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Tournament Fact Sheet

LPGA Tour
ISPS Handa Women's Australian Open
Feb. 19 - 22, 2015

The Royal Melbourne Golf Club
Victoria, Australia

Golf Course Management Information

GCSAA Member Golf Course Superintendent:

Richard Forsyth

Availability to media:

Contact Richard Forsyth by phone +61 3 9598 1616; cell phone 0408 145 060; or email superintendent@rmgolf.com.au

Age: 52

Years as a GCSAA member: 5

Years at this course: 5

Number of employees: 35

Previous positions:

1994-2009, Golf Course Superintendent, The Metropolitan Golf Club, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia;
1989-1994, Golf Course Superintendent, Murray Downs Golf and Country Club, Murray Downs, New South Wales, Australia

Course statistics

Average tee size: 3,000 sq. ft.

Tournament Stimpeter: 12-13 ft.

Average green size: 6,500 sq. ft.

Soil conditions on the course: Natural sand

Green construction soil mix:

Push-up native sand

Rounds per year: 60,000

Acres of fairway: 45

Source of water: Well, lagoon

Drainage conditions: Good

Sand bunkers: 97

Course characteristics

	Primary Grasses	Height of Cut
Tees	Bermudagrass	8 mm
Fairways	Bermudagrass	8 mm
Greens	Bentgrass	2.8 mm
Rough		Various heights

Environmental management/features

Water conservation, management and/or controls:

The Royal Melbourne Golf Club uses storm water harvesting and treatment, as well as bore water.

Predominate species of trees on course:

Coastal tea tree is prevalent, along with indigenous heath land plants.

Course architect/date:

Dr. Alister MacKenzie (West Course)
and Alex Russell (East Course), 1926

Original course builder/date:

MA 'Mick' Morcom, 1926

Other key course management personnel

Paul Thomas, Assistant Superintendent (West Course)

John Mann, GCSAA Member Assistant Superintendent (East Course)

Luke Spartalis, Equipment Manager

Brian A. McPhail, Club President

Paul Rak, CEO

Charles Baillieu, Green Committee Chairman

Stuart Moodie, Horticulturist

Richard Hatt, PGA Professional

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