


FOR INFORMATION ONLY

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

September 5, 2001

TO: BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

FROM: ELLEN OPPENHEIM
General Manager 

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT POLICY/SOFT SPIKE AT ALL GOLF COURSES

At the Board meeting of August 8, 2001, the question of a soft spike rule at the Los Angeles Municipal golf courses was raised.

The Department does not require that players use soft spikes only; however, it is a policy to encourage the use of soft spikes. Golf Staff has worked closely with our 15 men's and women's golf clubs and the daily fee players to encourage use of soft spikes only. The National Golf Foundation estimates that fewer than 10% of all golfers wear steel spike golf shoes today. A majority of privately operated golf facilities have soft spike only rules, while most municipally operated golf facilities recommend use of soft spikes, but do not require their use.

The Department's newly-formed Golf Division intends to promote wearing of soft spikes through a public awareness campaign, including signage and use of volunteers to explain to golfers the benefits to their courses and game as a result of wearing soft spikes. The pro shop concessionaires on the Department's golf courses have been very cooperative and helpful in this effort.

This report was prepared by Cleve Williams.