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GCSAA Tournament Fact Sheet

139th British Open
The Open Championship
July 15 - 18, 2010

St. Andrews Links (Old Course)
St. Andrews, Scotland

GCSAA Director of Greenkeeping Information

GCSAA Director of Greenkeeping:

Gordon Moir

Availability to media:

Contact Gordon Moir by phone 01334 466676; cell 07850 139799; fax 1334 466679; email

gordonmoir@standrews.org.uk

Education:

SVQ Level 3, Elmwood College, Cupar, Fife, Scotland, 2002; City and Guilds in Greenkeeping, Elmwood College, Cupar, Fife, Scotland, 1980

Years as a GCSAA member: 12

GCSAA affiliated chapter:

British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association

Years at this course: 10

Previous positions:

1991-2000, Head Greenkeeper, The Eden Course, St. Andrews Links, St. Andrews, Scotland; 1980-1991, Head Greenkeeper, Fraserburgh Golf Club, Aberdeenshire, Scotland; 1976, Greenkeeper, Fraserburgh Golf Club, Aberdeenshire, Scotland

Previous tournament preparation:

2001-2009 Dunhill Links Championship, St. Andrews Links, St. Andrews, Scotland; 2005 Open Championship, St. Andrews Links, St. Andrews, Scotland; 2004 The Amateur Championship, St. Andrews Links (Jubilee and Eden Courses), St. Andrews, Scotland; 2003 The British Mid-Amateur Championship,

St. Andrews Links (Jubilee and Eden Courses), St. Andrews, Scotland

Previous tournaments hosted by facility:

2001-2009 Alfred Dunhill Links Championship; 2004 The Amateur Championship; 2003 The British Mid-Amateur Championship; 2007 Ricoh Women's British Open; 2008 Curtis Cup; 1873, 1876, 1879, 1882, 1885, 1888, 1891, 1895, 1900, 1905, 1910, 1921, 1927, 1933, 1939, 1946, 1955, 1957, 1960, 1964, 1970, 1978, 1984, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005 Open Championship

GCSAA Golf Course Superintendent Information

GCSAA Golf Course Superintendent:

Gordon McKie

Availability to media:

Contact Gordon McKie by phone 01334 466676; fax 1334 466679; email

gmckie@standrews.org.uk

Education:

ILM, Management, Elmwood College, Cupar, Fife, Scotland, 2005; SVQ Level 4, Management, Elmwood College, Cupar, Fife, Scotland, 2005; SVQ Level 3, Sports Turf Grass, Elmwood College, Cupar, Fife, Scotland, 2003; NC, Greenkeeping, Elmwood College, Cupar, Fife, Scotland, 1988

Years as a GCSAA member: 6

GCSAA affiliated chapter:

International Member

Years at this course: 4

Previous positions:

2005-2007, Head Greenkeeper, St. Andrews Links (The New Course), St. Andrews, Scotland; 2000-2005, Head Greenkeeper, St. Andrews Links (The Eden Course), St. Andrews Scotland

Previous tournament preparation:

2005 Open Championship, St. Andrews Links, St. Andrews, Scotland; 2004 The Amateur Championship, St. Andrews Links (Jubilee and Eden Courses), St. Andrews, Scotland; 2003 The British Mid-Amateur Championship, St. Andrews Links (Jubilee and Eden Courses), St. Andrews, Scotland



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

Course statistics

Average tee size: 600 sq. ft.
Tournament Stimpmeter: 10 ft.
Average green size: 17,940 sq. ft.
Green construction soil mix:
Natural loamy sand
Rounds per year: 44,000
Acres of fairway: 31
Source of water: Well
Acres of rough: 20
Drainage conditions: Excellent
Sand bunkers: 112
Water hazards: 1

Course ratings

| | Yardage | Par | Rating | Slope |
|---------------------|---------|-----|--------|-------|
| Yellow | 6387 | 72 | 71.8 | 128 |
| White | 6709 | 72 | 72.8 | 130 |
| Championship | 7305 | 72 | 75.0 | 134 |

Course characteristics

| | Primary Grasses | Height of Cut |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Tees | Fine fescue; browntop bentgrass | 0.32" |
| Fairways | Fine fescue; browntop bentgrass | 0.32" |
| Greens | Fine fescue; browntop bentgrass | 0.2" |
| Rough | Fine fescue; browntop bentgrass | 2" |

Wildlife on the course

Brown hare; Crow; Deer; Eagle; Fox; Grey partridge; Hawk; Native flora; Oystercatcher; Pheasant; Rabbit; Red fox; Several different species of birds; Skylark; Woodpecker; Yellow Hammer

Interesting and historical course-related facts

St. Andrews Links is the Home of Golf, where the game evolved and where the spirit and traditions of golf have been safeguarded for over six centuries.

The Old Course originally consisted of 22 holes, 11 out and 11 back. On completing a hole, the player teed up his ball within two club lengths of the previous hole, using a handful of sand scooped out from the hole to form a tee. In 1764, the Society of St. Andrews Golfers, which later became the Royal and Ancient Golf Club, decided that some holes were too short and combined them. This reduced the course to eighteen holes and created what became the standard round of golf throughout the world.

The track through the whin bushes on which the Old Course evolved was so narrow that golfers played to the same holes going out and coming in. As the game became increasingly popular in the nineteenth century, golfers in different matches would find themselves playing to the same hole, but from opposite directions. To relieve the congestion, two holes were cut on each green; those for the first nine were equipped with a white flag and those for the second nine with a red flag.

When Old Tom Morris created a separate green for the first hole, it became possible to play the course in an anti-clockwise direction, rather than clockwise which had previously been the norm. For many years, the course was played clockwise and anti-clockwise on alternate weeks, but now the anti-clockwise, or right-hand circuit has become the accepted direction, although it is still usually played clockwise the first weekend in April each year. Many of the course's 112 bunkers, however, are clearly designed to catch the wayward shots of golfers playing the course on the left-hand circuit.

The Open Championship was first played on the Old Course at St. Andrews in 1873. St. Andrews has held the event more often than anywhere else. In modern times, the Dunhill Cup and the subsequent Dunhill Links Championship have been played at St. Andrews since 1985, while the Walker Cup, the Amateur Championship and a host of other professional and amateur competitions for men

and women have been held over the fabled links at the Home of Golf.

Following recent measurements by the Royal and Ancient in 2010, the Championship tees will play at 7,305 yards for the 2010 Open Championship, with No. 17 playing 495 yards, an increase of 40 yards. No. 7 will play at 371 yards, which is a decrease of 19 yards due to the measurement angle of the dogleg, as the hole has not been altered in any way.

For the 2010 Open Championship, 21,500 spectator seats will be set up - the most of any Open Championship ever.

Course architect/date:

Old Tom Morris, 1870s (first recorded golf on the land, 1400s)

Most recent redesign/renovation:

Five new tees built for the 2005 Open Championship, 2004

Other key course personnel

John Wood, Assistant Superintendent
Peter Forster, Chairman of Trustees
Alan McGregor, Club Manager
Mrs. Dotty Kennedy, Chairman of Greens
The Town of St. Andrews, Club Owner

[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.



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