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Tournament Fact Sheet

PGA Tour
BMW Championship
Sept. 14 - 20, 2015

Conway Farms Golf Club
Lake Forest, Ill.

Golf Course Management Information

GCSAA Class A Director of Golf Course Operations:

Chad Ball, 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 Chad Ball by phone 847-295-0134; cell phone 847-212-7252; or email

cbgcs@aol.com

Twitter: [@cbgcs](https://twitter.com/cbgcs)

Education:

Turf, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich., 1982

Age: 63

Native hometown:

Grand Rapids, Mich.

Years as a GCSAA member: 34

GCSAA affiliated chapter:

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

Years at this course: 21

Number of employees: 20

Number of tournament volunteers: 25

Previous positions:

1982-1990, Golf Course Superintendent, Meadowbrook Country Club, Racine, Wis.; 1990-1994, Golf Course Superintendent, North Hills Country Club, Menomonee Falls, Wis.

Previous tournament preparation:

2013 BMW Championship, Conway Farms Golf Club, Lake Forest, Ill.; 2012 U.S. Mid-Amateur, Conway Farms Golf Club, Lake Forest, Ill.; 1998 U.S. Junior Amateur, Conway Farms Golf Club, Lake Forest, Ill.

Previous tournaments hosted by facility:

2013 BMW Championship; 2012 U.S. Mid-Amateur; 2009 Western Amateur; 2008 U.S. Open Sectional Qualifying; 2007 Open Qualifier; 2002, 2006 AJGA Canon Cup; 2006 Big Ten Championship; 1998 U.S. Junior Amateur; 1998 Women's Western Junior; 1997 Men's NCAA Division I Championship

Get to know the superintendent:

Chad was involved with starting the Wee One Foundation and enjoys fishing and motorcycle riding in his spare time.

Course/event scoring record:

Jim Furyk shot 59 at the 2013 BMW Championship

Course statistics

Average tee size: 6,000 sq. ft.

Tournament Stimpmeter: 12 ft. 5 in.

Average green size: 5,000 sq. ft.

Soil conditions on the course: Clay

Green construction soil mix:

USGA (sand 90%, peat 10%)

Rounds per year: 20,000

Acres of fairway: 24

Source of water: Pond, lake

Acres of rough: 45

Drainage conditions: Excellent

Sand bunkers: 86

Water hazards: 4

Championship ratings

Tee	Yardage	Par	Rating	Slope
Black	7250	71	75.8	149

Course characteristics

	Primary Grasses	Height of Cut
Tees	Pennncross bentgrass	0.315"
Fairways	Pennncross bentgrass	0.350"
Greens	007 Bentgrass	0.100"
Rough	Kentucky bluegrass	0.350"

Environmental management/features

Conway Farms Golf Club is a prairie-style course that includes wetlands.

Unusual wildlife on the course

Deer; Coyotes; Hawks

Predominate species of trees on course:

Oak

Interesting notes about the course:

Conway Farms Golf Club opened for play on Aug. 3, 1991. The Tom Fazio award-winning course sits on 209 acres in Lake Forest, Ill., and is designed around the traditions of Scottish links golf.

The origins of Conway Farms trace back to three Lake Forest families. Their vision for a first-rank golf club began with the purchase in 1956 of a farm straddling a stretch of old Conway Road, thus giving rise to the name Conway Farms. Conway is dedicated to the protection and preservation of the game, encouraging walking, fast play and the strong support of amateur golf.

Significant changes recently made to the course:

Conway Farms recently regrassed the greens and remodeled the driving range.

Course architect/date:

Tom Fazio, 1991

Original course builder/date:

Wadsworth Construction Co., 1991

Most recent redesign or renovation/date:

Dennis Wise, 2014

Other key course management personnel

Connor Healy, GCSAA Member Golf Course Superintendent

Adam Wiles, GCSAA Member Assistant Superintendent

Anthony Meiske, Assistant Superintendent

Brian Brown, Equipment Manager

Alejandro Mata, Foreman

Bruce Keith, Club President

Todd Marsh, Club Manager

Rick Price, Green Committee Chairman

Angel Zovella, Horticulturist

Matt Slowinski, PGA Professional

Membership, Club Owner

Jeff Mory, 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