

IN A JOINT EFFORT

# Minnesota Group, Golf Course Superintendents Promoting More Scholarships

By Ralph Turtinen

A joint agreement has been developed between a trio of Minnesota directors of the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association and the board of directors of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association (MGCSA) to increase scholarships in Minnesota for young men and women pursuing careers in the turf industry.

Both organizations have provided scholarships in their respective areas for several years and will continue to do so.

"However, the expanded plan will promote additional scholarships since there is such a critical need for so many more qualified people in the turf industry," said Hank Wilkinson, chairman of the group.

MGCSA President Kevin Clunis noted that "anything that can be done to help Minnesota-connected students is a plus for the industry. We welcome the cooperation of the Trans-Miss."

Clunis is head golf course superintendent at St. Croix National Golf Club in Somerset, Wis.

Both agree that a concerted effort will more readily allow solicitations to be made to various Minnesota clubs,

companies and individuals to help young men and women with their college education.

A member of The Minikahda Club in Minneapolis, Wilkinson is working with Tom Garrett and D. Ward Johnson, both members of Somerset Country Club in St. Paul, in preparing brochures and other informational material to utilize in their fund-raising efforts.

A preliminary meeting was held between the MGCSA Board and the Trans group in November.

The Minnesota plan is to approach various clubs, companies and individuals in concert with the MGCSA. Along with lending their blessing to the plan, the superintendents' association has been asked to have individual superintendents meet with the Trans group when solicitations are made at their respective clubs and some corporate meetings.

"It makes considerable sense to work closely with organizations like the MGCSA since the benefits of the program are directed toward people developing careers in this industry," Wilkinson said.

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