

# **GCSA of Arkansas**

## **Bylaws**

### **Article I- The Association**

**Section 1: Name, Location:** The name of the Association shall be the Golf Course Superintendent's Association of Arkansas, and shall hereafter for the purpose of brevity, be referred to in these Bylaws as the Association. The address shall be that of the current Executive Director.

**Section 2: Object:** The object shall be:

- a) To promote specialized turf and grasses for use on Golf Courses, Athletic fields, Parks, Cemeteries, and such other places where turf is used.
- (b) To further the knowledge of its members in all phases of turf grass maintenance.
- (c) To provide a convenient and effective means for members to aid one another in their various turf problems.
- (d) To raise the standards of the members and thereby lend dignity and prestige to their profession.
- (e) To encourage cooperation with other Associations whose interest parallel or complement those of this Association.

A "Golf Course Superintendent" is one who is entrusted with the management and operation of the tract of land defined as a golf course, including involvement in construction and maintenance of golf courses and related equipment.

### **Article II - Membership**

#### **Section 1: Application for Membership**

Applicants for membership shall be approved by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be the sole judge of an applicant's qualification for membership.

#### **Section 2: Membership Classes**

**Class AA—Life Members:** To be a life member one must: have retired as a golf course superintendent and have reached the age of fifty-five (55) and: (1) been a voting member for twenty-five (25) years, or (2) a former Board member, or (3) a charter member. A life member shall have all the rights and privileges of the Association except that of holding office.

**Class A - Golf Course Superintendent:** To qualify for Class A membership, an applicant shall have at the time of application for membership at least (3) years' experience as a golf course superintendent and be presently employed in such capacity. Class A members shall have all the privileges of the Association.

**Class B - Golf Course Superintendent:** To qualify for Class B membership, an applicant shall have at the time of application for membership, less than three (3) years' experience as a golf course superintendent and be presently employed in such capacity. Class B shall have all the privileges of the Association.

**Class C - Assistant Golf Course Superintendent:** To qualify for the Class C membership, an applicant shall, at the time of application for membership, be an assistant to a golf course superintendent and be presently employed in such capacity. Class C members shall have all the privileges of the Association, except voting and holding office.

**Class E - Educators:** To qualify for Class E membership an applicant must be an educator or extension officer. Class E members shall have such privileges of the Association as the Board of Directors specify by Standing Rules, except those of voting and holding office.

**Equipment Manager:** To qualify for Equipment Manager membership; an applicant shall be employed as an equipment manager, assistant equipment manager or mechanic/technician and shall have such rights of the Association as the Board of Directors may specify by Standing Rules, except those of voting and holding office.

**Affiliate:** To qualify for Affiliate Membership, an applicant must be a business firm or governmental body interested in golf course management and/or in the growing or production of fine turfgrass, either individually or through employment by, or other affiliation with, a company, proprietorship or association who does not qualify for membership in another class. Affiliate Members shall have all the privileges of the Association, except those of voting and holding office.

**Facility Membership:** A Facility Membership is available to those facilities that operate with limited resources. The membership is in the name of the facility. However, the recipient of the membership benefits and information can be the superintendent, owner, or other representative of the golf facility. The facility is entitled to all privileges of membership, except those of voting and holding office.

**Associate:** To qualify for Associate membership, an applicant must be an individual interested in golf course management and/or in the growing and production of fine turfgrass. Associate members shall have such privileges of the Association as the Board of Directors may specify in Standing Rules, except those of holding office.

**Honorary:** To qualify for Honorary Membership, the individual must be recognized annually by the Board of Directors for contributing in an outstanding manner to this Association or profession or related field. Honorary Members shall not be required to pay dues or assessments of the Association and shall have such privileges of the Association as the Board of Directors may specify by Standing Rules, except those of voting and holding office.

**Student:** To qualify for Student Membership, an applicant must be a full time turfgrass student enrolled in a formal course of education or have completed his or her formal education less than one (1) year prior to the date of application for membership. Student Members shall have such privileges of the Association as the Board of Directors may specify by Standing Rules, except those of voting and holding office.

**Retired:** Any Class A, Class B, Class C or Affiliate Member reaching age fifty-five (55), who is retired and no longer seeking employment within the scope of activities of any membership class of this Association, may apply to the Board of Directors in writing for Retired Membership, the annual dues for which shall be one-half of the amount paid by Class A Members. A Retired Member shall have all of the privileges of the Association afforded the member in his or her immediate previous classification, with the exception of holding office.

Inactive: An Inactive Member is a member who, by reason of unemployment, illness or other adverse circumstances has been placed in this class upon his or her application. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to act on such application and to place a member on inactive status subject to terms and condition as the Board of Directors may specify by Standing Rules.

**Section 3: Re-Classification of Members:** Any member may request a change in his membership classification to accord with a change in his qualification for membership as set for the in the By-Laws. Such reclassification shall be made by the Executive Committee.

