GCSAA Education Program Earns National Accreditation

The continuing education programming offered by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has earned official accreditation from the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET).

ACCET is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as the official accrediting agency for non-collegiate continuing edu-

"Receiving accreditation confirms our belief that GCSAA offers topflight educational benefits to our members," said John M. Schilling, GCSAA executive director. "Few professional associations take this extra step to ensure quality education for their members."

GCSAA's senior director of education and marketing, Colleen Smalter Pederson, added that, "We chose to pursue accreditation to get public verification of the scope and quality of GCSAA's educational programs. It is important to us to have our programs measured against established standards."

The ACCET Accrediting Commission voted August 18 to approve GCSAA for full accreditation status, culminating a twoyear preparation, application and evaluation process. Full accreditation recognizes the association's current curriculum of more than 50 one- and two-day seminars designed to provide information on up-to-date golf course maintenance practices and to sharpen the management skills of golf course superintendents.

GCSAA's correspondence coursework is also included under the accreditation. The association introduced its first correspondence course, covering media relations for the golf course superintendent, last year; correspondence training courses for underground storage tank management and hazard communication are planned for 1991.

Nearly 3,500 participants attended GCSAA's 38 conference seminars and 30 regional seminars during the 1989-90 academic year. Another 81 seminars are planned for 1990-91.



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