

Jason Tharp, CGCS

CERTIFIED GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT

Strategic Planning | Exceptional Communicator | Agronomic Excellence

CREATE WORLD-CLASS CONDITIONS WHILE PRESENTING AN APPROACHABLE,
PROFESSIONAL IMAGE FOR THE CLUB'S MEMBERSHIP

- Passionate Director of Agronomy who is dedicated to creating exceptional membership experiences through combining world-class aesthetics with excellent playing conditions.
- Talented and highly-motivated professional with progressive achievement at highly rated private clubs, leading golf course maintenance operations, strategic planning, agronomics, and financial management.
- Engaging and respected leader gifted at building positive relationships with all levels of club operations, promoting a cohesive and well-informed team environment with precise communications.
- Extensive championship golf experience ranging from multiple PGA TOUR Championships at East Lake Golf Club, The PGA Championship at Southern Hills, The Walker Cup at Seminole Golf Club, and The Augusta National Women's Amateur.
- Excelled in managing Tif-Eagle and Celebration Bermuda grasses in Florida and South Georgia, delivering championship course conditions on a daily basis.
- Accomplished at preparing, managing, and executing expertly-detailed course maintenance operations, including leading the agronomy department for multiple PGA TOUR Championships at East Lake Golf Club.
- A professional who is deeply passionate about the game of golf and loves playing the game with friends, colleagues, and club members.

Professional Experience

GLEN ARVEN COUNTRY CLUB, THOMASVILLE, GA | NOVEMBER 2018 – PRESENT

GENERAL MANAGER, DIRECTOR OF AGRONOMY 2021-PRESENT
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT 2018-2021

Private 18-hole exclusive country club serving 628 members and families. Historically significant golf course originally founded in 1892, featuring MiniVerde Bermudagrass greens, Celebration Bermudagrass fairways, tees and rough areas.

Transformed an underachieving facility to a world class golfing experience through sound interpersonal, agronomic, and business leadership; resulting in outstanding golf course conditioning, and unsurpassed membership satisfaction. Utilizing strategies learned from numerous books, mentorship via best-in-industry leaders, and rigorous agronomic standards our team produced better than ever conditioning.

- Utilized exceptional communication skillset to engage the Green's Committee in the transformation process, earning the Board Of Director's confidence to lead the club as General Manager.
- Engaged existing employees in the present workplace culture, enlisting their value in the process of transforming the culture from troublesome to sought after.
- Exercised extensive organizational skills in combination with comprehensive agronomic knowledge to create an agronomic program which maximized budgeted resources to produce excellent course conditioning.
- Provided club-wide leadership through initiating and cultivating interdepartmental communication, greatly reducing operational conflicts while stimulating collaboration and teamwork between departments.

LA GORCE COUNTRY CLUB, MIAMI BEACH, FL | FEBRUARY 2017 – NOVEMBER 2018

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT

Private 18-hole exclusive country club serving 650 members and families. Golf course received \$11.5m renovation in 2016 by Nicklaus Design Group, featuring TifEagle Bermuda greens, Celebration Bermudagrass fairways, tees and rough areas.

Championed the development of a first class golf maintenance operation through establishing, communicating, and upholding high standards, hiring talented individuals, and working with the club leadership team to create the best possible experience for members and their guests.

111 MANSFIELD PLACE, THOMASVILLE, GA 31757

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- Applied sound agronomic planning, and utilized the development of the maintenance team to provide the best green, tee, and fairway conditions that the club has ever enjoyed.
- Utilized a friendly and professional persona to engage relationships and develop tremendously positive rapport throughout the membership; enjoyed multiple golf trips coordinated by members.
- First time in the club's history, initiated and established Standards of Maintenance and an agronomic program to formalize and establish high golf course standards of playability and aesthetics as an important component of creating a long term, strategic plan for maintenance in coordination with the Green Committee and membership.
- Produced a labor survey that totaled the amount of labor hours needed to maintain the golf course and objectively determine the correct amount of labor needed to maintain the golf course at the given standards.
- Oversaw the golf course's emergency preparation and cleanup operations during hurricane Irma in September of 2017. Cleaned up 200 downed trees, 3,000 cubic yards of debris and opened the golf course ten days after the hurricane.

