

THE PLAYERS Championship (PGA TOUR)

TPC Sawgrass (Stadium) • Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. • March 13-16, 2025

Director of Golf Course Operations

Jeff Plotts, GCSAA

Years as GCSAA Member: 31

Years at TPC Sawgrass: 10

Years as Superintendent: 32

Previous Courses: TPC Scottsdale, TPC Southwind, Bear's Best, Eagle's Landing, Champions Club

Hometown: Stone Mountain, Ga.

Education: University of Georgia

Professional Tournaments Hosted: This is the 30th pro event and 10th PLAYERS for Plotts, who has hosted PGA TOUR, Korn Ferry and LPGA events in his career.

Contact: Mike Strauss: mstrauss@gcsaa.org / 785-865-8444

Other Key Agronomy Personnel

Lucas Andrews assistant director of golf operations; Patrick Reinhardt, Stadium Course superintendent; Paul Vermeulen PGA TOUR agronomy; Chris Langley, equipment manager; Christian Ciccarello, landscape superintendent; Matt Borocz, general manager

Agronomy Employees: 95 / Tournament Volunteers: 100

Course Architect

Pete Dye, ASGCA (1980)

Renovation: Pete Dye and Steve Wenzloff

Notable

- Over the last couple of years working with Davis Love III, some Pete Dye elements/features have returned to the golf course. In 2024 the following enhancements were made:
 - New tournament tee on No. 2 added 15 yards.
 - Re-established the iconic tree on No. 6 tee, while adding 15 yards (original tree was lost in 2014).
 - New tee complex on No. 11 added 15 yards.
 - Stronger, deeper and dramatic moguls with additions of palms, oaks and native grasses in the right rough on No. 14.

Tournament Setup

Par: 36-36--72

Yardage: 7,352

Turfgrass

Greens: TifEagle bermudagrass / Poa trivialis overseed .100"

Collars: Champion rife ryegrass overseed .200"

Approaches: Ryegrass / Poa overseed .250"

Tees: Champion fine ryegrass overseed .250"

Fairways: Champion fine ryegrass overseed .275"

Rough: Champion fine ryegrass overseed 4"

Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 5,500 sq. ft.

Acres of Fairway: 26

Acres of Rough: 120

Number of Sand Bunkers: 92 (12 acres)

Number of Water Hazards: 18

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 17

Soil Conditions: Sandy loam

Water Sources: Reclaimed

Drainage: Good

High Elevation: 22 ft.

Low Elevation: 16 ft.

Average Fairway Widths: 28 yards

Links

GCSAA Tournament Fact Sheet Home:

<https://www.gcsaa.org/media/tournament-fact-sheets>

GCSAA Website: <https://www.gcsaa.org/>

GCM (GCSAA Magazine): <https://gcmonline.com/>

Superintendent X: @AZTurfDawg / @TPCSawgrassAGR

Course X: @TPCSawgrass

Tournament X: @THEPLAYERSChamp

GCSAA X: @GCSAA

(more on next page)

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Since 1926 the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (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 20,000 members in more than 78 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and improve communities through enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf.



Tournament Fact Sheet

2025 GCSAA Course and Superintendent Notes For Courses Played to Date (PGA TOUR Only) (Primary Courses Only) (U.S. Courses Only) (This Week's Course in Red)

Tournaments by State

- 4 – California
- 3 - Florida
- 2 – Hawaii
- 1 – Arizona

Yardage (par)

- 7,765 (72) – Torrey Pines South (Farmers Insurance & Genesis)
- 7,596 (73) – Kapalua Resort (The Sentry)
- 7,466 (72) – Bay Hill Club (Cognizant)
- 7,352 (72) – TPC Sawgrass (THE PLAYERS)
- 7,261 (71) – TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)
- 7,210 (72) – PGA West Pete Dye Stadium (American Express)
- 7,167 (71) – PGA National (Cognizant)
- 7,044 (70) – Waialae (Sony Open)
- 6,972 (72) – Pebble Beach Golf Links (AT&T Pro Am)

Average Green Size

Largest

- 8,722 – Kapalua Resort (The Sentry)
- 7,500 – Bay Hill Club (Cognizant)
- 7,100 – Waialae (Sony Open)
- 7,069 – TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)
- 7,000 – PGA National (Cognizant)
- 7,000 – PGA West Pete Dye Stadium (American Express)

Smallest

- 3,500 – Pebble Beach Golf Links (AT&T Pro Am)
- 5,000 – Torrey Pines South (Farmers Insurance & Genesis)
- 5,500 – TPC Sawgrass (THE PLAYERS)

Number of Bunkers

Most

- 116 – Pebble Beach Golf Links (AT&T Pro Am)
- 93 – Kapalua Resort (The Sentry)
- 92 – TPC Sawgrass (THE PLAYERS)
- 90 – PGA West Pete Dye Stadium (American Express)
- 84 – Bay Hill Club (Arnold Palmer)

Fewest

- 65 – PGA National (Cognizant)
- 67 - TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)
- 82 – Torrey Pines (Farmers Insurance and Genesis)

Green Turf Type

- 5 – Bermudagrass
- 4 – Poa annua
- 1 – Poa / bentgrass / ryegrass overseed

Rough Turf Type

- 6 – Ryegrass overseed
- 2 – Bermudagrass
- 1 – Ryegrass / Poa annua mix
- 1 – Ryegrass / fine fescue overseed

Superintendents Tournaments Hosted (includes 2025)

- 30 – Jeff Plotts, TPC Sawgrass (10th THE PLAYERS)
- 24 – Dave Nakama, CGCS, Waialae (Sony Open)
- 17 – Chris Flynn, CGCS, Bay Hill Club (Arnold Palmer)
- 13 – Ken Einwig, PGA National (Cognizant)

Superintendents GCSAA Membership Years

- 39 – Brian Sullivan, CGCS, MG, PGA West (AE)
- 34 – Ken Einwig, PGA National (Cognizant)
- 31 – Jeff Plotts, TPC Sawgrass (THE PLAYERS)
- 27 – Chris Flynn, CGCS, Bay Hill Club (Arnold Palmer)

Superintendents Alma Maters

- 2 – Penn State / 1 – Arizona, Hawaii, Michigan State, Texas Tech, Lake City, SUNY-Cobleskill, Georgia

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