

GCSAA and Chapters Develop Options For Dual Membership Verification

When the dual membership requirement went into effect last month, one of the most challenging aspects of the affiliation agreement began: dual membership verification.

The chapter relations committee met recently and reviewed chapter leaders' comments and suggestions from a survey about the administrative work involved in the process. Committee members recommended that in the near future GCSAA work with affiliated chapters individually. But the long-term goal is to have one membership form, accept checks for both national and chapter membership dues at one location and require that chapters and the national issue the same membership numbers.

The following are the three methods by which a Class A or B golf course superintendent can apply for membership in a local chapter and GCSAA:

1) A Class A or B golf course superintendent contacts GCSAA first. The individual will receive a map with locations and contact information of all affiliated chapters, along with an affidavit form. The individual will be informed that he or she needs to select a chapter from the list and apply for affiliated chapter membership. The individual should submit a membership application and dues to the chapter and secure an affidavit signature from an official of the chapter. The individual should send the affidavit form, a GCSAA membership application and dues to GCSAA.

2) A Class A or B golf course superintendent contacts an affiliated chapter first. A chapter official explains the dual membership requirement and that the individual must apply for affiliated chapter membership first. The chapter collects the individual's GCSAA membership application and dues and forwards them to GCSAA after the individual applies for affiliated chapter membership.

3) A Class A or B golf course superintendent approaches an affiliated chapter first. A chapter official explains the dual membership requirement and that the individual must apply for chapter membership first. The chapter chooses not to collect the GCSAA membership application and dues, but the chapter supplies the potential members with a GCSAA application. The individual is responsible for sending the application and dues to GCSAA. Once the individual has applied for affiliated chapter membership, a representative of the chapter completes a GCSAA membership intent form and sends it to the national headquarters. If GCSAA does not receive a membership application and dues from the individual within 30 days after receiving the intent form, GCSAA will contact the individual to expedite his or her application process.

To maintain the same records for A and B members, affiliated chapters and GCSAA will exchange membership lists semiannually. The list will include Class A and B memberships that have dropped, new Class A and B

members and reclassifications of members who join after July 1, 1997. These reclassifications include Class C to Class B and Class A to Affiliate. Affiliated chapters also will need to indicate the Class A and B members who are not grandfathered into their associations.

GCSAA is finalizing a verification process for each affiliated chapter by calling every chapter's primary contact on this issue to discuss the three scenarios, determine the best method for the chapter and identify when the chapter will submit its Class A and B membership lists.

MTGF BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

(Editor's Note: The following is a brief synopsis of the August 7 Board of Directors meeting held at North Star Turf, Inc.)

Roll Call

Tom Redmann Steve Balfany, Mike Zins, Dave Kemp, Brad Pedersen, Tom Rudberg, Joe Moris, John Hopko, Pat Walton, Scott Turtinen and Greg Hubbard.

President's Report

1997 MTGF Golf Tournament was fun and successful.

Committee Report

Two positions open at the University of Minnesota; 1) Turf Plant Pathology. 2) Bert Swanson's position (Woody Plants Area).

MTGF Expo '97

Turtinen reported that 29 booths were sold to vendors along with 220 lunch tickets. Talk of having Expo every other year. Talk of combining MNLA show and the MTGF Expo and create one large summer show.

Conference & Trade Show

Speakers have been established. Booth prices were increased by 5% (\$315). Attendee price is now \$95 dollars. Vendor registration will go out in early September. Attendee registration will be mailed out in late September. The headquarters hotel will be The Regal. Rooms will be \$85.

Secretary's Report

Donation of \$300 from Miracle Recreation.

Executive Director

Need names from all organizations to establish a long-range planning committee.