

PGA WORKS Collegiate Championship (PGA of America)

Whistling Straits (Straits and Irish Courses) • Kohler, Wisc. • May 5-7, 2025

Director of Golf Course Maintenance

Chris Zugel, CGCS, GCSAA

Years as GCSAA Member: 27

Years at Whistling Straits: 20

Years as Superintendent: 18

Previous Courses: Eagle Trace (asst), Blackwolf Run (asst), Whistling Straits (asst), Milwaukee Brewers (grounds manager), Whistling Straits – Straits (super)

Hometown: Atlanta, Ga.

Education: Colorado State University

Professional Tournaments Hosted: Zugel has been involved in one U.S. Senior Open (2007), two PGA Championships (2010, 15) and the 2021 Ryder Cup.

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

Other Key Agronomy Personnel

Brandon Schegetz, GCSAA, Straits superintendent

AJ Gutierrez, Straits assistant

Kyle Froh, Straits assistant

Bryce Ketterhagen, Straits irrigation tech

Grant Davey, GCSAA, Irish superintendent

Jim Leibham, Irish assistant

Jackson Holzheimer, Irish assistant

Casey Blindauer, projects supervisor

Clifford Henning, equipment manager

Mike O'Reilly, PGA professional

Agronomy Employees: 42 / Tournament Volunteers: 0

Golf Course Dogs: Marta, 4-year-old Aussiedoodle and Bogey, 2-year-old labradoodle

Notable

- Land previously served as an Army / Air Force base.
- A flock of Scottish Blackface sheep roam the property as might be encountered on a country course in the British Isles.
- The Straits Course has hosted three PGA Championships (2004, 10, 15, the U.S. Senior Open (2007) and the Ryder Cup (2021).

Straits Course Information

Course Architect

Pete Dye, ASGCA (1998)

Tournament Setup

Par: 36-36—72

Yardage: Men: 6,838 / Women: 5,797

Turfgrass

Greens: Creeping bentgrass .100"

Tees: Creeping bentgrass .312"

Fairways: Fescue/creeping bentgrass/Poa annua .400"

Rough: Fine fescue 2.5-4"

Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 7,000 sq. ft.

Acres of Fairway: 23

Acres of Rough: 200-plus

Number of Sand Bunkers: A lot

Number of Water Hazards: 3

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 1

Soil Conditions: Mixed

Water Sources: Well

Drainage: Good

High Elevation: 679' (left of Irish 11)

Low Elevation: 596' (Straits 18 tee)

Average Fairway Widths: 50 yards

(Irish Course on next page)

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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 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.

Irish Course Information

Course Architect

Pete Dye, ASGCA (2000)

Tournament Setup

Par: 36-36—72

Yardage: Men: 6,804 / Women: 5,804

Turfgrass

Greens: Creeping bentgrass .130"

Tees: Creeping bentgrass .312"

Fairways: Creeping bentgrass .400"

Rough: Fine fescue 2.5-4"

Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 8,900 sq. ft.

Acres of Fairway: 25

Acres of Rough: 200-plus

Number of Sand Bunkers: 347

Number of Water Hazards: 7

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 10

Soil Conditions: Mixed

Water Sources: Well

Drainage: Good

High Elevation: 679' (left of Irish 11)

Low Elevation: 596' (Straits 18 tee)

Average Fairway Widths: 50 yards

(Straits Course on previous page)

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: @czugel

Course X: @GolfKohler

Tournament X: @PGAWORKS

GCSAA X: @GCSAA