

Candidate Statements

Candidate for President

Dave Davies, CGCS

I am seeking your support for a second term as Association President. Two circumstances have allowed me this opportunity. Should the membership pass the proposed bylaw changes, I will serve a seven month term. Secondly, we continue to have difficulty securing individuals able to commit the time for extended Board service.

I feel we have taken some important steps during the last 12 months. Continuity will be critical in developing our media program. The Board has been committed to this project and I feel it is important for us to maintain this direction. I will continue to work with the goal of making this a successful program. We have also tried to address many of the questions and issues that our Affiliate membership has raised regarding advertising and sponsorship. I have always felt that no membership classification was more important than another. We should all be working to find ways to more equally share in the financial responsibility for our programs. We should make sure that services provided to our members have value and that they accurately reflect the desires of the membership.

I look forward to another year of service and hope to be able to count on your support.

Candidate for Vice President

Gary K. Carls, CGCS

It is a pleasure to be asked to serve another term as Vice-President of GCSANC. I feel we have made an important commitment to our members with the addition of Greg Crawford as our Media Director and stability on the Board is critical to assure the success of our Media Program. As we head to the next century, I believe our organization needs to continue to look for ways to enhance the position of superintendents within the golf industry. I hope all of our members will be involved in the future of GCSANC. Please vote on April 20th and if you are unable to attend, please mail in your proxy so you can have a voice. Thank you for all of your support.

Candidate for Board Member

Gary Sayre, CGCS

I've been working as a golf course superintendent in Northern California for the past three years. I'm currently the golf course superintendent at Oakhurst Country Club in Clayton.

If elected to the Board, I bring the experience of having served on the boards of two previous GCSAA Chapters. This service was in the Pacific Northwest and included holding the office of President. During my 22 years as a golf course superintendent, I have also had the experience of serving on several GCSAA committees. My participation allowed me to work closely with the GCSAA education and chapter relations departments.

I would like to continue my time and experience by serving on the Board of Directors of the GCSANC. I feel the best way to improve one's profession is to participate and give back, hopefully providing growth personally, as well as to the Association. We have a good Association that can be strengthened by member participation and public relations. I want to become involved on a deeper level.

Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer

Michael Nunemacher

It is a privilege and honor to be nominated for the position of Secretary-Treasurer of GCSANC. During the past two years, while serving on the Board of Directors, I have learned the importance of what our Association stands for. One significant thing I have learned is that by serving on various committees, the decisions we make affect our future as members and superintendents. However, in order for me to represent all of you in an ideal manner, your ideas and input are a very important part of the communication process. This will allow me to represent your ideas in the necessary forms. As an officer of the association, I pledge to continue my efforts to represent every member of the GCSANC.

The responsibility of Secretary-Treasurer is to help manage the financial status of the Association. The new challenges we face as an Association must be met with strong management skills to ensure our continuing improvement and in the future. Our commitment as Board Members is to encourage involvement from all other members in the Association. The importance of member participation gives us the knowledge to make decisions which effect us today and in the future. I hope we can continue to improve as an Association that we can all be proud of.

Candidate for Board Member

Anthony Steers

After completing my education at Michigan State University, I accepted a position as an assistant superintendent in New Jersey. Four years later in the spring of 1991, I was given an opportunity to move to the Bay Area and became the golf course superintendent at Contra Costa Country Club in Pleasant Hill. Over the last eight years at Contra Costa I have realized the complexities of our profession and the importance of continued education. Achieving this continued education not only involves attending classes but also depends on the communication between each other.

As a director I would like to assist the board in attracting more people to our monthly meetings. We can all benefit from the educational programs and have the opportunity for open communication. We are all a part of a very demanding position that affords us little time to do all the things that we would like. However, it is important that we meet and talk with others in our industry to understand that we all have the same type of concerns. We have a great organization that has helped to make me a better superintendent and I would like to become involved to help extend these rewards to others. I am proud to be a part of a profession that preserves open space for people and wildlife to enjoy. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to become an active member of our organization.

THRU THE GREEN

USGA

“Poa annua - Three Ways to Establish a Nursery”

Pat Gross, Director, USGA Green Section, Southwest Region

There have been many good articles in recent trade publications regarding the breeding and management of Poa annua putting greens. This is very appropriate for golf courses in the Southwestern United States since the majority of the putting greens are comprised of Poa annua. Given this fact, it makes sense that courses maintain a Poa annua putting green nursery so that any sod used for repairs blends with the surrounding turf. During recent visits to courses throughout California, I got to see how three different courses established Poa annua nurseries.

