



President's Message

As stated in the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association By-laws, the "Conduct of members shall be governed by the G.C.S.A.A. Code of Ethics."

Let's all take a few minutes to study this code.

"As a member of the FGCSA, I accept and fully agree to abide by this code and pledge myself to:

1. Recognize and discharge all my responsibilities and duties in such a fashion as to be a credit to this Association and profession.
2. Practice and insist upon sound business and turf management principles in exercising the responsibilities of my position.
3. Utilize every practicable opportunity to expand my professional knowledge, thereby improving myself and my profession.
4. Maintain the highest standards of personal conduct to reflect credit and add to the stature of the profession of golf course superintendency.
5. Base endorsements, either written or verbal by means of any medium, strictly upon satisfactory personal experiences within the item identified.
6. Refrain from encouraging or accepting considerations of any value without the express understanding of all parties that said consideration is available to all in similar circumstances, and that no actions shall be forthcoming as a result of acceptance.
7. Recognize and observe the highest standards of integrity in my relationship with fellow golf course superintendents and others associated with this profession and industry.
8. Assist my fellow superintendents in all ways consistent with my abilities, only when called upon to do so and with the incumbent superintendent's knowledge, participation and acceptance.
9. Abstain from the debasement of, or encroachment upon, the professional reputation, practice of employment of another superintendent.
10. Lend my support to, and actively participate in, the efforts of my local chapter and State Association to improve public understanding and recognition of the profession of golf course superintendency.
11. Abstain from any exploitation of my Association, industry or profession.
12. Present information and participate as a witness in all proceedings to which there exists evidence of a violation of this "Code of Ethics."

The dictionary describes ethical as "*having to do with moral standards, one's own character and conforming to the standards of conduct to a given profession.*" Having now studied our FGCSA code of ethics, it would certainly behoove us all to uphold and practice the values of our chosen code.

Recently an FGCSA Ethics Committee Chairman was selected and assigned to the responsibility of selecting a committee to study our code in great depth and, if necessary, re-write or re-phrase those items which may be interpreted into different meanings. ■

Jim Burrows