EAST LAKE GOLF CLUB, ATLANTA, GA | APRIL 2014 – FEBRUARY 2017

FIRST ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Private 18-hole facility, restored in 1994 by Rees Jones, featuring MiniVerde Bermuda greens, Meyer Zoysia fairways, and Bermuda tees and rough; serving as the permanent home of the PGA Tour Championship.

Lead preparation and execution of annual PGA TOUR Championships, each year recognized by PGA TOUR officials, PGA TOUR players, and Superintendent for unprecedented course conditions.

- Excelled in proactive communication with PGA TOUR and East Lake Golf Club department leaders resulting in enjoyable, highly-effective professional relationships.
- Employed sound leadership and communication skills to manage hiring and success of 25+ staff; approach has improved employee satisfaction and productivity. Also created/updated job descriptions to increase clarity and efficiency.
- Drastically improved fairway conditioning by leading efforts to deliver quality turf over two different soil types; knowledgeably revised maintenance programs and cultural practices which resulted in overall success.
- Learned, evaluated, and advanced East Lake's method of maintaining elite quality Mini-Verde Bermuda grass putting greens through implementation of various surface perfection brushes, identification and correction of nutrient imbalances, and advancement of watering practices, all resulting in healthier turf and elevated putting quality.
- Create detailed course maintenance plans on weekly and monthly basis, tailoring maintenance practices to produce optimum course conditioning by taking into account golf and agronomic calendars.
- Provided project management support to Superintendent throughout extensive renovation of greens, tees, fairways, and bunkers to ensure highest quality of work performed in accordance with architectural desires of Rees Jones, East Lake Golf Club, and PGA TOUR.
- Successfully tripled volunteer numbers over three years while leading TOUR Championship volunteer program, attracting volunteers from all over North America and Europe; growth drastically increased capabilities to produce some of the best conditions on tour.

DRUID HILLS GOLF CLUB, ATLANTA, GA | FEBRUARY 2013 – MARCH 2014

FIRST ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

ATLANTA COUNTRY CLUB, MARIETTA, GA | JANUARY 2011 – FEBRUARY 2013

SECOND ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Education & Certifications

ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN TURFGRASS MANAGEMENT | PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

COMMERCIAL PESTICIDE APPLICATORS LICENSE | STATES OF GEORGIA AND FLORIDA

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Affiliations & Honors

2021 FINALIST EMERGING LEADER AWARD

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

2018 SYNGENTA BUSINESS INSTITUTE

Intensive led by Wake Forest MBA professors,
curated golf business education.

2015 GEORGIA ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR

Georgia Golf Course Superintendent's Association

2016 GREEN START ACADEMY

Leadership focused academy, awarded annually to top 50 Assistant
Superintendents.

GEORGIA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION, BOARD MEMBER

- 2015 Assistant Superintendent of the Year
- 2016 Assistant Superintendent Liaison to Board of Directors and
Co-Chair of Assistant Superintendent Committee
- 2021 Appointed to Board of Directors

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (GCSAA) - CLASS A MEMBER

- 2021 Appointed to Centennial Committee, engaged in the planning
of the GCSAA's 100th anniversary. Committee includes four
GCSAA Past Presidents in addition to premier industry leaders.

Tournament Experience

THE AUGUSTA NATIONAL WOMEN'S AMATEUR AT AUGUSTA NATIONAL GOLF CLUB

2021, 2022, 2023 Greens Preparation Team

PGA CHAMPIONSHIP AT SOUTHERN HILLS COUNTRY CLUB IN TULSA, OK

2022 Fairway Preparation Team

SENIOR PGA CHAMPIONSHIP AT SOUTHERN HILLS COUNTRY CLUB IN TULSA, OK

2021 Fairway Preparation Team

USGA WALKER CUP AT SEMINOLE GOLF CLUB IN JUNO BEACH, FL

2021 Fairway, Bunkers, Greens Preparation

THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP AT TPC SAWGRASS IN PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL

2016 Agronomy Volunteer

PGA TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP AT EAST LAKE GOLF CLUB IN ATLANTA GA

2011– 2020, 2014 – 2016 Lead Assistant

ST. JUDE CHAMPIONSHIP AT TPC SOUTHWIND IN MEMPHIS, TN

2010 Volunteer

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