

THE CJ CUP Byron Nelson (PGA TOUR)

TPC Craig Ranch • McKinney, Texas • May 1-4, 2025

Golf Course Superintendent

Stephen Gross, CGCS, GCSAA

Years as GCSAA Member: 31

Years at TPC Craig Ranch: 9 months

Years as Superintendent: 30

Previous Courses: Invited (regional vice president of agronomy – still holds this position as well)

Hometown: Stow, Ohio

Education: Ohio State University

Professional Tournaments Hosted: This is his 1st professional tournament.

Contact: Mike Strauss: mstrauss@gcsaa.org / 785-865-8444

Other Key Agronomy Personnel

Alex Hindes, assistant superintendent; Carlos DeJesus, equipment manager

Agronomy Employees: 25 / Tournament Volunteers: 20

Course Architect

Tom Weiskopf (2004)

Upcoming Renovation: Lanny Wadkins (summer 2025)

Notable

- The summer renovation will include everything but tees.
- Since last year new irrigation, fairway drainage and tree work was done.
- New Tour tees were added on six holes (5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14).
- Rowlett Creek runs through the property and crosses 14 of the 18 holes.
- High salt content in the well water has affected the ryegrass in poorly draining areas of the golf course.
- TPC Craig Ranch is a certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary.
- At 7,561 yards this is the longest par-71 course so far this year on Tour, as well as the 4th-longest overall of courses played in 2025 (see next page).

Tournament Setup

Par: 36-35--71

Yardage: 7,569

Turfgrass

Greens: Bentgrass .100"

Collars: Ryegrass .300"

Approaches: Ryegrass .350"

Tees: Ryegrass .300"

Fairways: Ryegrass .375"

Rough: Ryegrass 3.25"

Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 6,778 sq. ft.

Total Property Acres: 240

Acres of Fairway: 24

Acres of Rough: 80

Acres of Native Area: 45

Number of Sand Bunkers: 83 (4 acres)

Number of Water Hazards: 4

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 13

Soil Conditions: USGA greens / sand capped fairways

Water Sources: Well / city

Drainage: Good

Average Fairway Widths: 25-28 yards

Links

GCSAA Tournament Fact Sheet Home:

<https://www.gcsaa.org/media/tournament-fact-sheets>

GCSAA Website: <https://www.gcsaa.org/>

GCM (GCSAA Magazine): <https://gcmonline.com/>

Tournament X: @cjbyronnelson

GCSAA X: @GCSAA

(more on next page)

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Tournament Fact Sheet

2025 GCSAA Course and Superintendent Notes For Courses Played to Date (PGA TOUR Only) (Primary Courses Only) (U.S. Courses Only) (This Week's Course in Red)

Tournaments by State

- 4 – Florida / California
- 3 - Texas
- 2 - Hawaii
- 1 – Arizona / 1 – Georgia / 1 – South Carolina / 1 - Louisiana

Yardage (par)

- 7,765 (72) – Torrey Pines South (Farmers Insurance)
- 7,765 (72) – Torrey Pines South (Genesis)
- 7,596 (73) – Kapalua Resort (The Sentry)
- 7,561 (71) – TPC Craig Ranch (CJ CUP Byron Nelson)
- 7,555 (72) – Augusta National (Masters)
- 7,475 (70) – Memorial Park (Texas Children's Hospital)
- 7,466 (72) – Bay Hill Club (Cognizant)
- 7,438 (72) – TPC San Antonio (Valero Texas Open)
- 7,425 (72) – TPC Louisiana (Zurich)
- 7,352 (71) – Innisbrook Resort (Valspar)
- 7,352 (72) – TPC Sawgrass (THE PLAYERS)
- 7,261 (71) – TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)
- 7,213 (71) – Harbour Town (RBC)
- 7,210 (72) – PGA West Pete Dye Stadium (American Express)
- 7,167 (71) – PGA National (Cognizant)
- 7,044 (70) – Waialae (Sony Open)
- 6,972 (72) – Pebble Beach Golf Links (AT&T Pro Am)

Average Green Size (top five)

Largest

- 8,722 – Kapalua Resort (The Sentry)
- 7,500 – Bay Hill Club (Cognizant)
- 7,100 – Waialae (Sony Open)
- 7,069 – TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)
- 7,000 – PGA National (Cognizant)
- 7,000 – PGA West Pete Dye Stadium (American Express)

7,000 – Memorial Park (Texas Children's Hospital)

Smallest

- 3,500 – Pebble Beach Golf Links (AT&T Pro Am)
- 3,700 – Harbour Town (RBC)
- 5,000 – Torrey Pines South (Farmers Insurance)
- 5,000 – Torrey Pines South (Genesis)
- 5,225 – TPC Louisiana (Zurich)

Number of Bunkers (top five)

Most

- 116 – Pebble Beach Golf Links (AT&T Pro Am)
- 106 – TPC Louisiana (Zurich)
- 93 – Kapalua Resort (The Sentry)
- 92 – TPC Sawgrass (THE PLAYERS)
- 90 – PGA West Pete Dye Stadium (American Express)

Fewest

- 21 – Memorial Park (Texas Children's Hospital)
- 44 – Augusta National (Masters)
- 51 – Harbour Town (RBC)
- 64 – TPC San Antonio (Valero Texas Open)
- 65 – PGA National (Cognizant)
- 67 - TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)

Green Turf Type

- 5 – Bermudagrass
- 6 – Poa
- 3 – Poa overseed
- 2 – Bentgrass (other was Augusta National - Masters)
- 1 – Poa / bentgrass / ryegrass overseed

Rough Turf Type

- 11 – Ryegrass
- 3 – Bermudagrass
- 1 – Ryegrass / Poa annua mix
- 1 – Ryegrass / fine fescue overseed
- 1 – Perennial ryegrass / fescue

(more on next page)

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Tournament Fact Sheet

Superintendents Tournaments Hosted (includes 2025)

- 30 – Jeff Plotts, TPC Sawgrass (10th THE PLAYERS)
- 28 – Jonathan Wright, Harbour Town (RBC)
- 24 – Dave Nakama, CGCS, Waialae (Sony Open)
- 17 – Ryan Stewart, Innisbrook (Valspar)
- 17 – Chris Flynn, CGCS, Bay Hill Club (Arnold Palmer)

Superintendents GCSAA Membership Years

- 39 – Brian Sullivan, CGCS, MG, PGA West (AE)
- 37 – Roby Robertson, CGCS, TPC San Antonio (Valero Texas)
- 34 – Ken Einwig, PGA National (Cognizant)
- 31 – Stephen Gross, CGCS, TPC Craig Ranch (THE CJ CUP)
- 31 – Jeff Plotts, TPC Sawgrass (THE PLAYERS)
- 29 – Jonathan Wright, Harbour Town (RBC)

Superintendents Alma Maters

- 2 – Penn State
- 1 – Arizona, Hawaii, Michigan State, Texas Tech, Lake City, SUNY-Cobleskill, Georgia, N.C. State, Kansas State, Purdue, Kentucky, Mississippi State, **Ohio State**

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