

## United States Adaptive Open (USGA)

Sand Creek Station • Newton, Kan. • July 8-10, 2024

### Golf Course Superintendent

#### James Houchen, GCSAA

Years as GCSAA Member: 24

Years at Sand Creek Station: 19

Years as a Superintendent: 19

Previous Courses: Shoal Creek (Mo.) (assistant)

Hometown: Clinton, Mo.

Education: Kansas State University

Tournaments Hosted: Houchen has hosted 1 U.S. Am.

Public Links, 2 Kansas State Amateurs, 3 NJCAA Nat'l

Championships, 10 Wichita Open Qualifiers and 4

Summit League Championships.

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

### Other Key Golf Personnel

David Winter, Assistant Superintendent

Cody Faris, Equipment Manager

Josh Akers, PGA Professional

Number of Employees: 10

Number of Tournament Volunteers: 15

### Course Architect

Architect (year): Jeff Brauer (2006)

*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: 72

Yardage: Blue-6,499, White-5,987,

Red-4,898, Purple-4,398, Yellow-3,812

### Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 6,000 sq. ft.

Total Property Acres: 150

Acres of Fairway: 28

Acres of Rough: 50

Number of Sand Bunkers: 58

Number of Water Hazards: 11

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 10

Soil Conditions: Greens and Tees – sand,

Fairways – clay loam

Water Sources: Effluent

Drainage Conditions: Well

### Turfgrass

Greens: Bentgrass .125"

Collars: Bentgrass .250"

Approaches: Bentgrass .375"

Tees: Bentgrass .375"

Fairways: Bentgrass .450"

Rough: Tall fescue 2"

### Additional Notes

- Newton is an old railroad town and the course has a railroad theme and railroad tracks split the front and back nines.
- The 16<sup>th</sup> green is modeled from the famed road hole at St. Andrews.
- Some bunker edges were lowered to accommodate seated players.
- Course is a Certified Audubon Sanctuary and has added natural areas, bird houses, buffer strips along water, etc...
- Wildlife on course include deer, turkey, bald eagle, raccoon and rabbit.

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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.