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Tournament Fact Sheet

PGA Tour
Arnold Palmer Invitational
presented by MasterCard
Mar. 19 - 22, 2015

Bay Hill Club & Lodge
Orlando, Fla.

Golf Course Management Information

GCSAA Class A Director of Grounds:

Christopher Flynn, 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 Chris Flynn by phone 407-876-2402; cell phone or email cflynn@bayhill.com

Education:

B.S., Plant Science, State University of New York at Cobleskill, Cobleskill, N.Y., 1998

Age: 45

Native hometown:

Elmsford, N.Y.

Years as a GCSAA member: 18

GCSAA affiliated chapter:

Central Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association

Years at this course: 1

Number of employees: 40

Number of tournament volunteers: 15

Previous positions:

2005-2014, Director of Grounds, Marriott Grande Vista, Orlando, Fla.

Previous tournaments hosted by facility:

1979-2014 Arnold Palmer Invitational

How Chris got involved in golf course management:

"Gew up in the business. Both my grandfather and father were golf course superintendents."

Course statistics

Average tee size: 3,500 sq. ft.

Tournament Stimpeter: 12 ft.

Average green size: 6,500 sq. ft.

Soil conditions on the course: Sandy

Green construction soil mix:

USGA (sand 90%, peat 10%)

Rounds per year: 45,000

Acres of fairway: 40

Source of water: Effluent water

Acres of rough: 150

Drainage conditions: Excellent

Sand bunkers: 84

Water hazards: 7

Championship ratings

	Yardage	Par	Rating	Slope
Green	7381	72	73.9	136

Course characteristics

	Primary Grasses	Height of Cut
Tees	Bermudagrass; ryegrass	0.375"
Fairways	Bermudagrass; ryegrass	0.375"
Greens	Bermudagrass; <i>Poa trivialis</i>	0.100"
Rough	Bermudagrass; ryegrass	4"

Environmental management/features

Bay Hill Club & Lodge utilizes multiple environmental programs including a recycling program, green waste composting and completing bird inventories.

Water conservation, management and/or controls:

Bay Hill uses reclaimed water for use on the course.

Unusual wildlife on the course

Alligator; Sand hill crane; Armadillo

Predominate species of trees on course:

Oak

Interesting notes about the course:

Though the words "Bay Hill" have become irrevocably linked with the name Arnold Palmer, Bay Hill actually enjoyed much more humble beginnings than being the winter home of the legendary golfer for which it has become known.

Originally, the Bay Hill Club & Lodge was the vision of a group of investors from Nashville, Tenn., who in 1960 sought to develop a private retreat at which to enjoy their favorite pastime. Thirteen months after the original conception, Bay Hill opened for play.

Soon after opening in October of 1961, the present pro shop building was erected, overlooking No. 1 and No. 10 tees.

To promote the club, the partners invited Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Don Cherry and Dave Ragan to Bay Hill for an exhibition match in 1965. Impressed with the Central Florida area more than a decade earlier when he came to Orlando with the Wake Forest golf team for a match against Rollins College, Arnold Palmer fell in love with Bay Hill. Palmer returned that winter to escape Pennsylvania's weather and to work on his game; the time spent only reinforced his resolve to acquire the club.

In 1970, Palmer and several partners took an option to assume control of the Bay Hill Club. In 1976, Arnold Palmer purchased the Bay Hill Club & Lodge and it has been the winter home of the Palmer family ever since.

Course architect/date:

Dick Wilson & Joe Lee, 1961

Most recent redesign or renovation/date:

Arnold Palmer, 2009

Renovation builder/date:

Landscapes Unlimited, 2009

Other key course management personnel

Craig Shelton, Assistant Superintendent
Wayne Flannagan, Assistant Superintendent
J.T. Berry, Assistant Superintendent
Albert Sizemore, Equipment Manager
Ray Easler, Club Manager
Arnold Palmer, Club Owner
Brian Dorn, Director of Golf

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

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 nearly 18,000 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. Find GCSAA on [Facebook](#), follow GCSAA on [Twitter](#), and visit GCSAA at www.gcsaa.org. The Environmental Institute for Golf is the philanthropic organization of the GCSAA, and has as its mission to foster sustainability through research, awareness, education, programs and scholarships for the benefit of golf course management professionals, golf facilities and the game. Visit www.eifg.org.

For additional information please visit gcsaa.org/newsroom or contact the Communications Department at 800-472-7878.

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Media story ideas to consider

- Water: Golf's biggest challenge
- The benefits of a golf course to the community and the environment
- What's new in turfgrass research
- Superintendents doing more with less
- Get to know an interesting superintendent
- Who's in charge? A visit with the CEO