



Tournament Fact Sheet

LECOM Suncoast Classic (Korn Ferry Tour)

Lakewood National • Lakewood Ranch, Fla. • April 2-5, 2026

Golf Course Superintendent

Joel Ehrhart, GCSAA

Years as GCSAA Member: 14

Years at Lakewood National: 3

Years as a Superintendent: 13

Previous Courses: The Oaks Club (superintendent); Coral Creek (superintendent), Plantation (superintendent), Sarasota National (superintendent)

Hometown: Pittsburgh, Pa.

Education: Edison State College

Professional Tournaments Hosted: This is Ehrhart's 4th Korn Ferry event after previously hosting LPGA A-School

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Other Key Agronomy Personnel

Max Rudder, assistant superintendent; Pedro Velasco, assistant superintendent; Ryan Green, equipment manager; Stewart McComb, PGA professional

Agronomy Employees: 36 for both courses and grounds

Tournament Volunteers: 15

Golf Course Dog: Phoebe, 2-year-old golden retriever

Course Architect

Brandon Johnson, ASGCA (2017)

Notable

- The nines are flipped for the tournament.
- The tournament is being held about two weeks earlier than usual and the area is coming out of the coldest winter since 2010.
- There were 12 days with frost this winter.
- In addition to the cold winter, there has been an extreme drought with only 4" or rain since October.
- The course does not close leading up to the tournament and in fact the men's member-guest event takes place during advance week.
- This summer work on the course will include drainage installation and fairway topdressing.

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- In 2024 there was a forced bunker renovation due to Tropical Storm Debbie. The renovation was completed from October through December that year.
- The property used to be a sod farm before a developer converted it into a golf course.
- Ehrhart is a past president of the Suncoast Superintendents Association of GCSAA.

Tournament Setup

Par: 36-35--71

Yardage: 7,133

Turfgrass

Greens: TifEagle bermudagrass .110"

Collars: TifGrand bermudagrass .210"

Approaches: TifGrand / Celebration bermuda .210"

Tees: Celebration bermudagrass .250"

Fairways: Celebration bermudagrass .325"

Rough: Celebration bermudagrass 2"

Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 8,200 sq. ft.

Acres of Fairway: 45

Acres of Rough: 55

Number of Sand Bunkers: 57 (100,000 sq. ft.)

Number of Water Hazards: 21

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 14

Soil Conditions: 3% silt

Water Sources: Effluent

Drainage: Good

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: @EhrhartJoel

GCSAA X: @GCSAA

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.