



## Hindrances to better business

Here is a list of the top eight challenges for members of the National Golf Course Owners Association:

1. A decline of rounds and revenue
2. Rising operating costs
3. Taxation and legislative issues
4. Marketing and customer service
5. Water/environmental issues
6. Insurance coverage and cost
7. Rampant green-fee discounting
8. Municipal competition

Source: NGCOA

## QUOTABLE

"People should get course length out of their heads. Courses need to be tricked up. Everyone wants to have the longest course, yet some of the best courses in the world are short, and some of the longer courses are rubbish." – **Retief Goosen**, professional golfer, about the trend of golf courses becoming longer

"Five or six hours is fine to play a round of golf when you're older because it keeps you out of the bar, but it's not good for the younger people." – **Gary McCord**, professional golfer and golf analyst for CBS Sports

"The government says 36 states will have a water crisis in the next 10 years. Fights over water are no longer confined to the West." – **Robert Glennon**, professor, University of Arizona's Rogers College of Law

"We need to get away from the perfectly green golf course, but we need the owners to go along with it." – **John Fought**, golf course architect, John Fought Design

## by the NUMBERS

**1.3** The percentage increase of rounds at public courses year over year through August, according to NGF

**180** The number of holes at the Mission Hills Golf Club in China

**1.6** The percentage increase of rounds at private clubs year over year through August, according to NGF

**3,076** The number of acres the Mission Hills Golf Club in Shenzhen, China, comprises

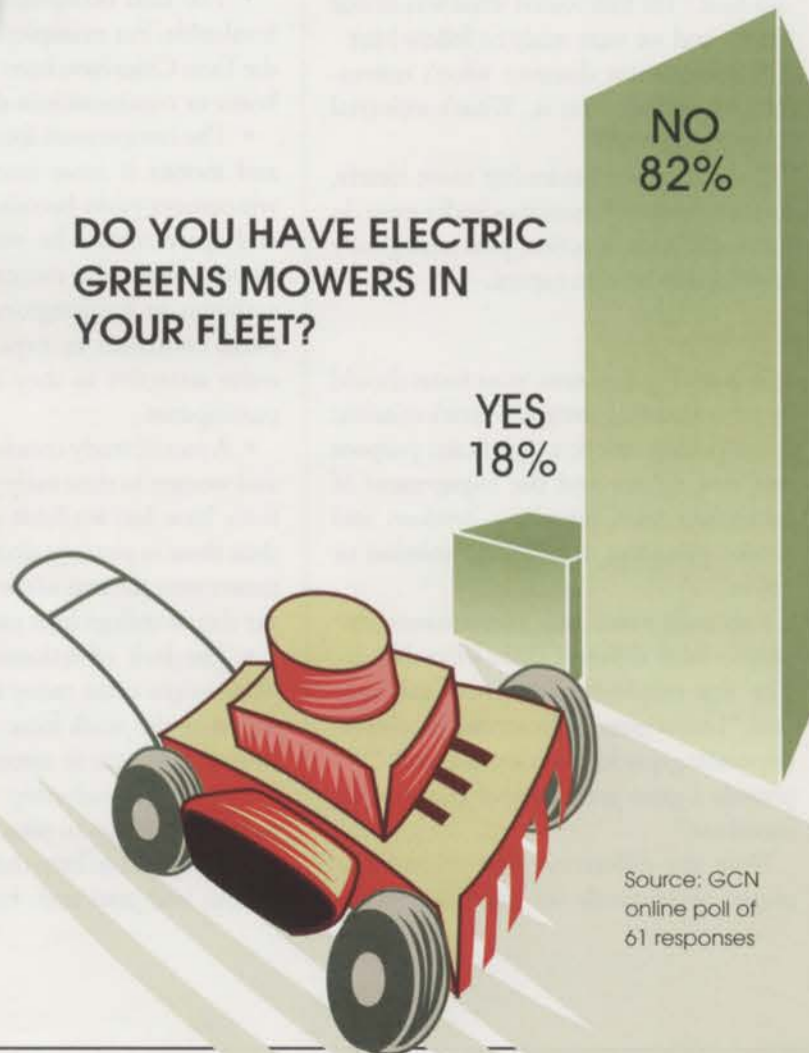
**62,000** THE LENGTH, IN YARDS, OF MISSION HILLS' 10 GOLF COURSES

**2,500** The number of caddies Mission Hills Golf Club employs

**155** The number of bunkers on the Jose Maria Olazabal golf course at Mission Hills

**1.4** The percentage increase of rounds at all U.S. facilities year over year through August, according to NGF

## DO YOU HAVE ELECTRIC GREENS MOWERS IN YOUR FLEET?



Source: GCN online poll of 61 responses

mowers