

FIRST CALL

Nominations for GCSAA Offices

It is time once again to consider your chapter's participation in the election of GCSAA officers and directors.

This is the first call to the chapters requesting nominations for the offices of President, Vice-President, and director of GCSAA.

At its spring meeting the GCSAA Executive Committee confirmed the appointment of Past-President Richard C. Blake as Nominating Committee Chairman for 1974. Other members of the Committee include Mr. Robert Williams, Illinois; Mr. Richard Valentine, Pennsylvania; Mr. Garold Murphy, Minnesota; and Mr. Roger Larson, California.

This committee is charged with the responsibility of preparing a slate of candidates for these offices by October 1, 1973. This slate will be filed by them at the next annual election. In order to accomplish this, the committee must have your nominations by September 1, 1973.

The attachment to this action request delineates the major roles and responsibilities of the Executive Committee and its members. Also, Article VI, Section 1 of the GCSAA Bylaws specifies the qualifications for office.

The GCSAA's success or failure is wholly dependent on its leadership. Let's seek out those qualified and talented members within the Association who can lead and contribute to the continued success of GCSAA. Let's encourage them to seriously consider candidacy for these offices. There is always a need for good men at the top. This is your opportunity to really participate in the future of the Association. Make yourself heard! You can be sure that each nomination will be given every consideration.

Remember! All nominations must be received by Past-President Blake by September 1, 1973. His address is:

Mr. Richard C. Blake
211 Sewall Street
Boylston, Maine 01505

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES REQUIRED OF A MEMBER OF THE GCSAA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee is responsible for mobilizing the resources of the Association to achieve Association objectives. It is the function of the Committee to see that the talents and energies of members are enlisted in association committees, that program objectives are assigned to committees and that the responsibility and authority of committees are clearly defined.

The Executive Committee is the policy-forming portion of the Association. It authorizes the organization's program of work, approves its budget, receives and passes on Committee recommendations, and directs the general operations of the Association.

Members of the Executive Committee must not only recognize the democratic character of the organization but also believe strongly in voluntary cooperative effort in solving Association problems. They must respect the collective judgement of interested members on Association problems. They must recognize the unique problem-solving power that is created when the time and talents of the members are mobilized to action through their Association.

Members of the Executive Committee are delegated the very real responsibility for representing the entire

Association's membership in advancing the cause of the golf course superintendent. While the Executive Committee is expected to be cognizant of regional problems or special interest groups within the Association, its prime responsibility is to the membership as a whole.

Members of the Executive Committee are not expected to "do all the thinking" for the organization, of course. It is their responsibility to maintain close contact with members and with other leaders in the industry. Such contacts provide a sound basis for identifying the most important needs of the golf turf maintenance profession, for determining the specific objectives toward which the Association should work and for developing a program of activities that will develop maximum progress in attaining the established goals of the membership.

The GCSAA Bylaws charge the Association President with the responsibility of appointing the various committees necessary to carry on the work of the Association with such appointments subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. Wherever possible, the President will appoint a member of the Executive Committee as chairman of an Association committee in order that close liaison between the committee and the Executive Committee be maintained. By the same token, this liaison works in the other direction, serving to stimulate and maintain the drive necessary to accomplish committee objectives.

Many occasions arise when a member of the Executive Committee must serve as official or unofficial spokesman. This responsibility requires the exercise of careful judgement for a director's own personal views sometimes differ from policies or official positions adopted by the Association. In such cases, of course, the director must use great care not to express his personal views as representing the views of the Association or in a manner in which his views might be misinterpreted as representing the views of the Association.

During his term of office, each Executive Committee member may expect to encounter criticism of the Executive Committee or the Association. He has an obligation to the Association, of course, to defend it against such criticism or, if the criticism is justified, to initiate action that may eliminate the cause of the criticism. An Executive Committee member can frequently make a distinct contribution to the well-being of his Association by bringing to the attention of the Executive Committee both the critical and constructive suggestions he receives from members in local chapters. By doing so, he enables his Association to become an even more useful and effective organization in making his profession a more attractive and more meaningful function in golf.

Members of the Executive Committee serve their Association without pay although expenses incurred while engaged in Executive Committee activities are fully reimbursed. They also are required to attend four Executive Committee meetings and the annual GCSAA Turfgrass Conference and Show each year. This will necessitate being absent from their place of employment an average of eighteen days. Other Executive Committee involvement which would require travel is largely voluntary and can be tailored to suit the member.

In summary, the function of the Executive Committee and its members is to represent the interest of the Association members as well as the interest of golf in general in a positive program of professional development.