



# Tournament Fact Sheet

## The 153<sup>rd</sup> Open Championship (R&A)

Royal Portrush Golf Club • Portrush, County Antrim, No. Ireland • July 17-20, 2025

### Course Manager

#### Graeme Beatt

Years as GCSAA Member: 1

Years at Royal Portrush: 11

Years as Superintendent: 11

Previous Courses: County Silgo GC (manager), Castle Dargan (superintendent)

Hometown: Newport-on Tay, Fife, Scotland

Education: Myerscough College

Professional Tournaments Hosted: This is Beatt's second Open Championship (2019). He also hosted five Dunhill Cups.

Contact: Mike Strauss: [mstrauss@gcsaa.org](mailto:mstrauss@gcsaa.org) / 785-865-8444

### Other Key Agronomy Personnel

Paul Lappin, assistant; Stephen Walker, equipment manager; Chris Calvin, irrigation tech; Bradlie Hunter, senior greenkeeper; Gary McDowell, senior greenkeeper; Gary McNeil, head professional

Agronomy Employees: 30 / Tournament Volunteers: 16

Golf Course Dog: Bella, a beagle

### Course Architect

Harry Colt (1888)

Renovation: Martin Ebert (2015-17, 2022-23)

### Notable

- 2015 renovation included two new holes on Dunluce and changes made to all holes in some form.
- 2023-24 renovations included a new championship tee on Dunluce No. 4 and new front 9 on the Valley links, a new range and new roads.
- Front left portion of No. 1 green adjusted to allow for a pin position. No. 7 green was rebuilt to soften the contours.
- Area had drought in the spring, but regular rainfall thru June.
- Major construction last year to increase hospitality areas (30% more square footage of tents than 2019).
- Course has been GEO Certified since 2014.

- Environmental steps include more than 200 solar panels installed across the site with battery storage, bio diesel used to fuel equipment (approximately 90% less emissions), use of lithium mowers and carts, bio gas and smart heating system to heat clubhouse.

- There are more than 130 different grasses and plants throughout the site with some of them registered as rare to the area.

### Tournament Setup

Par: 36-35—71

Yardage: 7,381

### Turfgrass

Greens: Fescue .157" (4mm)

Collars: Fescue .275" (7mm)

Approaches: Fescue .275" (7mm)

Tees: Fescue .236" (6mm)

Fairways: .315" Fescue (8mm)

Rough: Fescue/bentgrass, indigenous grasses and wildflowers 2" (50mm) – 6' wide

### Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 5,400 sq. ft.

Total Property Acres: 500

Acres of Fairway: 22

Acres of Rough: 9

Number of Sand Bunkers: 57 (80,000 sq. ft.)

Number of Water Hazards: 2 streams

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 2

Soil Conditions: Sand

Water Sources: Wells

Drainage: Natural free-draining sand

High Elevation: 78' (No. 3 tee)

Low Elevation: 23' (No. 7 fairway)

Average Fairway Widths: 27 yards

(more on next page)

**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.



# Tournament Fact Sheet

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

### Tournaments by State

4 – Florida / California / Texas  
2 – Hawaii / South Carolina / Pennsylvania  
1 – Ariz. / Ga. / La. / N.C. / Ohio / Canada / Conn. / Mich. / Ill. /  
Kentucky / **Northern Ireland**

### Yardage (par)

#### Longest (top 10)

7,765 (72) – Torrey Pines South (Farmers Insurance)  
7,765 (72) – Torrey Pines South (Genesis)  
7,626 (71) – Quail Hollow (PGA Championship)  
7,596 (73) – Kapalua Resort (The Sentry)  
7,569 (72) – Muirfield Village (Memorial)  
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)

#### Shortest (top 5)

6,844 (70) – TPC River Highlands (Travelers)  
6,972 (72) – Pebble Beach Golf Links (AT&T Pro Am)  
7,044 (70) – Waialae (Sony Open)  
7,056 (70) – Hurstbourne (ISCO)  
7,119 (70) – Philadelphia Cricket Club (Truist)

### Average Green Size (top five)

#### Largest

8,500 – Oakmont (US Open)  
8,722 – Kapalua Resort (The Sentry)  
7,500 – Bay Hill Club (Cognizant)  
7,100 – Waialae (Sony Open)  
7,069 – TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)

#### Smallest

3,500 – Pebble Beach Golf Links (AT&T Pro Am)  
3,700 – Harbour Town (RBC)  
4,750 – Hurstbourne (ISCO)  
5,000 – TPC River Highlands (Travelers)  
5,000 – Colonial Country Club (Charles Schwab)  
5,000 – Torrey Pines South (Farmers and Genesis)  
5,000 – Muirfield Village (Memorial)

### Number of Bunkers (top five)

#### Most

168 – Oakmont (US Open)  
118 – Philadelphia Cricket Club (Truist)  
116 – Pebble Beach Golf Links (AT&T Pro Am)  
106 – TPC Louisiana (Zurich)  
93 – Kapalua Resort (The Sentry)

#### Fewest

21 – Memorial Park (Texas Children's Hospital)  
44 – Augusta National (Masters)  
48 – TPC Toronto (RBC Canadian)  
51 – Harbour Town (RBC)  
**57 – Royal Portrush (The Open)**

### Green Turf Type

11 – Poa or Poa overseed  
7 – Bentgrass  
6 – Bermudagrass  
3 – Bentgrass / Poa  
1 – Poa / bentgrass / ryegrass  
**1 - Fescue**

### Rough Turf Type

13 – Ryegrass  
6 – Bluegrass and/or bluegrass mixes  
4 – Bermudagrass  
4 – Ryegrass and fescue mixes  
1 – Tall fescue  
**1 – Fescue / bentgrass mix**

**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.



# Tournament Fact Sheet

**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.