

## From the Field

## By JEFF JENSEN, GCSAA Field Staff, Southwest Region

Labor Day has come and gone and everyone is gearing up for the fall season. Where does the time go? I hope all of our GCSANC members

had a great summer and were able to enjoy some quality time with friends and family.

As a superintendent in California, you are well aware of the ever increasing laws, rules and regulations that have a significant impact on the daily operations and maintenance of your facility. Whether its pesticides, ADA regulations or water management issues, they continue to command a lot of your time and attention.

Remember that GCSAA is there to help. GCSAA's public policy and government relations program is recognized as the entity of influence in the golf industry. Issues are tracked at the federal government and all 50 states: 535 members of Congress, 7,500 state legislators, more than 80,000 municipalities, and enumerable regulators at the local, state and federal levels.

The work of the program is carried out by GCSAA government relations director Chava McKeel and staff who are guided in their work by a Board-approved annual Priority Issues Agenda which outlines the association's priority issues, along with GCSAA's official position on each issue. The current issues are the ADA, fertilizers, labor and immigration, pesticides, the value of golf and water management.

The program has two main functions, compliance and advocacy. GCSAA's compliance efforts are focused on assisting members, chapters and facilities in complying with all applicable laws and regulations that impact the golf facility. This is accomplished largely through one-on-one compliance counseling by staff. Compliance tools and resources are also developed in conjunction with government agencies.

The second function is advocacy efforts on behalf of members, the industry and the game of golf. These efforts are wide-ranging and include coordination of grassroots lobbying (members and chapters), direct lobbying by GCSAA staff, lobbying by Reed Smith (GCSAA's Washington DC-based law firm), working within industry coalitions, communicating directly with regulators, educating lawmakers and providing comments to regulatory dockets.

If you are experiencing any legislative or regulatory issues with the potential to harm or help your facility or the golf industry, please don't hesitate to contact me at jjensen@gcsaa.org to see if I can assist you or certainly point you in the right direction.

Thank you for your support of GCSAA and I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming event.

## A smooth transition.

