

Ford Championship (LPGA)

Seville Golf and Country Club • Gilbert, Ariz. • March 28-31, 2024

Golf Course Superintendent

Zach Hill, GCSAA

Years as GCSAA Member: 8

Years at Seville: 1

Years as a Superintendent: 1

Previous Courses: Desert Highlands (assistant, 9 years)

Hometown: Gilbert, Ariz.

Education: Penn State University

Professional Tournaments Hosted: This is Hill's 1st pro event to host.

For superintendent contact info, contact Mike Strauss, GCSAA at mstrauss@gcsaa.org or 785-865-8444

Other Key Golf Personnel

Rufino Acosta, Senior Assistant Superintendent

Marco Lopez, Assistant Superintendent

Cesar Barrera, Equipment Manager

Robert Delgado, PGA Professional

Number of Employees: 15

Number of Tournament Volunteers: 6

Did You Know? Zach Hill is a 2nd-generation superintendent (father Peter Hill, CGCS retired). Rufino Acosta has been at Seville since construction in 2000.

Course Architect

Architect (year): Gary Panks (2001)

Tournament Fact Sheets for the PGA TOUR, LPGA, PGA TOUR Champions, Korn Ferry and Epson Tours and USGA and PGA of America championships can be found at: <https://www.gcsaa.org/media/tournament-fact-sheets>

Tournament Set-up

Par: 36-36--72

Yardage: TBD

Stimpmeter: 11.5-12

Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 6,200 sq. ft.

Total Property Acres: 250

Acres of Fairway: 30

Acres of Rough: 50

Number of Sand Bunkers: 32

Number of Water Hazards: 5

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 6

Soil Conditions: Native clay

Water Sources: Reclaimed

Drainage Conditions: Below average

Turfgrass

Greens: TifEagle bermudagrass .100"

Collars: Ryegrass overseed .300"

Approaches: Ryegrass overseed .300"

Tees: Ryegrass overseed .300"

Fairways: Ryegrass overseed .400"

Rough: Tifway 419 bermudagrass 1.5"

Additional Notes

- Maintenance crew had only 135 days from notice of hosting tournament to 1st round.
- Above average temperatures and 3.5" of rain this winter provided great growing conditions for overseed and non-overseed areas.
- Course features an island green (No. 17).
- Property was formerly a citrus tree grove with some of those trees still standing.
- Average fairway widths in landing areas are 35 yards.

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Since 1926 the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (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 20,000 members in more than 78 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and improve communities through enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf.

GCSAA Notes

(LPGA Tour – USA/Canada events only)

2024 Tournaments by State (multiple events)

- 5 – Florida
- 3 – New Jersey
- 2 – California
- 2 – Michigan
- 2 – Ohio

2023 Longest Courses (6,600+)

- 6,824 – Club at Carlton Woods (Chevron Champ)
- 6,765 – Shadow Creek (Bank of Hope)
- 6,690 – Superstition Mountain (LPGA Drive On)
- 6,685 – Columbia Edgewater (Portland Classic)
- 6,685 – Shaughnessy (CPKC Open)
- 6,671 – Liberty National (Mizuho)
- 6,642 – Highland Meadows (Dana Open)
- 6,621 – Baltusrol (KPMG PGA Champ)
- 6,608 – Lake Nona (Hilton Grand Lake)

2023 Shortest Courses

- 6,197 – Seaview Golf Club (ShopRite)
- 6,277 – Midland (Dow Great Lakes)
- 6,349 – Pelican Golf Club (The Annika)
- 6,438 – Pinnacle (Walmart NW Arkansas)

2023 Largest Avg. Greens by sq. ft.

- 8,300 – Baltusrol (KPMG PGA Champ)
- 8,000 – Pelican (The Annika)
- 7,500 – Hoakalei (LOTTE)
- 7,000 – TPC Harding Park (Hanwha)
- 7,000 – Upper Montclair (Cognizant)

2023 Smallest Avg. Greens by sq. ft.

- 3,500 – Pebble Beach (U.S. Open)
- 3,952 – Palos Verdes (Seri Pak LA Open)
- 4,285 – Shaughnessy (CPKC Open)
- 4,500 – Blythefield (Meijer)
- 4,653 – Liberty National (Mizuho)

2023 Courses by Greens Turf Types

- 8 – Poa / bentgrass mix
- 6 – Poa
- 4 – Bentgrass
- 4 – Bermudagrass
- 1 – Paspalum

GCSAA Superintendent Notes

(LPGA Tour – USA/Canada events only)

Longest GCSAA Membership

- 37 – Gregory James, Liberty National (Mizuho)
- 37 – Brian Sullivan, CGCS, MG, Wilshire (JM Eagle LA)
- 33 – Kevin Welp, CGCS, Midland (Dow Great Lakes)
- 31 – Jim Myers, CGCS, Columbia Edgewater (Portland Classic)
- 30 – Scott Krout, Superstition Mountain (Drive On)
- 30 – Terry Kennelly, Pelican Golf Club (The Annika)

Note: Avg. GCSAA membership years for host superintendents is 20.6.

Most Professional Events Hosted (if known)

- 16 – Chase Turpin, Pinnacle (Walmart NW Arkansas)
- 10 – Collin Romanick, Blythefield (Meijer)

Superintendents by Alma Mater (if known)

- 6 – Penn State
- 4 – Michigan State
- 2 – UMass
- 2 – Ohio State