

Architects Society endorses principles as framework for development

By MARK LESLIE

PINEHURST, N.C. — The American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) has endorsed the Environmental Principles for Golf Courses, a project called "the most labor-intensive" in the group's 50-year history.

"Of all the responsibilities required of the president over the past term, the highlight for me is — without a doubt — completion of the Environmental Principles Report," said ASGCA outgoing President Jeff Brauer of Arlington, Texas.

"It is my desire that they have a positive impact in the golf industry in the future."

Meant to provide a framework for environmental responsibility in developing goals for golf course planning, design, construction and operations, the principles were developed by the ASGCA and 15 other golf and environmental groups. The document was first presented to the second conference on Golf & the Environment here in mid-March before being aired at the

ASGCA's late-March conclave.

Saying architects are "well ahead of the curve in terms of the measures we're taking," ASGCA Immediate Past President Don Knott told his colleagues at a panel discussion: "When you read the principles you'll find yourself saying, 'What's the big deal? We've been doing this for years.'"

Bill Love, who worked on the principles draft, said they "are meant to raise environmental awareness, but also carry the

message that golf courses present the opportunity for compatible land uses that can enhance the environment as a result of responsible design construction and maintenance."

They will become "a valuable tool," he said, "in the planning and design process by addressing issues early on and coming up with positive and innovative design solutions ... that will allow projects to go through the regulating and permitting process in the most efficient and

timely manner."

Another past president, Dr. Michael Hurdzan, saw the principles as "a great educational tool."

They "do not impact the development process at all," Hurdzan said. "[They] may even give us leverage with any clients who want us to bend the rules."

"We needed to establish a baseline so we can raise the bar in terms of course management," said Dr. Kimberly Erusha, U.S. Golf Association director of education. "Education is the key in being able to implement the next step."

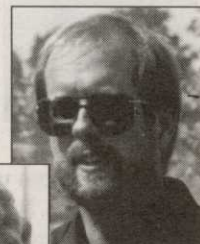
"The society's work on the principles is perhaps the most labor-intensive project in its history," said ASGCA Executive Director Paul Fullmer. "Now we have to take the offensive and bring this environmental good news aggressively to the public."

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Griffiths takes reins of ASGCA

PINEHURST, N.C. — Denis Griffiths of Braselton, Ga., was elected president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) at the society's 50th annual meeting here in late March.

Joining him are new Vice President Alice Dye of Delray Beach, Fla.; Secretary Bob Lohmann of Marengo, Ill.; and Treasurer John LaFoy of Greenville, S.C.

Immediate Past President Jeff Brauer of Arlington, Texas, is serving as ex-officio member of the ASGCA board of governors.

Damian Pascuzzo of Walnut Creek, Calif., was elected to the board, joining Doug Carrick of Don Mills, Ont.; Jay Morrish of Flower Mound, Texas; Bob Cupp of Atlanta, Ga.; Mike Dasher of Winter Park, Fla.

Also, Bill Love of College Park, Md.; Tom Marzolf of Hendersonville; and Clyde Johnston of Hilton Head Island, S.C. Griffiths, Dye, Lohmann, LaFoy and Brauer also are members of the board.