### Article III - Dues

**Section 1: Annual Dues:** The annual dues shall be the sum fixed at any Annual meeting of the Association as approved by the membership in attendance thereat. Dues shall be payable in advance for the fiscal year, January 1 to December 31. Dues paid after December 31 are subject to a late fee of \$25.00.

**Section 2: Suspension:** All members whose dues shall remain in arrears more than ninety (90) days following January 1 can be expelled from this Association without the necessity of further notice being given for such expulsion.

**Section 4: Reinstatement:** If suspended for non-payment of dues, reinstatement may be made upon full payment of dues in arrears and reapplication, subject to approval of the Executive Committee.

### Article IV – Board of Directors

**Section 1:** The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Board of Directors. It shall be their duty to carry out the objectives and purposes of the Association and to this end they may exercise all powers of the Association.

**Section 2: Officers** of the GCSA of Arkansas shall be a President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer. They will serve as the Executive Committee.

- a) All officers shall be Class A or B GCSAA members and currently employed as a golf course superintendent.
- b) Each officer will serve a 1-year term and not be eligible for the same office more than 2 consecutive years.
- c) Officers shall be elected by majority vote of those present at the Association's Annual meeting in October.

**Section 3: Board of Directors** shall consist of:

- a) 1 - Director
  - a. Shall be a Class A or B GCSAA member
  - b. Serve a 2-year term
  - c. A Director is eligible to run for an officer position after serving 1 year on the Board.
- b) Immediate Past President whose term shall be until replaced by the next retiring President.

- c) Class C Superintendent – non-voting member whose term is 1 year
- d) Affiliate Member– non- voting member whose term is 2 years
- e) Board of Directors shall be elected by majority vote of those present.

**Section 4: Nominations:**

- a) Nominations for any office can be submitted to the President, Directors, or Executive Director
- b) A slate of offices to be filled will be reported to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting.
- c) Nomination may be made from the floor, provided consent of the nominees has been secured before the Annual Meeting.

**Section 5: Vacancies in office:** An office is deemed vacant when the holder of an office either resigns, moves out of the state of Arkansas, or is not employed as a Golf Course Superintendent for a period exceeding six (6) months. Vacancies in office shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

## Article V – Duties of Officers

**Section 1: President:** Attend scheduled board meetings, attend as many GCSA of Arkansas events as possible, write membership message for the newsletters, reach out to members when needed and help promote GCSA of Arkansas to prospective members.

**Section 2: Vice-President:** Attend scheduled board meetings, attend as many GCSA of Arkansas events as possible, help identify education topics relevant to the membership and help procure educational speakers.

**Section 3: Secretary/Treasurer:** Attend scheduled board meetings, attend as many GCSA of Arkansas events as possible, assist in securing host facilities for events and if needed help in event set up.

**Section 4: Directors:** Attend scheduled board meetings, attend as many GCSA of Arkansas events as possible, aid in sponsor retention/recruitment and assist in recruitment of new Board members starting in August of each year.

## Article VI - Meetings

**Section 1:** A minimum of four (4) meetings shall be held each year. The dates will be communicated to the membership by email and website.

**Section 2: Annual Meeting:** The Annual Meeting shall be held in the month of October on a date specified by the Board of Directors. The membership will be given no less than thirty (30) days notice before the meeting is to take place. At which time the annual reports, election and installation of new officers will take place.

**Section 3: Special Meetings:** Special meeting may be called by the Executive Committee with five (5) days prior notice given.

**Section 4:** The Board of Directors shall meet at least twice a year at times agreed upon by the majority.

## Article VII – Voting

Section 1: **Quorum:** The members present entitled to vote, provided at least thirty (30) days notice in writing or electronically of said meeting shall be given to all members entitled to vote, shall constitute a quorum at said meeting.

Section 2: **Voting Procedures:** All voting shall be conducted by secret ballot

Section 3: **Proxies:** Each member of this Association, entitled to vote, may vote in person or by proxy. A proxy may be exercised by the person or person named in such proxy, who must be voting members in good standing of the Association.

## Article X – Amendments

Section 1: These bylaws may be amended at any Annual meeting of the membership. Provided the proposed amendments are in writing and such notice of meeting shall be submitted to the membership thirty (30) days in advance of meeting.

Section 2: A two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members present and voting, shall be necessary for the adoption of any amendment.

## Article XI – Indemnification

Section 1: The GCSA of Arkansas shall indemnify any and all persons who may serve or have served at any time as officers or directors, and their respective heirs, paid administrators, successors and resigns, against any and all expenses, including amounts paid upon judgments, counsel fees and amounts paid in settlement (before or after suit is commenced), actually necessarily incurred by such person in connection with the defense or settlement of any claim, action, suit, or proceeding, in which they or any of them are made parties, or a party, or which may be asserted against them or any of them, by reason of being, or having been, an officer or director, shall be adjudged in any action, suit, or negligence or misconduct in the performance of his or her duty. Such indemnification shall be in addition to any other rights to which those indemnified may be entitled under any law, by-law agreement, or otherwise.

