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## Tournament Fact Sheet

PGA Tour

Whyndham Championship

Aug. 17 - 23, 2015

Sedgefield Country Club

Greensboro, N.C.

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## Golf Course Management Information

### GCSAA Class A Golf Course

#### Superintendent:

Chad Comer

#### Availability to media:

Contact Chad Comer by phone 336-299-4160; cell phone 678-300-1853; or email

[ccromer@sedgefieldcc.org](mailto:ccromer@sedgefieldcc.org)

#### Education:

A.S., Applied Plant Science, Catawba Valley Community College, Hickory, N.C.

Age: 37

#### Native hometown:

High Point, N.C.

Years as a GCSAA member: 14

#### GCSAA affiliated chapter:

Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association

Years at this course: 1

Number of employees: 20

Number of tournament volunteers: 30

#### Previous positions:

2012-2014, Golf Course Superintendent, Trump National Doral, Doral, Fla.; 2007-2012, Golf Course Superintendent, Jennings Mill Country Club, Athens, Ga.; 2004-2007, Assistant Superintendent, TPC Sugarloaf, Duluth, Ga.; 2003-2004, Assistant Superintendent, Capital City Club, Atlanta, Ga.; 2000-2003, Assistant Superintendent, Greensboro Country Club, Greensboro, N.C.

### Previous tournament preparation:

2012-2014 WGC-Cadillac Championship, Trump National Doral, Doral, Fla.; 2007-2009 Athens Regional Foundation Classic, Jennings Mill Country Club, Athens, Ga.; 2004-2007 BellSouth Classic, TPC Sugarloaf, Duluth, Ga.; 2003 WGC-American Express Championship, Capital City Club, Atlanta, Ga.

### Previous tournaments hosted by facility:

2008-2014 Wyndham Championship; 2008-2014 AJGA Footjoy Invitational; 2009-2014 ACC Women's Championship; 1999-2000 Nike Greensboro Open; 1938-1976 Greater Greensboro Open

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## Course statistics

Average tee size: 2,500 sq. ft.

Tournament Stimpmeter: 12 ft.

Average green size: 6,500 sq. ft.

Soil conditions on the course: Heavy clay

#### Green construction soil mix:

USGA (sand 80%, peat 20%)

Rounds per year: 25,000

Acres of fairway: 25

Source of water: Pond, well

Acres of rough: 65

Drainage conditions: Good

Sand bunkers: 48

Water hazards: 12 creeks, 1 pond

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## Championship ratings

Tee	Yardage	Par	Rating	Slope
Gold	7197	70	75.1	143

## Course characteristics

	Primary Grasses	Height of Cut
Tees	Bermudagrass	0.400"
Fairways	Bermudagrass	0.450"
Greens	Bermudagrass	0.125"
Rough	Bermudagrass	2"

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## **Environmental management/features**

Sedgefield Country Club has a network of blue bird boxes throughout the course.

### **Water conservation, management and/or controls:**

Sedgefield reduced its irrigation use by 20 percent with a computer-controlled irrigation system that provided evapotranspiration rates.

### **Abnormal weather conditions/occurrences in the last 12 months that affected the course:**

An ice storm in February caused significant damage to many of the specimen trees on the course.

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## **Unusual wildlife on the course**

Beaver; Blue heron; Canada goose; Deer; Fish; Fox; Groundhog; Hawk; Mole; Muskrat; Rabbit; Raccoon; Red fox; Snakes; Squirrels; Several different species of birds

### **Predominate species of trees on course:**

Longleaf pines; deciduous hardwoods

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### **Interesting notes about the course:**

On Sept. 22, 2007, Sedgefield Country Club's famous Donald Ross golf course reopened following a major 10 month, \$3 million restoration project, which transformed the golf course back to how Ross intended the course to play, while taking into consideration the changes in golf technology and turfgrass development over the last 50 years.

The course was closed on May 14 and the greens were converted from bentgrass to Champion bermudagrass during the summer of 2012. The course reopened to players of the PGA Tour during the Wyndham Championship on Aug. 13, 2012.

Sedgefield has played host to many major amateur events in the Carolinas, as well as hosting the Greater Greensboro Open for over 50 years. On May 8, 1953, the Atlantic Coast Conference was formed at Sedgefield Country Club.

Emphasis must be put on ball placement in the fairway in order to get the appropriate angle to the green. The greens at Sedgefield are very undulating and slope from back to front, with many falling off the edges into collection areas.

In February 2011, the Sedgefield membership voted to sell the club to McConnell Golf. Sedgefield became the seventh club and second Donald Ross course owned by the McConnell Group. Since that time, substantial improvements have been made to the clubhouse and the grounds surrounding the property.

### **Comments overheard about the course:**

"The Donald Ross greens are extremely challenging."

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### **Course architect/date:**

Donald Ross, 1926

### **Most recent redesign or renovation/date:**

Kris Spence, 2007

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## **Other key course management personnel**

Adam Brewer, GCSAA Member Assistant  
Superintendent  
Parker Henry, Assistant Superintendent  
Gene Westbrook, Equipment Manager  
Beverly Marler, Club Manager  
Stewart Hamilton, Horticulturist  
Rocky Brooks, PGA Professional  
McConnell Golf, Club Owner  
Brian Kittler, Director of Golf  
Michael Shoun, VP of McConnell Golf

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## **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](http://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](http://www.eifg.org).

For additional information please visit [gcsaa.org/newsroom](http://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