

Trans-Mississippi Golf Association Nears 100th Birthday

For 45 of Those Years, It Has Provided Turf Scholarships

Founded in 1900, the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association is one of the oldest and most prestigious golf organizations in the United States.

Composed of approximately 200 member clubs primarily located west of the Mississippi River to the Pacific Coast, the Trans seeks to promote the true spirit of amateur golf and develop friendly competition among members of member clubs.

In the late 1950s it organized its Trans-Mississippi Turf Scholarship Fund, a 501(c)3 corporation which makes annual grants to young men and women pursuing careers as golf course superintendents.

The money raised primarily comes from its two major golf tournaments (a match play competition in July and a four-ball tournament in September or October), club dues, individual and corporate contributions and special events like the "Minnesota Project" tournaments.

TRANS BOOSTS NATIONAL GRANTS 57%, NOW PROVIDES \$51,000 ANNUALLY

A 57 percent increase in educational grants this fall was announced by the Trans-Mississippi Turf Scholarship Fund, the philanthropic arm of the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association.

Scholarships to university students pursuing careers in turf management have been boosted from \$32,500 to \$43,250 annually. In addition, a new category of \$7,750 in educational grants has been budgeted for a new program being developed with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, said S.I. Russell, Jr., Sherman Oaks, Calif., Trans-Miss president and chairman of its scholarship committee.

"The \$51,000 we now are giving is one of the major grants of the turf industry," said Russell.

The University of Minnesota is one of 14 schools that receive Trans-Miss grants. The others are Arizona, California State Polytechnic at Pomona, Colorado State, Iowa State, Kansas State, Michigan State, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma State, Oregon State, Penn State, South Dakota State and Texas A&M.

2000 TRANS SET JULY 10-15 AT WHITE BEAR YACHT CLUB

The 97th Trans-Mississippi Championship, a mid-amateur tournament, will be conducted July 10-15, 2000 at White Bear Yacht Club, continuing its pattern of holding its competition on some of the nation's finest golf courses.

This will be the 11th time this popu-



lar tournament — held for the first time in 1901 at Kansas City Country Club where it will return in 2001 — has been played in Minnesota.

Previous championships were held five times at The Minikahda Club in Minneapolis (1904, 1912, 1923, 1981 and in 1994 when it was held in conjunction with Somerset), twice at Woodhill Country Club in Wayzata (1959 and 1988) and once each at Interlachen (1916), Golden Valley (1931) and Edina (1966).

No tournaments were conducted during the World War II years of 1943, 1944 and 1945). Minikahda again will be the host club in 2007.

The association's 20th Four-Ball Championship will be held October 24-26 at River Oaks Country Club in Houston.



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