

Watts, Ritts named NGF officers

JUPITER, Fla. — Edwin Watts, president and chief executive officer (CEO) of Edwin Watts Golf Shops, and LPGA Commissioner Jim Ritts have been elected to the National Golf Foundation's board of directors.

The board was re-elected, including Chairman Robert Maxon, vice president/group publisher of Golf Digest — The Golf Company; Vice Chairman Scott Creelman, executive vice president/Spalding Sports Worldwide; Treasurer Joe Louis Barrow Jr.,

president and chief operating officer of Izzo Systems, Inc.; and Secretary Cindy Davis, senior vice president/business development, The Arnold Palmer Golf Co. Creelman and Allan Solheim, executive vice president of Karsten Manufacturing Co. were re-elected to three-year terms as directors.

The remaining board members, who were not up for re-election, are Edmond S. Abrain of Titleist and Foot-Joy World Wide; Patrick O'Grady of Spalding/Etonic; George Peper of Golf Magazine; Bob Rief of Nike Golf; Grant Spaeth of Golfweb; and Charles J. Yash of Callaway Golf Ball Co.

GCSAA invests in golf's beauty

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has launched its "Investing in the Beauty of Golf" campaign, an effort to raise \$3.5 million to fund applied agronomic research (research conducted on golf courses under actual playing conditions) and new educational programs.

"The GCSAA is looking to create an endowment through which we can fund the research and further education for members as they enter into the new century," said Stephen Mona, chief executive officer of the GCSAA.

According to Mona, the campaign isn't focused on simply continuing GCSAA's existing educational programs, "But developing a new program that will teach what we believe the superintendent of the next century will need to know."

This new education will then play a major role in a member's GCSAA standing.

"Essentially, there's going to be a day in the next three to five years that in order to be a Class A GCSAA member you're going to have to achieve some blend of formal education and continuing education. If you're a class A GCSAA member, and if that's going to have some meaning in the marketplace, members will have to maintain this education."

GCSAA has already raised \$2.3 million toward the goal. For more information contact 800-472-7878.

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