

U.S. Amateur (USGA)

Cherry Hills Country Club • Cherry Hills Village, Colo. • Aug. 14-20, 2023

Director of Agronomy

Josh Hester, GCSAA

Phone: 303-350-5253

Email: jhester@chcc.com

Years as GCSAA Member: 18

Years at Cherry Hills: 13 total since 2003.

Years as a Superintendent: 7

Previous Courses: Meridian Golf Club (super)

Hometown: Kremmling, Colo.

Education: Colorado State University

Professional Tournaments Hosted: Josh was part of the 2005 U.S. Women's Open and 2014 BMW Champ.

Other Key Golf Personnel

Eric Hill, Superintendent

Brogan Meyers, Assistant Superintendent

David Robinson, Equipment Manager

Andrew Shuck, PGA Professional

Number of Employees: 45

Number of Tournament Volunteers: 30

Golf Course Dog: Ash, a Catahoula/Collie mix

Course Architect

Architect (year): William Flynn (1922)

Renovation Architect (year): Renaissance Golf Design (Tom Doak and Eric Iverson) (2022)

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: 35-36--71

Yardage: 7,364

Stimpmeter: 12

Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 5,000 sq. ft.

Total Property Acres: 180

Acres of Fairway: 34

Acres of Rough: 112

Number of Sand Bunkers: 59

Number of Water Hazards: 3

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 14

There are 4 holes with ponds/lakes and 10 holes with creeks.

Soil Conditions: Clay loam to clay

Water Sources: Ditch, creek, wells

Drainage Conditions: Natural

Turfgrass

Greens: Poa .120"

Collars: Poa / bentgrass .225"

Approaches: Poa / bentgrass .225"

Tees: Poa / bentgrass .225"

Fairways: Rye / blue / Poa / bent .425"

Rough: Ryegrass / bluegrass 4-7"

Additional Notes

• Hester started at the course as an intern in 2003. After a stint as the superintendent at Meridian Golf Club he returned as director of agronomy in 2019.

• Hester says the 100-year-old course still has the original grass.

more on next pages

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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 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.

- Renovation included a creek restoration in 2022, green restorations to original designs, bunker renovation, No. 8 redesign, tree reduction from 3,000 to less than 1,000 trees on championship course.
- Green restorations on 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16 and 17.
- There are new tee areas on holes 5, 8, 9, 12, 14, 15 and 16.
- Bunker improvements on 8 and 15.
- Bunker removal on 14, 15 and 16.
- Winter weather caused a lot of damage to the course. Hester said, “there was not an area of our course that did not experience some level of turf loss.”. He said it will take the entire season to get back to 100 percent. No. 17 fairway suffered 80% loss.
- Course flooded three times early in the season with more than 20 inches of rain through July.
- Wildlife on the course includes eagles, owls, hawks, coyotes, deer, wild turkey, racoons, fox, bullfrogs, snapping turtles.
- Cherry Hills has hosted 14 previous championships, including two previous U.S. Amateur championships (1990 and 2012).
- The last event Cherry Hills hosted was the 2014 BMW Championship (FedEx Playoff).

Information on tournament co-host Colorado Golf Club is on next page.

U.S. Amateur (USGA)

Colorado Golf Club • Parker, Colo. • August 12-15, 2023

Head Greenskeeper

Steve Eller, GCSAA

Email: seller@coloradogolfclub.com

Years as GCSAA Member: 20

Years at Colorado Golf Club: 9

Years as a Superintendent: 15

Previous Courses: Cherry Creek CC (super), Castle Pines (asst)

Hometown: Great Bend, Kan.

Education: Kansas State University, Colorado State Univ.

Professional Tournaments Hosted: Eller was part of 13 Internationals (PGA TOUR) at Castle Pines, as well as hosting the 2019 US Mid-Amateur

Other Key Golf Personnel

Tauge Rux and Dana Tarantelli, Superintendents

Joe Bratten, Assistant Superintendent

Martin Chavez, Equipment Manager

James Cowie, Assistant in Training

Becky Bowles, Horticulturist

Graham Cliff, PGA Professional

Number of Employees: 25

Number of Tournament Volunteers: 5

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

Course Architect

Architect (year): Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw (2007)

Twitter

Superintendent - @CGCturfmaint

GCSAA - @GCSAA

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Tournament Set-up

Par: 36-36—72

Yardage: 7,560

Stimpmeter: 12-plus

Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 6,200 sq. ft.

Total Property Acres: 250

Acres of Fairway: 45

Acres of Rough: 9

Number of Sand Bunkers: 109

Number of Water Hazards: 1

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 4

Soil Conditions: Loamy clay

Water Sources: Well

Drainage Conditions: Good

Turfgrass

Greens: Bentgrass / *Poa annua* .120"

Collars: Bentgrass / *Poa annua* .300"

Approaches: Ky. blue/perennial rye .325"

Tees: Kentucky blue / perennial rye .325"

Fairways: Ky. bluegrass/perennial rye .450"

Rough: Kentucky blue/perennial rye 3"

Additional Notes

- Course has seen record-setting precipitation in May and June which has resulted in the native grasses growing tall and thick. Missing the maintained areas will be extremely penal.

- Course is working with the Denver Botanical Garden on a study regarding native wildflowers.

- Wildlife on the course includes mule deer, antelope, coyote, racoon, bobcat, porcupine, turkey, redtail hawk, bald eagle, migrating ducks, bull snakes.

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