

# Kansan Wins Rain-Burdened GCSAA Golf Championship

After battling the elements and a tightly bunched field, Richard Stuntz, CGCS, fired a steady final-round, 1-over-par 72 at Steele Canyon Golf Club to win the 1993 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Golf Championship.

A field of nearly 450 GCSAA members and affiliates in nine flights competed in the championship, which was played Jan. 23-24 in San Diego, Calif.

It was the first GCSAA championship victory in 13 tries for Stuntz, vice president of golf course facilities at Alvamar Country Club, Lawrence, Kans. "I played pretty solidly the whole time," Stuntz said. "It feels real good to break through after all these years."

**The 43rd GCSAA championship saw record rainfall** that nearly washed out the tournament before it began, and the disqualification of its first-round leader.

In the weeks prior to the Jan. 23-24 tournament, the San Diego area was inundated by record rainfall. Although the moisture went a long way to relieve a six-year-long drought, the storms had near devastating impact on the region's golf industry.

GCSAA's tournament was scheduled to be played on four San Diego courses: Steele Canyon, Carlton Oaks Country Club, Eastlake Country Club and Mount Woodson Country Club.

Flash floods caused considerable damage to many low-lying areas, including golf courses. The flooding caused erosion, making course turf too soggy to maintain. The Carlton Oaks course was one of the hardest hit, losing much of its front nine when the San Diego River and a local tributary left their banks. The course had to be abandoned as a tournament venue.

The remaining three courses pitched in to accommodate the loss of Carlton Oaks. The Four Seasons Resort Aviara Golf Club also was pressed into service for the final round.

**A three-time winner** of the GCSAA championship, Dave Powell—superintendent at Myers Park Country Club, Charlotte, N.C.—had distanced himself from the field with a first-round, 1-under-par 70 and was off to a strong second-round start. However, on the fourth hole it was discovered that he had been playing the wrong ball since putting out on No. 3.

Once they discovered the mistake, Powell and his playing partner—Randy Nichols, CGCS, Cherokee Town & Country Club, Dunwoody, Ga. (who began the day two shots back and tied for second place)—disqualified themselves. They had mistakenly begun playing each other's ball following blind shots to the par-3 third hole.

Stuntz did not dismiss the fact that his victory was directly related to the misfortune of Powell. "He pretty much was in control," Stuntz said. "He's an excellent player. He's won the thing three times and he's good at closing. When he gets out in front, he normally hangs right in there."

However, disqualifications like Powell's are part of the game and Stuntz did not downplay his own winning efforts, attributing his victory to getting better with age. "I think probably I'm better mentally than I used to be," he said. "I'm more patient. I understand that aspect of the game better. When you grow and mature in the mental aspect, that's a big advantage. As Ken Venturi says, "To have been there before. . . ."

**Winning the Scottish Trophy** for capturing the gross division of the chapter team competition was the California #1 team. The Frank Lamphier Trophy, awarded to the winner of the net division in the chapter team competition, went to the New Jersey team.

The 1994 GCSAA Golf Championship is scheduled for Jan. 31-Feb. 1 in Austin, Texas.

## Here Are Some Simple Steps For A Successful Meeting Agenda

Every meeting should have an agenda, but how do you write a good agenda? By following these simple steps:

- **Do** list items in a logical sequence, building each on the one before.

- **Don't** overload the meeting with too many topics. Keep the number within reasonable limits.

- **Do** begin with easier topics, then move on to the more difficult or controversial subjects.

- **Don't** devote meeting time to topics that can be handled better by sub-groups or individuals.

- **Do** identify which agenda items are designed to exchange information, and which are meant to solve a particular problem.

- **Don't** schedule breaks to interrupt important discussions.

- **Do** set starting and finishing times.

—from "How will you manage?"

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