Bert Spivey, Superintendent of the Eisenhower Course at Industry Hills, established a Poa annua nursery to be used as a research green for a GCSAA-sponsored Poa annua management study. Bert prepared the nursery site in the early spring and spread aerification cores on the surface taken from the other greens on the course. The cores were spread in two directions using a sand topdressing machine to provide even distribution. The cores collected from 110,000 square feet of total putting surface provided enough material for a 9,000 to 10,000 square foot nursery. The cores were rolled and pressed into the surface and watered regularly to prevent desiccation. Creeping bentgrass was seeded into the nursery area at the rate of 1 pound per 1,000 square feet to enhance sod strength and provide a good match with the other greens on the golf course.

Another method to establish a nursery is to collect clippings or stolons from vertical mowing. This is exactly what Brad Clark, Assistant Superintendent of the Lake Course at the Olympic Club did to establish his nursery. Brad selected a practice green near the clubhouse that had some excellent perennial biotypes of Poa annua and verticut the green in several directions. Next, the green was mowed to collect the clippings and provide enough plant material for a small nursery in a nearby location. The surface of the nursery was lightly raked with a flexible metal leaf rake to provide small furrows in the surface. The clippings were spread over the nursery

and lightly raked into the surface followed by additional sand topdressing and rolling to provide good soil contact.

Reed Yenny at Mesa Verde Country Club used Peterson's Creeping Bluegrass seed to establish a nursery in preparation for a putting green reconstruction project at his course. The Peterson's Creeping Bluegrass was the product of a Poa annua breeding project by Dr. Don White at the University of Minnesota. This improved perennial biotype of Poa annua var. reptans was seeded at the rate of 2.5 pounds per 1,000 square feet. Peterson's Creeping Bluegrass created a good sod and was a good match with the other greens on the course. Due to supply and demand, cost for the Peterson's Creeping Bluegrass is quite high at this time, however, this seeded Poa annua is a viable option for establishing one green or a nursery at your site.

There are a few things you should keep in mind when establishing a Poa annua nursery:

- Avoid collecting aerification cores or clippings from greens with pest infestations. It does no good to transfer weeds, nematodes, or bermudagrass infestations onto your nursery site.

- Be sure the rootzone mix on the nursery matches the material found on the greens. This prevents problems with soil layering when sod is transferred for repairs.

- Treat the nursery green like the other greens on the golf course with the same frequency of core aeration, vertical mowing, sand topdressing, and pest control applications.

Having a putting green nursery is an important insurance policy should vandalism or any other unexpected damage occur on a green. If you have Poa annua greens, it makes sense that you have a Poa annua nursery so that any repairs blend with the surrounding surface.

Candidate Statements

Candidate for Board Member

Gary Skolnik

If I have never had the pleasure to meet some of you personally, please let me introduce myself. My name is Gary Skolnik, golf course superintendent at Fountaingrove Resort and Country Club in Santa Rosa. I have been a member of the GCSANC for the past nine years, which has afforded me the opportunity to advance in our profession. I've attended several GCSANC meetings and seminars, and as a result, continue to benefit from sharing ideas with fellow superintendents. This knowledge, coupled with my fifteen years experience in the turfgrass business, has provided me a well-rounded background in the golf industry.

I feel it's time I give something back to the Association that has provided me a great avenue for success, and would be proud to serve as a member of the Board. It would be an honor to get more involved and serve the members of the GCSANC.

Candidate for Board Member

Bob Costa, CGCS

Some might be asking, “After four years of Board service, why would you want to continue?” My answer is simply because there is still much more that we can accomplish and I'd like to be a part of it. When I first arrived on the Board in 1995 I had but two objectives, to enhance the educational opportunities available to the membership and to improve our professional image and standing. Those goals are unchanged. Recently, I have reduced some of my Association responsibilities so I can devote more time and energy to my latest passion, coordinating activities relative to public relations and the media. It is an issue that I have felt strongly about for years and with the recent hiring of a Media Director, I feel confident that we are ready to make an impact. With your continued support, I look forward to taking our profession to new heights and together through the collective efforts of the Board, realizing our future goals.