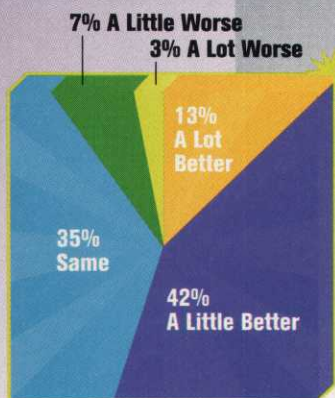


# Say, Aren't You the Superintendent?

Since the GCSAA has spent so much time, money and energy raising the profile of superintendents with golfers, the association should be pleased to know that superintendents believe their image with average golfers is getting better, according to our Superintendent State of the Industry Survey.

A majority — 55 percent — feel the image of superintendents is “a little better” or “a lot better” with golfers.

**Do you feel that the average golfer's appreciation for the superintendent is getting better or worse?**



of the course,” Leventhal says. “Golfers still don’t know exactly what we do, but at least they have a vague sense that we’re important to keeping their golf courses in good shape.”

On the other end of the spectrum is Terry McNamara, superintendent at Tarry Brae Muni GC in South Fallsburg, N.Y. He says respect for superintendents is slowly diminishing. He points to golfers’ lack of repairing ball marks and raking bunkers as indications that they don’t care about course maintenance.

McNamara comes from a family of superintendents, including his three brothers and his father. He says they have each expressed the same sentiment around the dinner

table during the holidays: Respect for superintendents among golfers continues to disappear, and GCSAA is powerless to do anything about it.

“I understand there has been this huge influx of players, and there isn’t time to teach them all the basic rules of golf course etiquette,” McNamara says. “But the people who come to you and raise hell about poor conditions are the same ones who wouldn’t fix ball marks if their lives depended on it.” ■

— Frank H. Andorka Jr.

Count Stuart Leventhal among the 55 percent. Leventhal, superintendent at Interlachen CC in Winter Park, Fla., says that respect for the role superintendents play in keeping the golf course in playing shape is higher than it was 10 years ago.

“Word is out that the pro doesn’t take care

of the course,” Leventhal says. “Golfers still don’t know exactly what we do, but at least they have a vague sense that we’re important to keeping their golf courses in good shape.”



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