

## Blessings Collegiate Invitational (NCAA)

Blessings Golf Club • Fayetteville, Ark. • October 2-4, 2023

### Director of Agronomy

#### Shawn Westacott, GCSAA

Years as GCSAA Member: 23

Years at Blessings: 2nd

Years as a Superintendent: 23

Previous Courses: Maridoe (superintendent)

Hometown: Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Education: University of Southern Mississippi

*For superintendent contact info, contact Mike Strauss,  
GCSAA at [mstrauss@gcsaa.org](mailto:mstrauss@gcsaa.org) or 785-312-5164*

### Other Key Golf Personnel

Victor Najera, Assistant Superintendent

Cain Castille, Assistant in Training

Drew O'Brien, Equipment Manager

Justin Sellin, PGA Professional

Number of Employees:

Number of Tournament Volunteers: 20

### Course Architect

Architect (year): Robert Trent Jones Jr. (2004)

Renovation Architect (year): Kyle Phillips (2017)

### Twitter

Superintendent - @grassprowesty

Tournament - @BlessingCI

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: Men – 72 / Women – 73

Yardage: Men – 7,501 / Women 6,400  
(unofficial)

### Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 5,675 sq. ft.

Acres of Fairway: 60

Acres of Rough: 10

Number of Sand Bunkers: 65

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 12  
(mainly Clear Creek running through  
the property)

Soil Conditions: Imported sand cap fairways  
and USGA greens

Water Sources: Runoff, Clear Creek

Drainage Conditions: Very good

### Turfgrass

Greens: A1/A4 creeping bentgrass .110"

Tees: Cavalier zoysiagrass .425"

Fairways: Cavalier zoysiagrass .425"

Rough: Fescue 3"

### Additional Notes

- There was approximately 5 acres of winter kill damage to the zoysia grass that was repaired this year. Many courses in this region dealt with the same issues.

- Course plays through the Clear Creek floodplain and rises 65 feet through ravines.

- Director of Agronomy Shawn Westacott won the 2016 GCSAA National Golf Championship at Torrey Pines South and has multiple top-10 finishes in the annual event., including 7 of the last 8 years.

**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 19,000 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.