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## Tournament Fact Sheet

United States Golf Association  
U.S. Amateur Four-Ball  
May 2 - 6, 2015

The Olympic Club (Lake Course)  
San Francisco, Calif.

### Golf Course Management Information

**GCSAA Class A Director of Golf Maintenance Operations:**



Troy P. Flanagan

**Availability to media:**

Contact Troy Flanagan by phone 415-404-4364; cell phone 415-770-2836; or email [tflanagan@olyclub.com](mailto:tflanagan@olyclub.com)

**Twitter:** [@troyturf](https://twitter.com/troyturf)

**Education:**

Certificate, Turfgrass Management, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pa., 1995; B.A., Marketing/Management, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minn., 1991

**Age:** 45

**Native hometown:**

Minneapolis, Minn.

**Years as a GCSAA member:** 21

**GCSAA affiliated chapter:**

Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California

**Years at this course:** 1

**Number of employees:** 50

**Number of tournament volunteers:** 20

**Previous positions:**

2006-2014, Director of Agronomy, Anthem Country Club, Henderson, Nev.; 1998-2006, Golf Course Superintendent, Round Hill Country Club, Alamo, Calif.; 1997-1998, Assistant Superintendent, Cypress Point Club, Pebble Beach, Calif.

**Previous tournament preparation:**

1994 McDonald's LPGA Championship, DePont Country Club, Wilmington, Del.; 1992 U.S. Open, Pebble Beach Golf Links, Pebble Beach, Calif.; 1992 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, Pebble Beach Golf Links, Pebble Beach, Calif.;

**Previous tournaments hosted by facility:**

1955, 1966, 1987, 1998, 2012 U.S. Open Championship; 1958, 1982, 2007 U.S. Amateur Championship; 1993-1994 The Tour Championship

### Course statistics

**Average tee size:** 2,000 sq. ft.

**Tournament Stimpeter:** 11-11.5 ft.

**Average green size:** 4,400 sq. ft.

**Soil conditions on the course:** Sand based

**Green construction soil mix:**

USGA (sand 90%, peat 10%)

**Rounds per year:** 40,000

**Acres of fairway:** 22

**Source of water:** Effluent water

**Acres of rough:** 22

**Drainage conditions:** Excellent

**Sand bunkers:** 62

### Championship ratings

	Yardage	Par	Rating	Slope
Championship	6981	70	n/a	n/a

### Course characteristics

	Primary Grasses	Height of Cut
Tees	Bentgrass; <i>Poa annua</i>	0.400"
Fairways	Bentgrass; ryegrass; <i>Poa annua</i>	0.400"
Greens	Bentgrass	0.100"
Rough	Kentucky bluegrass; ryegrass	3.5"

## Environmental management/features

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

The Olympic Club uses effluent water for irrigation. The water is provided by Daly City and is used on all turf areas throughout the three courses on the property. This highly treated waste water allows The Olympic Club to meet the demands of the golfers, even through periods of drought. The Olympic Club also uses a computerized irrigation system with single-head control.

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

In California, 2014 was the hottest in state history, breaking the old record by over one degree. The early rain season, starting in Oct. 2014, produced large rains, pushing the total rainfall to half of the yearly average with three and a half months to go. Barring heavy rains in April, the golf course should be in outstanding shape for the championship.

### Predominate species of trees on course:

Monterey cypress; Monterey pine

### Interesting notes about the course:

Established on May 6, 1860, The Olympic Club enjoys the distinction of being America's oldest athletic club. Long a west coast powerhouse in amateur sports, the Club is the home of many local, regional, national and international champions.

By 1922, the Club had acquired enough acreage to replace the original golf course with two 18-hole golf courses. Willie Watson and course superintendent Sam Whiting designed the first Lake and Ocean courses in 1924.

Unfortunately, storm damage forced Sam Whiting to redesign both courses again in 1927. The Lake course remained mostly the same,

with minimal renovations in the intervening years.

Prior to the 1955 U.S. Open, the Club brought the USGA's official course architect, Robert Trent Jones Sr., in to toughen the Lake Course for competition.

In 2008/09, the Club completed the Lake Course greens replacement project. Conversion from *Poa annua* to bentgrass greens was the primary objective of the project.

### Significant changes recently made to the course:

All renovations were made prior to the 2012 U.S. Open Championship.

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### Course architect/date:

Willie Watson and Sam Whiting, 1920

### Most recent redesign or renovation/date:

William R. Love, 2009

### Renovation builder/date:

Frontier Golf, 2009

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## Other key course management personnel

Thom Irvin, GCSAA Member Golf Course Superintendent (Lake Course)

Geoff Plovanich, GCSAA Member Golf Course Superintendent (Ocean Course)

Andrew Crawford, GCSAA Member Assistant Superintendent (Lake Course)

Miles Lilja, Assistant Superintendent (Ocean Course)

Kevin Rendueles, Equipment Manager

John M. Mack, Club President

Patrick R. Finlen, CGCS, GCSAA Member Club Manager (former GCSAA president)

Jim Mason, Green Committee Chairman

Chris Stein, PGA Professional

Private, Club Owner

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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