

Sony Open (PGA TOUR)

Waialae Country Club • Honolulu, Hawaii • January 11-14, 2024

Golf Course Superintendent

Dave Nakama, CGCS, GCSAA

Years as GCSAA Member: 19

Years at Course: 23

Years as a Superintendent: 21

Previous Courses: Koolau (superintendent)

Education: University of Hawaii

Professional Tournaments Hosted: This is the 23rd professional event Nakama has hosted.

Course Architect

Architect (year): Seth Raynor (1927)

Renovation Architect (year): Robert Trent Jones,
Desmond Muirhead, Ric Smith, Tom Doak

Twitter

Course - @SonyOpenHawaii

GCSAA - @GCSAA

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: 35-35--70

Yardage: 7,044

Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 7,100 sq. ft.

Acres of Fairway: 50

Acres of Rough: 100

Number of Sand Bunkers: 83

Number of Water Hazards: 4

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 5

Soil Conditions: Various

Water Sources: Well

Drainage Conditions: Fair/Good

Turfgrass

Greens: Bermudagrass

Collars: Bermudagrass

Approaches: Bermudagrass

Tees: Bermudagrass

Fairways: Bermudagrass

Rough: Bermudagrass

Additional Notes

- Waialae Country Club has been the only host of this event since its inception in 1965.

- Hawaii is one of seven states to host multiple PGA TOUR events this year (hosted last week's Sentry).

- Last week's Sentry was played on the 3rd longest tour course (7,596 yards – par 73) and this week's course is the 5th-shortest on tour (7,044 – par 70).

- For the 2nd week in a row the course will feature bermudagrass greens.

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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 (PGA TOUR only)

2024 Tournaments by State (multiple events)

- 5 – California
- 4 – Florida
- 4 – Texas
- 3 – North Carolina
- 2 – Hawaii
- 2 – Georgia
- 2 – South Carolina

2023 Longest Courses (7,500+)

- 7,765 – Torrey Pines (Farmers Insurance)
- 7,670 – Puntacana Resort (Corales Puntacana)
- 7,596 – Plantation Course (Sentry TOC)
- 7,571 – Muirfield Village (the Memorial)
- 7,545 – Augusta National (The Masters)
- 7,538 – Quail Hollow (Wells Fargo)

2023 Shortest Courses

- 6,828 – Port Royal (Butterfield Bermuda)
- 6,852 – TPC River Highlands (Travelers)
- 6,972 – Pebble Beach (AT&T Pebble Beach)
- 7,005 – Sea Island (The RSM Classic)
- 7,044 – Waialae CC (Sony Open)

2023 Largest Avg. Greens by sq. ft.

- 8,722 – Plantation Course (Sentry TOC)
- 8,300 – El Cardonal (World Wide Tech)
- 8,000 – Port Royal (Butterfield Bermuda)
- 7,500 – Riviera (Genesis Inv.)
- 7,500 – Bay Hill (Arnold Palmer)
- 7,400 – TPC Summerlin (Shriners)

2023 Smallest Avg. Greens by sq. ft.

- 3,500 – Pebble Beach (AT&T Pebble Beach)
- 3,700 – Harbour Town (RBC Heritage)
- 4,300 – TPC Southwind (FedEx St. Jude)
- 4,500 – Albany (Hero World Challenge)
- 4,500 – Oak Hill (PGA Championship)
- 5,000 – Torrey Pines (Farmers Insurance)
- 5,000 – Muirfield Village (the Memorial)
- 5,000 – Colonial CC (Charles Schwab)
- 5,000 – TPC River Highlands (Travelers)

2023 Course by Greens Turf Types

- 16 – Bentgrass
- 13 – Bermudagrass
- 11 – Poa
- 2 – Paspalum

GCSAA Superintendent Notes (PGA TOUR only)

Longest GCSAA Membership

- 44 – Stanley Reedy, CGCS (Sanderson)
- 41 – Sam MacKenzie, CGCS (BMW Champ)
- 37 – William B. Owen III (Masters)
- 35 – Roby Robertson, CGCS (Valero Texas)
- 35 – Kevin Welker, CGCS (World Wide Tech)
- 34 – Dale Hahn, CGCS (Shriners)

Note: Avg. GCSAA membership years for host superintendents is 19.5.

Superintendents by Alma Mater (if known)

- 3 – Mississippi State
- 3 – Ohio State
- 3 – Penn State
- 3 – Rutgers
- 2 – University of Guelph (Canada)
- 2 – Michigan State