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Tournament Fact Sheet

Champions Tour
Regions Tradition
May 14 - 17, 2015

Shoal Creek Golf Club
Shoal Creek, Ala.

Golf Course Management Information

GCSAA Member Golf Course

Superintendent:

James K. Simmons

Availability to media:

Contact James Simmons by phone 205-991-9012; or email

jsimmons@shoalcreekturf.com

Education:

Turfgrass Management, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich., 1971

Age: 65

Native hometown:

Marysville, Ohio

Years as a GCSAA member: 43

GCSAA affiliated chapter:

Alabama Golf Course Superintendents Association

Years at this course: 39

Number of employees: 20

Number of tournament volunteers: 25

Previous positions:

1972-1975, Assistant Superintendent, Muirfield Village Golf Club, Dublin, Ohio; 1971, Assistant Superintendent, Brookside Country Club, Worthington, Ohio; 1969, Intern, NCR Country Club, Kettering, Ohio

Previous tournaments hosted by facility:

1984, 1990 PGA Championship; 2010 Southern Amateur; 1986 U.S. Amateur; 2008 U.S. Junior Amateur

How James got involved in golf course management:

"I loved to play when I was younger."

Course statistics

Average tee size: 1,000 sq. ft.

Tournament Stimpmeter: 13 ft.

Average green size: 6,500 sq. ft.

Green construction soil mix:

USGA (sand 75%, peat 10%, other 15%)

Rounds per year: 14,000

Acres of fairway: 50

Source of water: Pond, effluent water

Acres of rough: 75

Drainage conditions: Fair

Sand bunkers: 61

Water hazards: 11

Championship ratings

	Yardage	Par	Rating	Slope
5 Star	7143	72	75.7	143

Course characteristics

	Primary Grasses	Height of Cut
Tees	Diamon zoysiagrass; Zorro zoysiagrass	0.35"
Fairways	Bermudagrass	0.40"
Greens	Bentgrass	0.110"
Rough	Bermudagrass; zoysiagrass	1.5"

Environmental management/features

Water conservation, management and/or controls:

Shoal Creek Golf Club installed a new Toro Lynx irrigation system to help monitor and control water usage.

Unusual wildlife on the course

Fox; Heron; Deer; Otter; Beaver; Bob cat;
Coyote; Bass; Bream; Turtle; Snakes

Predominate species of trees on course:

Oaks, pines

Interesting notes about the course:

Shoal Creek Golf Club was the first southern course to build USGA greens for growing bentgrass. Shoal Creek is also one of the youngest courses to ever host a major - 1984 PGA Championship.

Significant changes recently made to the course:

The next major renovation to Shoal Creek will take place in 2016 when the courses greens will be renovated.

Course architect/date:

Jack Nicklaus, 1977

Most recent redesign or renovation/date:

Jack Nicklaus, 2001-2014

Other key course management personnel

Travis Stein, GCSAA Member Assistant
Superintendent
Brint Gaches, GCSAA Member Assistant
Superintendent
Ashlee Stein, Administrative Assistant
Joe Partridge, Equipment Manager
Mike Thompson, Club President
Chris Graham, Club Manager
Todd Vargo, Green Committee Chairman
Brannon Rice, Horticulturist
Eric Williamson, 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.

Craig Smith
Director of Communications and Media Relations
Phone: 785-832-4431
Cell: 785-691-9197
Email: csmith@gcsaa.org

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