youth Program

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California continued their support of junior golf by recently contributing $475 dollars to the 8th Annual Celebration of Jr. Golf, held at Palo Alto Golf Club on Saturday, May 12th. The donation was raised at the GCSANC Annual meeting this past January.

The tournament, sponsored by the City of Palo Alto, raises funds to support East Palo Alto Junior Golf - a minority youth program for the underprivileged.

Supporting youth programs has become a fundamental objective of the GCSANC who recently endorsed a program benefiting Oakland youth. “One of our chapter goals, beyond providing services to our members, is to look for opportunities to contribute to the community. Supporting Junior golf is a natural fit,” said Bob Costa, chapter president.

The Oakland program calls upon superintendents to assist in teaching high school students about the turfgrass and golf course industry, including hosting field trips and providing internships for practical learning. The curriculum was developed in conjunction with the Future Farmers of America and is available to students at Castlemont High school.

GCSAA Education Seminar Changes

Please be advised that as of July 1, 2001, there is no longer a mandatory testing requirement for GCSAA educational programs. This change will be reflected throughout the GCSAA curriculum and will include GCSAA Conference Seminars, Regional Seminars, Chapter-Administered Seminars and External Education programs.

Instructors may still give a test if they so desire; however, this requirement will no longer distinguish a PDU offering from a CEU offering. The Education Department would strongly recommend that there still be some form of assessment for the educational offering so that members can be sure of having gained something from the program.

To be eligible for PDUs and CEUs, a program will still need to meet the 3.5 hour time requirement. With the elimination of the mandatory testing, you might be wondering how to determine whether an offering should be eligible for PDUs or CEUs. Please use the following definitions to help you make that decision:

To qualify for CEUs - A program/seminar/session must have clear, written learning objectives on a single topic area that is at least 3.5 hours in length.

To qualify for PDUs - A program/conference with no specified learning objectives on several diverse session topics that are each less than 3.5 hours in length. The combined sessions must be at least 3.5 hours in length.

When preparing your own conferences and meetings, if you have a program that stands alone from the rest of your conference, you might consider this for CEUs, as long as it meets the other requirements listed above.

For questions about PDU requirements, please contact: Penny Mitchell, Senior Manager of Certification at (800) 472-7878, ext. 484 or mailto: pmitchell@gcsaa.org.

If you have questions about CEU requirements, please contact: Nicolas Shump, Education Sales and Program Coordinator, at (800) 472-7878, ext. 650 or mailto: nshump@gcsaa.org.
## Turfgrass Quality and Other Ratings of Bentgrass Cultivars in the USGA/GCSAA/NTEP On-Site Bentgrass Test at Burlingame, CA (Crystal Springs G.C.)

**2000 Data**

Turfgrass quality and other ratings 1-9; 9 = best

### Turfgrass Timemeter Readings Measured in Inches

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<th>Name</th>
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<th>LeafTex</th>
<th>Dens</th>
<th>%PoA</th>
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<th>StimpOct</th>
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**LSD Value**

|         | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 3.0 | 20.0 | 13.4 | 0.7 |

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* Preliminary data. No part of this table may be reproduced in any form without the author's permission.

** If the difference between the mean for two cultivars within the same column is not greater than the corresponding LSD, then the two cultivars are statistically the same for the specific

### Selecting Bentgrasses for Golf Greens

Preliminary Results from Crystal Springs

*M. Ali Harivandi, Ph.D. and Bill Hagan, Ph.D.
University of California Cooperative Extension

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* Editor's Note *

Last month we published the article about selecting Bentgrasses for Golf Greens and neglected to include the above chart of results. Please refer to the June Issue of Thru The Green, page 6, for that article.

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