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GCSAA Tournament Fact Sheet

United States Golf Association
31st U.S. Senior Open Championship
July 29 - August 1, 2010

Sahalee Country Club
Sammamish, Wash.

GCSAA Class A Golf Course Superintendent Information

GCSAA Class A Golf Course Superintendent:
Richard E. Taylor, CGCS

The title "CGCS," after a superintendent's name, stands for Certified Golf Course Superintendent, which recognizes the achievement of high standards of professionalism through education and experience.

Availability to media:

Contact Rich Taylor by phone 425-868-1600; cell 425-985-3594; fax 425-868-2877; email sahalee@msn.com

Education:

B.S., Landscape Architecture,
Washington State University, Pullman,
Wash., 1979

Years as a GCSAA member: 22

Years GCSAA certified: 5

GCSAA affiliated chapter:

Western Washington Golf Course
Superintendents Association, Oregon
Golf Course Superintendents
Association

Years at this course: 26

Number of maintenance employees: 31

Number of tournament volunteers: 20

Previous positions:

1986-1999, Assistant Superintendent,
Sahalee Country Club, Sammamish,
Wash.

Previous tournament preparation:

1998 PGA Championship, Sahalee
Country Club, Sammamish, Wash.;
2002 WGC-NEC Invitational, Sahalee
Country Club, Sammamish, Wash.

Previous tournaments hosted by facility:

1998 PGA Championship; 2002 WGC-
NEC Invitational

Course statistics

Average tee size: 5,000 sq. ft.
Tournament Stimpmeter: 12 ft.
Average green size: 6,300 sq. ft.
Soil condition: Glacial till with sand cap
Green construction soil mix: Sand
Rounds per year: 35,000
Acres of fairway: 21
Source of water: Well
Acres of rough: 45
Drainage conditions: Good
Sand bunkers: 58
Water hazards: 5

Course ratings

	Yardage	Par	Rating	Slope
Black	7003	72	74.2	139
Blue	6754	72	73.2	137
White	6331	72	71.0	133
Red	5712	72	68.4	126

Course characteristics

	Primary Grasses	Height of Cut
Tees	Perennial ryegrass; <i>Poa annua</i>	0.375"
Fairways	Perennial ryegrass; <i>Poa annua</i>	0.375"
Greens	<i>Poa annua</i>	0.110"
Rough	Perennial ryegrass; <i>Poa annua</i>	1.25-3.5"

Wildlife on the course

Blue heron; Bobcat; Canada goose; Coyote;
Deer; Hawk; Mole; Rabbit; Raccoon; Squirrel;
Woodpecker; Several different species of birds



Syngenta Professional products is proud to support GCSAA and the efforts of GCSAA golf course superintendents to produce the finest quality tournament playing conditions.

in Riverwoods, Illinois, qualified for the 2010 U.S. Senior Open.

Interesting and historical course-related facts

Sahalee was first envisioned in 1965, when two separate groups of golf club members, one from Inglewood Country Club, the other from Broadmoor Golf Club, decided concurrently that the Greater Seattle Area was in need of another championship golf course.

The endeavor began to take shape in the summer of 1966, as the two groups merged to form Par Golf, Inc. Following the acquisition of land on the Sammamish Plateau, several pivotal decisions were made that began to establish the character of Sahalee that exists today.

Golf course architect Ted Robinson was selected as the course designer, and Louie Schmidt was hired as Golf Course Superintendent. Schmidt was placed in charge of construction and maintenance of the course. The name Sahalee, or "High Heavenly Ground" in the language of the Chinook, was chosen to reflect the Northwest's heritage and tradition.

Sahalee has been overseen by talented individuals serving as Golf Course Superintendent. Those who have patrolled the greens and fairways at Sahalee include Louis Schmidt (1968-1977), Phil Wycoff (1977-1979), Bill Campbell (1979-1988), Tom Wolff (1988-1999), and currently Rich Taylor, CGCS, who started at Sahalee in 1985 and became Superintendent in April 1999.

In 1996 noted golf course architect Rees Jones oversaw the redesign and renovations of the bunkers and many key features of the North and South courses. Similar work was completed on the East course after the 1998 PGA Championship. In 2000, the driving range was significantly improved with the addition of target greens and bunkers, a new drainage system, and a flatter hitting area. In 2001, the old clubhouse was torn down, and replaced with a new, 43,000 sq. ft. clubhouse, which includes expanded dining and locker room facilities

Tommy Robinson, GCSAA Class A Superintendent at Ravinia Green Country Club

Course architect/date:
Ted Robinson, 1969

Most recent redesign/renovation:
Rees Jones, 1996

Other key course personnel

Scott Pugsley, Assistant Superintendent
Scott Larson, Assistant Superintendent
Glen Charleston, Equipment Manager
Paul Sell, Club President
Steve Boggs, Club Manager
Dean Kain, Green Committee Chairman
Surj Dhatt, Horticulturist
Craig Moore, PGA Professional
Members, Club Owner
Jim Pike, Director of Golf

Golf course management facts

For additional information please visit the GCSAA [association news](#) section or contact the Communications Department at 800-472-7878.

GCSAA is a leading golf organization and has as its focus golf course management. Since 1926, GCSAA has been the top professional association for the men and women who manage golf courses in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to more than 20,000 members in more than 72 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. The association's philanthropic organization, [The Environmental Institute for Golf](#), works to strengthen the compatibility of golf with the natural environment through research grants, support for education programs and outreach efforts. Visit GCSAA at www.gcsaa.org.