

## Dow Championship (LPGA)

Midland Country Club • Midland, Mich. • June 27-30, 2024

### Golf Course Superintendent

**Kevin Welp, CGCS, GCSAA**

Years as GCSAA Member: 34

Years at Midland: 7

Years as a Superintendent: 32

Previous Courses: Muskegon CC (super, 20 years),  
Detroit Golf Club (super 5.5 years)

Hometown: East Dubuque, Ill.

Education: Michigan State University

Professional Tournaments Hosted: This is Welp's 5<sup>th</sup> Dow.

For superintendent contact info, contact Mike Strauss,

GCSAA at [mstrauss@gcsaa.org](mailto:mstrauss@gcsaa.org) or 785-865-8444

### Other Key Golf Personnel

Rod Dutton, Assistant Superintendent

Ian Moxey, Assistant Superintendent

Shaena Reder, Horticulturist

Matthew Schnettler, Equipment Manager

Raymond Davis, Project Manager

Zach Lupo, Crew Foreman

Number of Employees: 24 / Tourn Volunteers: 10

Golf Course Dogs: Jack (black lab), Ruby (red lab)

### Course Architect

Architect (year): Gilbert A. Currie (1928)

Renovation Architect (year): Larry Packard (1970), Jerry

Matthews (1990), Craig Schreiner (2018), George

Dillon (2021)

### X

Tournament - @DowGLBI

GCSAA - @GCSAA

*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: 35-35—70

Yardage: 6,277 (unofficial)

Stimpmeter: 11.5

### Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 5,200 sq. ft.

Total Property Acres: 127

Acres of Fairway: 22

Acres of Rough: 40

Number of Sand Bunkers: 41

Number of Water Hazards: 2 ponds, 1 creek

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 10

Soil Conditions: Clay

Water Sources: City water

### Turfgrass

Greens: Poa annua / bentgrass .105"

Collars: Poa annua / bentgrass .400"

Tees: Bentgrass .400"

Fairways: Poa annua / Poa trivialis .450"

Rough: Poa annua / Poa pratensis 2.75"

### Additional Notes

- Cool wet spring and earlier tournament date (last year was July 19-22) made for a shorter preparation window.
- The George Dillon-designed short game practice complex has grown in and is in full use.
- Welp says the clay soil is so good you can make pottery out of it.
- Welp's 34 years of GCSAA membership is the 2<sup>nd</sup> longest tenure of superintendents hosting LPGA tournaments (see list on next pages).
- Welp is an avid outdoorsman and grew up wanting to be a cowboy.

(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 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.

## GCSAA Notes (LPGA U.S. Courses Only)

**2024 Notable For Courses Played**  
(thru PGA Championship, June 30)  
*(does not include international courses)*  
*(this week's course in red)*

### 2024 Courses Played by Yardage

6,889 – The Club at Carlton Woods (Chevron)  
6,765 – Shadow Creek (T-Mobile Match)  
6,731 – Sahalee (PGA Championship)  
6,677 – Liberty National (Mizhuo)  
6,608 – Lake Nona (Hilton Grand Vacations)  
6,583 – Lancaster CC (US Women's Open)  
6,557 – Bradenton CC (LPGA Drive On)  
6,556 – Blythefield (Meijer)  
6,536 – Upper Montclair (Cognizant Founders)  
6,534 – Seville G&CC (Ford Champ)  
6,447 – JM Eagle LA Open (Wilshire)  
**6,277 – Midland CC (Dow)**  
6,258 – Palos Verdes (Fir Hills Seri Pak)  
6,197 – Seaview (ShopRite)

### 2024 Avg. Greens by sq. ft. Played

7,000 – Upper Montclair (Cognizant Founders)  
6,800 – The Club at Carlton Woods (Chevron)  
6,200 – Seville G&CC (Ford Champ)  
6,100 – Lancaster CC (US Women's Open)  
6,000 – Sahalee (PGA Championship)  
6,000 – Seaview (ShopRite)  
5,900 – Lake Nona (Hilton Grand Vacations)  
5,800 – Bradenton CC (LPGA Drive On)  
5,500 – Shadow Creek (T-Mobile Match)  
**5,200 – Midland CC (Dow)**  
5,000 – JM Eagle LA Open (Wilshire)  
4,653 – Liberty National (Mizhuo)  
4,500 – Blythefield (Meijer)  
3,952 – Palos Verdes (Fir Hills Seri Pak)

