



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

## GCSAA Tournament Fact Sheet

United States Golf Association  
U.S. Amateur Public Links  
July 14 - 19, 2014

Sand Creek Station  
Newton, Kan.

### Golf Course Management Information

**GCSAA Class A Golf Course Superintendent:**  
James H. Houchen III



**Availability to media:**

Contact James Houchen by phone 316-284-6170; fax 316-284-6179; email [jhouchen@kempersports.com](mailto:jhouchen@kempersports.com)

**Education:**

B.S., Golf Course Management, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan., 2001

**Years as a GCSAA member:** 14

**GCSAA affiliated chapter:**

Kansas Golf Course Superintendents Association

**Years at this course:** 8

**Number of maintenance employees:** 12

**Number of tournament volunteers:** 10-12

**Previous positions:**

2001-2005, Assistant Superintendent, Shoal Creek, Kansas City, Mo.

**Previous tournament preparation:**

2012 Kansas Amateur, Sand Creek Station, Newton, Kan.; 2012 NJCAA National Championship, Sand Creek Station, Newton, Kan.

**Previous tournaments hosted at facility:**

2012 Kansas Amateur; NJCAA National Championship

### Course statistics

**Average tee size:** 3,000 sq. ft.  
**Tournament Stimpmeter:** 12 ft.  
**Average green size:** 6,000 sq. ft.  
**Soil condition:** Clay to silt loam  
**Green construction:** California  
**Rounds per year:** 30,000  
**Acres of fairway:** 30  
**Source of water:** Pond, effluent water  
**Drainage conditions:** Good  
**Sand bunkers:** 66  
**Water hazards:** 12

### Course ratings

	Yardage	Par	Rating	Slope
<b>Championship</b>	7359	72	76.6	135
<b>Tournament</b>	6733	72	74.0	129
<b>Medal</b>	6103	72	71.0	126
<b>Intermediate</b>	5328	72	67.3	117
<b>Front</b>	5165	72	71.9	124

### Course characteristics

	Primary Grasses	Height of Cut
<b>Tees</b>	Bentgrass	0.375"
<b>Fairways</b>	Bentgrass	0.450"
<b>Greens</b>	Bentgrass	0.115"
<b>Rough</b>	Fescue	3"

### Environmental management/features

Sand Creek Station 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.

---

## Wildlife on the course

Armadillo; Blue heron; Bobcat; Canada goose; Coyote; Deer; Eagle; Fish; Hawk; Mole; Muskrat; Pheasant; Quail; Rabbit; Raccoon; Red fox; Snakes; Squirrel; Turkey; Turtle; Woodpecker; Several different species of birds

---

## Interesting and historical course-related facts

Sand Creek Station plays on the town's railroad history and many holes are, as they say in Scotland, "hard by the cinders," continuing a century's old tradition of golf bordering railways. The course has also recreated the famous Road Hole green on No. 16, which once sat adjacent to a railway. Another replicates the famous "Redan" from North Berwick, Scotland.

Other holes have characteristics of early American holes, which also fronted railways at one time. No. 12, for example, is similar to No. 4 at the National Golf Links of America, one of the early classics, while No. 9 features a small platform green typical of early American courses. The green on the par-5 No. 4 has some wild contours, seldom built these days.

---

### Course architect/date:

Jeffery Brauer, 2005

### Original course builder/date:

Wadsworth Golf, 2005

### Most recent redesign/renovation:

Jeffery Brauer, 2008

### Redesign builder:

Wadsworth Golf, 2008

---

## Other key course personnel

Donavon Scott, Assistant Superintendent  
Mike Goerzen, Equipment Manager  
Chris Tuohey, Club Manager  
Zach Frey, PGA Professional  
City of Newton, Club Owner

---

## Golf course management facts

For additional information please visit [gcsaa.org/news](http://gcsaa.org/news) or contact the Communications Department at 800-472-7878.

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](https://www.facebook.com/gcsaa), follow GCSAA on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/gcsaa), 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).