

## Grant Thornton Invitational (PGA TOUR / LPGA)

Tiburon Golf Club (Gold Course) • Naples, Fla. • December 8-10, 2023

### Director of Agronomy

#### Grayson Grainger, GCSAA

Years as GCSAA Member: 19

Years at Tiburon: 3

Years as a Superintendent: 17

Previous Courses: The Clubs at St. James (super)

Hometown: Green Sea, S.C.

Education: Horry-Georgetown Technical College

Professional Tournaments Hosted: Grainger has hosted 10 professional events in his short tenure at Tiburon, including PGA TOUR, LPGA & PGA TOUR Champions.

For superintendent contact info, contact Mike Strauss, GCSAA at [mstrauss@gcsaa.org](mailto:mstrauss@gcsaa.org) or 785-312-5164

### Other Key Golf Personnel

#### Mike Meisenhelter, GCSAA Superintendent

Years as GCSAA Member: 7

Years at Tiburon: 3

Hometown: Massillon, Ohio

Education: Ohio State University

Wes Rowe, Senior Assistant Superintendent

Lee Spotts, Equipment Manager

Ernesto Fajardo, Environmental Tech

Chad Nigro, Director of Golf

Employees: 38 / Tourn. Volunteers: 4

### Course Architect

Architect (year): Greg Norman (1998)

### Twitter

Superintendent - @GraysonGrainger

Course - @TiburonNaples

Tournament - @gtinvtional

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: 7,382 (PGA) / 6,595 (LPGA)

### Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 7,200 sq. ft.

Total Property Acres: 392

Acres of Fairway: 45

Acres of Rough: None

Number of Sand Bunkers: 50

Number of Water Hazards: 15

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 13

Soil Conditions: Sandy

Water Sources: Well

Drainage Conditions: Good

### Turfgrass

Greens: TifEagle bermudagrass .120"

Tees: Celebration bermudagrass .275"

Fairways: Celebration bermudagrass .375"

Rough: None (Coquina shell waste bunkers and natural grasses)

### Additional Notes

- Tiburon hosted the LPGA's CME Group Tour Champ. Nov. 16-19 and will host PGA TOUR Champions Chubb Classic in Feb.
- Course received 4.28" or rain on Wednesday prior to first round of CME and none since then.
- Average fairway widths in landing areas are 50 yards (no rough).
- Area had extreme drought this summer with rain fall 20" below average in record heat. Turf recovery has been a major challenge, particularly in the fairways.
- Course lost more than 350 trees to Hurricane Ian in September 2022.
- Land was formerly a tomato farm and tomato plants will pop up in native areas.
- Irrigation replacement project in 2024.
- Staff member Steve Guarsco is known as the "Director of Divots."

Mike Strauss • Media Relations Manager • (O) 785-312-5164 • (C) 785-865-8444 • [mstrauss@gcsaa.org](mailto:mstrauss@gcsaa.org) • [www.gcsaa.org](http://www.gcsaa.org)

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.