

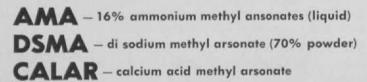
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Exams Required for Membership in Northern California GCSA

Applicants for membership in the Northern California GCSA now are required to take written examinations. This is the result of more than a year of discussion among members to determine the value of such a step, to set up proper examinations and to figure out how to administer them and determine passing

grades.

As far as is known, the Minnesota GCSA was the first to give examinations to prospective members. Sample tests were obtained from this group as well as information on how they are administered. Next, Northern Calif. members were asked to submit lists of questions (true and false, multiple choice and direct answer) that were carefully screened by a committee which chose a master list of about 300 questions. Six separate examinations, each containing the three types of questions, were eventually derived from this list. This provides variation so that all applicants do not take the same examination. Ouestions range from very simple to quite difficult, and vary in the number of points they are worth.

While there is a passing grade for Class A (senior) and Class B (junior) members, room has been left for flexibility by the committee. Points are counted, also, for appearance, attitude and manner. Applicants who fail a test may re-apply at any time to take another examination.

Northern Calif. GCSA feels that this step will help it to maintain a reputation for having members who know their business. It also will do away with the tendency to lower standards to meet the requirements of membership.

Members Know Work Plan

When there's major work to be done on the Miami Valley GC course in Dayton, O., the members get a letter telling what and why the work is being done and what to expect. This information program was started by H. J. Ziegenthaler, chairman of the grounds committee. It has virtually eliminated complaints about important projects that have to be carried out and made it agreeable to do the required work on the course without delay. Miami Valley members possibly know more about conditioning a course than do members of most other clubs.