



GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
 1421 Research Park Drive • Lawrence, KS 66049-3859 • 800-472-7878 • [www.gcsaa.org](http://www.gcsaa.org)

## Tournament Fact Sheet

LPGA Tour  
 LPGA Kia Classic  
 March 26 - 29, 2015

Park Hyatt Resort Aviara  
 Carlsbad, Calif.

## Golf Course Management Information

### GCSAA Class A Golf Course

#### Superintendent:

Kevin M. Kienast, 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 Kevin Kienast by phone 760-431-0877; cell phone 760-473-4355; or email

[kevin.kienast@hyatt.com](mailto:kevin.kienast@hyatt.com)

#### Education:

B.A., Business Management, Western Washington University, Bellingham, Wash., 1992

**Age:** 46

#### Native hometown:

Woodinville, Wash.

**Years as a GCSAA member:** 17

**Years GCSAA certified:** 11

#### GCSAA affiliated chapter:

San Diego Golf Course Superintendents Association

**Years at this course:** 11

**Number of employees:** 25

**Number of tournament volunteers:** 2

#### Previous positions:

2001-2003, Golf Course Superintendent, Morgan Run Resort, Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.; 2003-2007, Pala Mesa Resort, Fallbrook, Calif.

#### Previous tournaments hosted by facility:

2013-2014 Kia Classic; 2004, 2012 GCSAA Golf Championships

## Course statistics

**Average tee size:** 4,000 sq. ft.

**Tournament Stimpeter:** 11.5 ft.

**Average green size:** 10,500 sq. ft.

**Soil conditions on the course:** Clay/loam

**Green construction soil mix:**

USGA (sand 95%, peat 5%)

**Rounds per year:** 30,000

**Acres of fairway:** 30

**Source of water:** Potable, effluent water

**Acres of rough:** 50

**Drainage conditions:** Good

**Sand bunkers:** 66

**Water hazards:** 7

## Championship ratings

Tee	Yardage	Par	Rating	Slope
Kia	6529	72		

## Course characteristics

	Primary Grasses	Height of Cut
Tees	Bermudagrass; ryegrass	0.350"
Fairways	Bermudagrass; ryegrass	0.50"
Greens	<i>Poa annua</i>	0.110"
Rough	Ryegrass	3"

## Environmental management/features

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

Ninety-five percent of the golf course at Park Hyatt Resort Aviara is irrigated with recycled water.

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

Three years of drought conditions in Southern California has helped cause wild fires, which did damage to the northeast corner of the golf

course on No. 13 and 14 in May 2014. The golf maintenance crew battled the flames helping to protect golf course and homes.

So far this winter, the rainfall has been closer to normal levels for the area.

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## Unusual wildlife on the course

Bobcats

### Predominate species of trees on course:

Eucalyptus; Torrey pines; Italian stone pines; Jacaranda

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### Interesting notes about the course:

Green No. 16 measures 65 yards from front to back, which is longer than the longest NFL field goal.

### Comments overheard about the course:

"It's like playing in a botanical garden."

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### Course architect/date:

Arnold Palmer, 1991

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## Other key course management personnel

Franco De Jesus, GCSAA Member Assistant Superintendent

Salomon Gomez, Equipment Manager

Ulrich Samietz, General Manager

Johnny Walker, PGA Professional

Renny Brown, Director of 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