

## GCSAA to Co-Sponsor International Amateur Handicap Championships

Donald E. Hearn, CGCS, president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), today announced that the association plans to co-sponsor the upcoming International Amateur Handicap Championships.

"The amateur golfer obviously plays a vital role in the popularity of the game," Hearn said. "This championship format provides any skill level a chance to compete in a fun, 72-hole competition, just like the professional golfers."

Hearn cited a National Golf Foundation study showing that there are 18 million golfers in the United States today and that 4 1/2 billion rounds of golf were played last year.

A field of 600 amateur participants from the United States, Australia and several European countries is expected for the tournament.

The new Tournament Players Club at Scottsdale — site of the Phoenix Open — the Palm and Pine courses at McCormick Ranch and the Arnold-Palmer designed Scottsdale Country Club will host the championship play. The competition will take place Oct. 25-31.

"This event also provides the GCSAA with another firsthand opportunity to promote the goals and ideals of our membership to the participants," Hearn added.

GCSAA plans to extend its "Challenge for Excellence" hole-in-one competition to participants on the final day of the tournament. The challenge will offer a prize of \$5,000 to the first player to ace a specified hole. The actual distribution of money will be \$1,000 to the player, \$2,000 to the GCSAA Scholarship & Research Fund and \$2,000 to a charity chosen by the player.

"We're delighted to have such an outstanding organization like the golf course superintendents joining our sponsorship ranks," said Doug Mason, founder of the event and director since its inception in 1984. "GCSAA plays such an important role all over the world in making and keeping courses playable and affordable to the general golfing public that it's a natural affiliation."

Among other sponsors for the International Amateur Handicap Championships are Kodak, Foster's Lager, Continental Airlines, America West Airlines, Registry Resort, Foot Joy, Destination West, Iron Horse Bar & Grill, Pinnacle Peak Patio and K. Michael.

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Over the Crest, now down We go,  
 Freewheeling the rest of the way.  
 We find in the midst of September,  
 Autumn presents It's first day,  
 It's pleasing for It covers the thought,  
 Summer's pressures are wearing away.  
 Goodbye to Heat, Humidity and Heavy Play,  
 Another Summer has seen It's Day.  
 Alas! Season's go too fast, I find,  
 Or do I have a fickled mind?

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