



# Tournament Fact Sheet

## The American Express (PGA TOUR)

PGA West (Dye Stadium and Nicklaus Courses) / La Quinta Country Club  
La Quinta, Calif. • January 22-25, 2026

### PGA West Director of Agronomy

**Brian Sullivan, CGCS, MG, GCSAA**

Years as GCSAA Member: 40

Years at PGA West: 3

Years as a Superintendent: 42

Previous Courses: Monarch Beach, Bel Air CC, Wilshire CC

Education: Michigan State (bachelors), Penn State (masters)

Tournaments Hosted: This is Sullivan's 4<sup>th</sup> American Express after hosting 3 LPGA LA Opens, 1 U.S. Amateur and 1 U.S. Senior Amateur

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

### Other Key Agronomy Personnel

**Denver Hart, Resort Courses Superintendent (5<sup>th</sup> AMEX);**

**Kellen Whaley, Jack Nicklaus Course Superintendent;** Marcos Garcia, assistant; Richard Ayala, assistant; Steven Wolkowicz, AIT; Artemio Fierro, equipment manager.

Other courses personnel: Nick Hoisington, superintendent;

Justin Beck, superintendent; Gerry Tarsitano, superintendent;

Cameron Broadhead, superintendent; Jake Miller, assistant.

Other staffers: Luke Kerr, Grace Allen, Andy Solorio, Jerry Rodriguez, Francisco Pascual, Cody Faulkenberry, Aldo Beltran, Saul Beltran, Herman Rodriguez

Agronomy Employees: 55 / Tournament Volunteers: 24

### 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/>

Superintendent X: @pgawestagronomy / @Den\_J\_Hart / @Whaley\_KC

Course X: @PGAWESTGOLF

Tournament X: @theamexgolf

GCSAA X: @GCSAA

### Pete Dye Stadium Course

### PGA West Resort Courses Superintendent

**Denver Hart, GCSAA**

Years as GCSAA Member: 9

Years at PGA West: 5

### Course Architect

Pete Dye (1986)

### Tournament Setup

Par: 36-36—72

Yardage: 7,210

### Turfgrass

Greens: Poa overseed .115"

Collars: Poa overseed .250"

Approaches: Ryegrass overseed .375"

Tees: Ryegrass overseed .375"

Fairways: Ryegrass overseed .375"

Overseeded Rough: 1.5"

Non-overseeded Rough: TifGreen 328 bermudagrass 2"

### Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 7,000 sq. ft.

Acres of Fairway: 30

Acres of Rough: 134

Number of Sand Bunkers: 90+ (6.3 acres)

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 8

Soil Conditions: Native

Water Sources: Canal

Average Fairway Widths: 33.3 yards

(other courses on next page)

GCSAA Conference and Trade Show (Feb. 2-5, 2026):

<https://gcsaaconference.com/>

**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.

## Jack Nicklaus Tournament Course

### Superintendent

**Kellen Whaley, GCSAA**

Years as GCSAA Member: 13

Years at PGA West: 4

### Course Architect

Jack Nicklaus (1987)

Renovation: Fall 2025 featured a greenside and fairway bunker renovation with new sand, liners, and drainage added. There were no new bunkers added or bunkers removed.

### Tournament Setup

Par: 36-36—72

Yardage: 7,147

### Turfgrass

Greens: Poa overseed .115"

Collars: Ryegrass overseed .375"

Approaches: Ryegrass overseed .375"

Tees: Ryegrass overseed .375"

Fairways: Ryegrass overseed .375"

Overseeded Rough: 1.5"

Non-overseeded Rough: TifGreen 328 bermudagrass 2"

### Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 5,500 sq. ft.

Acres of Fairway: 30

Acres of Rough: 116

Number of Sand Bunkers: 90+ (8.8 acres)

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 6

Soil Conditions: Native

Water Sources: Canal

Average Fairway Widths: 33.3 yards

## La Quinta Country Club

### Director of Agronomy

**Tim Putnam, GCSAA**

Years as GCSAA Member: 30

Years at La Quinta: 23

Years as a Superintendent: 25

Previous Courses: Ironwood CC (superintendent)

Hometown: Corvallis, Ore.

Education: Oregon State University

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

### Other Key Agronomy Personnel

Jose Vargas, assistant superintendent; Tom Rodger, assistant superintendent; Manual Tapia, equipment manager; Chris Gilley, GM, COO; Koll Farman, director of golf PGA

Agronomy Employees: 22 / Tournament Volunteers: 4

Golf Course Dog: Ace (duck trolling retriever)

### Course Architect

Lawrence Hughes (1959) / Renovation: Damian Pascuzzo (1999)

### Tournament Setup

Par: 36-36—72

Yardage: 7,060

### Turfgrass

Greens: Poa trivialis / ryegrass overseed .105"

Collars: Poa trivialis / ryegrass overseed .105"

Approaches: Ryegrass overseed .375"

Tees: Ryegrass overseed .375"

Fairways: Ryegrass overseed .400"

Rough: Ryegrass overseed 1.75"

### Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 4,773 sq. ft.

Acres of Fairway: 28

Acres of Rough: 75

Number of Sand Bunkers: 82 (92,000 sq. ft. / 2.13 acres)

Number of Water Hazards: 5 lakes

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 7

Soil Conditions: Fine sand / silt

Water Sources: Colorado River / wells

**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 Season Statistics for PGA TOUR

**36 Courses (main courses only and does not include Puerto Rico Open, Scottish Open or Open Championship)**

Average Yardage – 7,373

Average Green Size – 5,944 sq. ft.

Average Sand Bunkers – 76.8

Average Holes with Water in Play – 7.0

### Greens Turf Type

Poa / Poa overseed – 12; Bentgrass – 9; Bermudagrass – 8

Bentgrass / Poa mix – 4; Paspalum – 2; Ryegrass overseed – 1

### Rough Turf Type

Ryegrass mix / overseed – 14; Bluegrass mix – 10;

Bermudagrass – 8; Paspalum – 2; Fescue – 2

Par 70 Courses – 12

Par 71 Courses – 11

Par 72 Courses – 12

Par 73 Courses – 1

**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.