

NGCOA honors Palmer, Hollingsworth

PHOENIX, Ariz. — The National Golf Course Owners Association has honored Arnold Palmer with its Award of Merit and the Course of the Year Award and Jerry Hollingsworth with the Don Rossi Award. All three honors were presented at a ceremony held Jan. 23 at the 20th NGCOA Annual Conference and Trade Show in Phoenix, Ariz.

The Award of Merit is the NGCOA's longest running award and is given to recognize long term and significant contributions to the game of golf. "It is an honor to be added to the ranks of such noteworthy past recipients," said Palmer.

The Golf Course of the Year Award, which honors a single course for exceptional quality of the course, exceptional quality of the management, outstanding contributions to its community, and significant contribution to the game, was also presented to Palmer's Bay Hill Club & Lodge in Orlando, Fla.

"I can think of no better compliment for all the hard work my team has done trying to make Bay Hill an enjoyable and memorable place for

anyone who visits," Palmer said.

Bay Hill was built in 1961, and in 1965 Palmer played in a golf exhibition at the course with Jack Nicklaus. Palmer, with a group of partners, purchased the club and lodge in 1970 and made Bay Hill his home. Today, Palmer is the primary owner of the facility, president of the Bay Hill Club, and has an active role in the day-to-day operations. The 27-hole course is host to one of the PGA Tour's most popular events, the Bay Hill Invitational.



Arnold Palmer

DON ROSSI AWARD

The Don Rossi Award is given for significant and long lasting contribution to the NGCOA. Hollingsworth joined the association in the early 1990s and has served on the board of directors. Throughout his tenure as treasurer the NGCOA experienced its most growth in membership.

"I just tried to give of myself and share my experience, but I got back much more than I put in," said Hollingsworth.

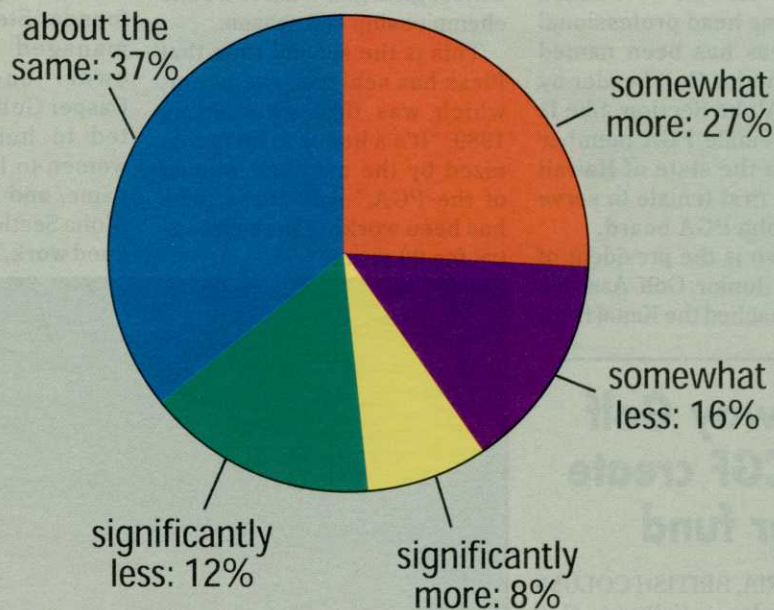
In 1956, Hollingsworth joined his father and three partners to construct Singing Hills CC. He has seen

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GOLF COURSE NEWS

NEWS POLL

HOW DOES YOUR 2002 TURF EQUIPMENT BUDGET COMPARE TO LAST YEAR?



❖ "Our club has chosen to keep the budget the same right now. The club understands the importance of putting available resources back into the golf course and its operation."

— Sam Sprague, superintendent, Rainier G&CC

❖ "Our budgets are somewhat less for every expense category due to the recession followed by Sept. 11. We have to get the most out

of what we have before we can ask for more."

— Jack Hrad, director of operations, The Club at Savannah Harbor

❖ "We will be spending significantly more in 2002 for equipment since in 2001 we had to defer equipment purchases due to a major clubhouse renovation."

— James McNair, superintendent, Orchard Valley GC

News Poll based on answers provided by 49 respondents in January

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