



Tournament Fact Sheet

Arnold Palmer Invitational (PGA TOUR)

Bay Hill Club and Lodge • Orlando, Fla. • March 5-8, 2026

Director of Grounds

Chris Flynn, CGCS, GCSAA

Years as GCSAA Member: 28

Years at Bay Hill: 12

Years as a Superintendent: 24

Previous Courses: Marriott Grande Vista (director), Links at Spanish Bay (superintendent), Spyglass (assistant), TPC Four Seasons

Education: SUNY Cobleskill

Professional Tournaments Hosted: This is Flynn's 18th pro event (13th Arnold Palmer, 3 AT&Ts and 2 Byron Nelson Classics)

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

Other Key Agronomy Personnel

Alexandera Hills, superintendent; John Owens, senior assistant superintendent; Clayton Julian, assistant superintendent; Pete Clover, equipment manager

Agronomy Employees: 45 / Tournament Volunteers: 20

Golf Course Dogs: Zeke, 11-year-old Brittany spaniel and Lucy, 2-year-old Maltese

Course Architect

Dick Wilson (1961) / Renovation: Arnold Palmer (2009)

Notable

- Ahead of the 2025 tournament, the Beach Bunker at No. 17 green was removed and turned into a grass bank.
- Arnold Palmer was the first recipient of GCSAA's Old Tom Morris Award in 1983 for a continuing lifetime commitment to the game of golf.
- Palmer's father Deacon and younger brother Jerry were both golf course superintendents at Latrobe (Pa.) Country Club.
- Arnold Palmer quote – "The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and all golf course superintendents are probably the most important entity that we have in golf... The conditions and the golf course's beauty, the environment, the wetlands, everything depends on their perseverance and their knowledge and the work they do to maintain the golf courses."

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Tournament Setup

Par: 36-26--72

Yardage: 7,466

Turfgrass

Greens: TifEagle bermudagrass .110"

Collars: Celebration bermudagrass .225"

Approaches: Perennial ryegrass overseed .350"

Tees: Perennial ryegrass overseed .350"

Fairways: Perennial ryegrass overseed .350"

Rough: Perennial ryegrass overseed 3"

Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 7,500 sq. ft.

Total Property Acres: 250

Acres of Fairway: 31

Acres of Rough: 100

Number of Sand Bunkers: 84 (4 acres)

Number of Water Hazards: 8

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 9

Soil Conditions: Sandy loam

Water Sources: Reclaimed

Drainage: Minimal issues

Average Fairway Widths: 30 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://gconline.com/>

Superintendent X: @The_CFlynn

Course X: @APBayHill

Tournament X: @APInv

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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 21,000 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.



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2026 GCSAA Course and Superintendent Notes For Courses Played (PGA TOUR Only)

(This Week's Course in Red)

2026 Season Averages

Courses Played to Date (9 tournaments, includes this week)

Average Yardage – 7,316

Average Green Size – 6,463 sq. ft.

Average Sand Bunkers – 77.3

Average Holes with Water in Play – 6.5

Tournaments by State

4 – California

2 - Florida

1 – Hawaii / Arizona / Puerto Rico

Yardage (par)

7,765 (72) – Torrey Pines (Farmers Insurance)

7,506 (72) – Grand Reserve (Puerto Rico Open)

7,466 (72) – Bay Hill (Arnold Palmer)

7,383 (71) – Riviera (The Genesis)

7,261 (71) – TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)

7,223 (71) – PGA National (Cognizant Classic)

7,210 (72) – PGA West (The American Express)

7,044 (70) – Waialae CC (Sony Open)

6,989 (72) – Pebble Beach (AT&T Pro Am)

Average Green Size

7,500 – Bay Hill (Arnold Palmer)

7,500 – Riviera (The Genesis)

7,100 – Waialae CC (Sony Open)

7,069 – TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)

7,000 – PGA National (Cognizant Classic)

7,000 – PGA West (The American Express)

6,500 – Grand Reserve (Puerto Rico)

5,000 – Torrey Pines (Farmers Insurance)

3,500 – Pebble Beach (AT&T Pro Am)

Number of Bunkers

116 – Pebble Beach (AT&T Pro Am)

90+ – PGA West (The American Express)

84 – Bay Hill (Arnold Palmer)

83 – Waialae CC (Sony Open)

82 – Torrey Pines (Farmers Insurance)

67 – TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)

60 – PGA National (Cognizant Classic)

58 – Riviera (The Genesis)

56 – Grand Reserve (Puerto Rico Open)

Green Turf Type

5 – Poa annua

3 - Bermudagrass (Arnold Palmer)

1 – Paspalum (Puerto Rico)

Rough Turf Type

5 – Ryegrass overseed (Arnold Palmer)

1 – Bermudagrass

1 – Fine Fescue

1 – Kikuyu

1 – Paspalum (Puerto Rico)

Superintendents Tournaments Hosted (includes 2025)

25 – Dave Nakama, CGCS, Waialae CC (Sony Open)

16 – Chris Flynn, CGCS, Bay Hill (Arnold Palmer)

15 – Brandon Reese, TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)

15 – Marshall Dick, Riviera (The Genesis)

14 – Keith Einwag, CGCS, PGA National (Cognizant Classic)

12 – Jason Matos, Grand Reserve (Puerto Rico)

7 – Brian Sullivan, CGCS, MG, PGA West (American Express)

5 – Devin Cullen, Torrey Pines (Farmers Insurance)

5 – Pete Bachman, CGCS, Pebble Beach (AT&T Pro Am)

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Superintendents GCSAA Membership Years

- 40 – Brian Sullivan, CGCS, MG, PGA West (American Express)
- 35 – Keith Einwag, CGCS, PGA National (Cognizant Classic)
- 28 – Chris Flynn, CGCS, Bay Hill (Arnold Palmer)
- 21 – Dave Nakama, CGCS, Waialae CC (Sony Open)
- 18 – Pete Bachman, CGCS, Pebble Beach (AT&T Pro Am)
- 14 – Devin Cullen, Torrey Pines (Farmers Insurance)
- 6 – Marshall Dick, Riviera (The Genesis)

Superintendents Alma Maters

- 3 – Penn State
- 1 - Hawaii / Texas Tech / Lake City College / SUNY Cobleskill

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

- Par 70 Courses – 12
- Par 71 Courses – 11
- Par 72 Courses – 12
- Par 73 Courses – 1

Bay Hill Rankings in 2025

- 13th longest yardage
- 4th largest greens (behind Kapalua, Oakmont and Vidanta Vallarta)
- 11th most sand bunkers
- T10th most holes with water in play

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