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Tournament Fact Sheet
Champions Tour
Greater Gwinnett Championship
April 17 - 19, 2015

TPC Sugarloaf
(Stables and Meadows Courses)
Duluth, Ga.

Golf Course Management Information

**GCSAA Class A
Director, Golf Course
Operations:**



Michael D. Crawford, 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 Mike Crawford by phone 770-622-2215; cell phone 678-614-9988; or email crawford@pgatourtpc.com

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

Blog: tpcsugarloafagronomy.blogspot.com

Education:

A.S., Golf Course Operations, Florida Gateway College, Lake City, Fla., 1990

Age: 50

Native hometown:

Granger, Iowa

Years as a GCSAA member: 25

Years GCSAA certified: 15

GCSAA affiliated chapter:

Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association

Years at this course: 19

Number of employees: 38

Number of tournament volunteers: 25

Previous positions:

1990-1995, Assistant Superintendent and Golf Course Superintendent, Atlanta Athletic Club, Johns Creek, Ga.

Previous tournament preparation:

1997-2008 AT&T Classic, TPC Sugarloaf, Duluth, Ga.; 1990 U.S. Women's Open, Atlanta Athletic Club, Johns Creek, Ga.

Previous tournaments hosted by facility:

1997-2008 AT&T Classic

Get to know the superintendent:

"I love to fly-fish for trout."

How Mike got involved in golf course management:

"My dad taught me how to play when I was young and I developed a love for the game, and eventually for working on the golf course."

Course/event scoring record:

Tiger Woods, Phil Michelson, Ben Crane and Duffy Waldorf have all shot a 63 at TPC Sugarloaf.

Course statistics

Average tee size: 1,500 sq. ft.

Tournament Stimpmeter: 11-11.5 ft.

Average green size: 5,752 sq. ft.

Soil conditions on the course: Clay

Green construction soil mix:

USGA (sand 85%, peat 15%)

Rounds per year: 35,000

Acres of fairway: 30

Source of water: Pond, lake

Acres of rough: 60

Drainage conditions: Good

Sand bunkers: 63

Water hazards: 9

Championship ratings

Tee	Yardage	Par	Rating	Slope
Tournament	7259	72	75.8	146

Course characteristics

	Primary Grasses	Height of Cut
Tees	GN 1 bermudagrass overseeded w/ perennial ryegrass; a few non-overseeded Zeon zoysiagrass tees	0.375"
Fairways	GN 1 bermudagrass overseeded w/perennial ryegrass	0.425"
Greens	50/50 blend of Cato and Crenshaw bentgrass	0.110"
Rough	419 bermudagrass	2"

Environmental management/features

TPC Sugarloaf is an Audubon Certified Cooperative Sanctuary. The ACSP is an education and certification program that helps golf courses protect the environment and preserve the natural heritage of the game of golf.

Water conservation, management and/or controls:

TPC Sugarloaf utilizes best management practices (BMPs) that have helped prioritize water needs to help conserve water and only use what is needed for the plant to remain healthy.

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

In the spring of 2014, the bermudagrass experienced winterkill due to extreme cold temperatures. The course lost five acres of bermudagrass that has to be re-sodded. The course has completely recovered.

Predominate species of trees on course:

Loblolly Pines and various hardwoods; Oak, Maple, Beech, Poplar

Interesting notes about the course:

The grand opening of TPC Sugarloaf was the 1997 Bellsouth Classic. Thirty days before the 1998 Bellsouth Classic the property was hit by a tornado that took down several thousand trees. Fortunately, the crew was able to clean the course and get it ready for the tournament, just in time.

Comments overheard about the course:

"The golf course has a tremendous variety of holes. You will use every club in your bag."

Course architect/date:

Greg Norman, 1995

Original course builder/date:

Central Florida Turf, 1995-1996

Other key course management personnel

Devin June, GCSAA Member Assistant Superintendent
Andrew Pace, Assistant Superintendent
Ryan Borris, Assistant Superintendent
David Duren, Equipment Manager
Elba Caban, Administrative Assistant
Blane Merritt, Club Manager/Director of Golf
Josh Nichols, PGA Professional
PGA Tour, Club Owner

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