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### **Tournament Fact Sheet**

United States Golf Association U.S. Women's Open July 6 - 12, 2015

Lancaster Country Club (Flynn Course) Lancaster, Pa.

### Golf Course Management Information

GCSAA Class A Director of Golf Course Operations:

Todd Bidlespacher

### Availability to media:

Contact Todd Bidlespacher by phone 717-392-8638; or email toddbidles@comcast.net Education:

> A.S., Turfgrass Management, Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pa., 1994; B.A., Economics, West Virginia University, Morgantown, W.Va., 1990

### Age: 47

Native hometown:

Hershey, Pa.

Years as a GCSAA member: 19 GCSAA affiliated chapter:

Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association

### Years at this course: 12

Number of employees: 40

## Number of tournament volunteers: 80 Previous positions:

1996-2003, Golf Course Superintendent, Kirtland Country Club, Willoughby, Ohio; 1994-1995, Assistant Superintendent, The Country Club, Pike, Ohio; 1992-1993, Assistant Superintendent, Hershey Country Club, Hershey, Pa.

Previous tournament preparation:

1985-1990 Lady Keystone Open, Hershey Country Club, Hersey, Pa.

Previous tournaments hosted by facility: 2014 Western Women Golf Association Championship; 2013 America Junior Golf Association Rolex Championship; 2008 Women's Open Qualifier

### Get to know the superintendent:

Todd is a huge sports and music fan and has completed three Tough Mudder races in the last year.

### How Todd got involved in golf course management:

"Love of the outdoors and began working on [a golf] course during summers home from college, which lead to pursuit of this profession."

### **Course statistics**

Average tee size: 1,500 sq. ft. Tournament Stimpmeter: 11-11.5 ft. Average green size: 6,000 sq. ft. Soil conditions on the course: Clay Green construction soil mix: USGA (sand 85%, peat 15%) Rounds per year: 25,000 Acres of fairway: 25 Source of water: Pond, river, creek Acres of rough: 90 Drainage conditions: Fair Sand bunkers: 60 Water hazards: 6

### **Course characteristics**

	Primary Grasses	Height of Cut
Tees	Bentgrass	0.280"
Fairways	Bentgrass	0.325"
Greens	Bentgrass	0.100"
Rough	Kentucky bluegrass; ryegrass; fescue	3-5"

# Environmental management/features

Lancaster Country Club 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. The Conestoga River dissects Lancaster Country Club.

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

Lancaster Country Club controls water use with less dependency on irrigation heads through hand watering practices and use of moisture meters.

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

Flooding in late July 2014 damaged No. 7 men's tee and several small bridges.

### Unusual wildlife on the course

Eagle

### Predominate species of trees on course:

Oak

### Interesting notes about the course:

Chartered in 1900, Lancaster Country Club is located in south central Pennsylvania. Lancaster is one of Pennsylvania's oldest private clubs.

### Comments overheard about the course:

Many say Lancaster Country Club is a course they can enjoy playing day in and day out, with very interesting topography, variety of contours and strong par 4s.

### Significant changes recently made to the course:

The greens at Lancaster were re-grassed in 2011, with most par 3 tees being rebuilt in the last two years. In the fall of 2013, a new putting green game area was constructed.

Course architect/date: William S. Flynn, 1920

# Other key course management personnel

Mike Yelenosky, GCSAA Member Golf Course Superintendent
Chet Brubaker, GCSAA Member Assistant Superintendent
George Manos, GCSAA Member Assistant Superintendent
Stan Herr, Equipment Manager
Robert Campbell, Club President
Scott Irwin, Club Manager
Jerry Hostetter, Green Committee Chairman
Sandy Mowrer, Horticulturist
Rick Gibson, PGA Professional
Membership, 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 <u>gcsaa.org/newsroom</u> 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: <u>csmith@gcsaa.org</u>

### 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