### 2024 Courses by Greens Turf Type Played

3 – Bermudagrass (Drive On, Ford Champ, Chevron)  
3 – Bentgrass (T-Mobile Match Play, Mizhuo, USWO)  
**5 – Poa / bentgrass mix** (Fir Hills Seri Pak, Cognizant Founders, ShopRite, Meijer, Dow)  
3 – Poa (Hilton Grand Vacations, JM Eagle, PGA Championship)

### 2024 Tournaments by State Played So Far

3 – New Jersey  
2 – Florida  
2 – California  
**2 – Michigan** (Meijer, Dow)  
1 – Arizona  
1 – Nevada  
1 – Texas  
1 – Pennsylvania  
1 – Washington

### All 2024 Tournaments by State (multiple events only)

5 – Florida  
3 – New Jersey  
2 – California  
2 – Ohio  
**2 – Michigan** (Meijer, Dow)

(more on next page)

## GCSAA Notes

(LPGA Tour – USA/Canada events only)

### 2023 Full Year

*(this week's course in red)*

#### 2023 Longest Courses (6,600+)

6,824 – Club at Carlton Woods (Chevron Champ)  
6,765 – Shadow Creek (Bank of Hope)  
6,690 – Superstition Mountain (LPGA Drive On)  
6,685 – Columbia Edgewater (Portland Classic)  
6,685 – Shaughnessy (CPKC Open)  
6,671 – Liberty National (Mizuho)  
6,642 – Highland Meadows (Dana Open)  
6,621 – Baltusrol (KPMG PGA Champ)  
6,608 – Lake Nona (Hilton Grand Lake)

#### 2023 Shortest Courses

6,197 – Seaview Golf Club (ShopRite)  
**6,277 – Midland (Dow Great Lakes)**  
6,349 – Pelican Golf Club (The Annika)  
6,438 – Pinnacle (Walmart NW Arkansas)

#### 2023 Largest Avg. Greens by sq. ft.

8,300 – Baltusrol (KPMG PGA Champ)  
8,000 – Pelican (The Annika)  
7,500 – Hoakalei (LOTTE)  
7,000 – TPC Harding Park (Hanwha)  
7,000 – Upper Montclair (Cognizant)

#### 2023 Smallest Avg. Greens by sq. ft.

3,500 – Pebble Beach (U.S. Open)  
3,952 – Palos Verdes (Seri Pak LA Open)  
4,285 – Shaughnessy (CPKC Open)  
4,500 – Blythefield (Meijer)  
4,653 – Liberty National (Mizuho)

#### 2023 Courses by Greens Turf Types

**8 – Poa / bentgrass mix**

6 – Poa  
4 – Bentgrass  
4 – Bermudagrass  
1 – Paspalum

## GCSAA Superintendent Notes

(LPGA Tour – USA/Canada events only)

### Longest GCSAA Membership

38 – Gregory James, Liberty National (Mizuho)  
**34 – Kevin Welp, CGCS, Midland (Dow Great Lakes)**  
31 – Jim Myers, CGCS, Columbia Edgewater (Portland Classic)  
30 – Scott Krout, Superstition Mountain (Drive On)  
30 – Terry Kennelly, Pelican Golf Club (The Annika)

*Note: Avg. GCSAA membership years for host superintendents is 20.6.*

### Most Professional Events Hosted (if known)

17 – Chase Turpin, Pinnacle (Walmart NW Arkansas)  
11 – Collin Romanick, Blythefield (Meijer)

### Superintendents by Alma Mater (if known)

6 – Penn State  
**4 – Michigan State**  
2 – UMass  
2 – Ohio State