

STEPHEN T. STORTZ

Professional Summary

Experienced superintendent with a distinguished career spanning numerous years in the management of high-end courses, driven by a relentless commitment to surpassing members' expectations on a daily basis. A passionate advocate for innovation in constructing and maintaining premier golf courses, consistently seeking cutting-edge solutions to elevate standards. Demonstrates exceptional attention to detail and possesses adept critical thinking skills, coupled with a genuine passion for the game of golf. Recognized for adeptness in team building and fostering a robust organizational culture, resulting in employee retention and sustained long-term success.

Industry Expertise

- Club A Superintendent providing exceptional course conditions daily.
- Experience at two Top 100 golf clubs (Calusa Pines and TPC Sawgrass)
- Achieved a ranking of #142 at West Bay Club in Golf Week's Top 200 Residential Courses
- Managing a 2+ million-dollar budget
- Ability to effectively communicate and lead a Spanish speaking staff
- Certified in Florida Best Management Practices
- Certified Pesticide Applicator in Florida
- Experience with various Bermudagrass Cultivars and associated cultural practices ('Bimini', 'Latitude 36', 'TifEagle', 'Tifway 419', 'TifSport', 'Mini-Verde', 'Champion', 'Celebration', and 'Platinum' Paspalum)
- Irrigation skills (Rain Bird Nimbus II and Toro OSMAC)
- Construction projects (Complete greens and bunker renovation, No-Till 'Champion' greens renovation, 'Celebration' grow-in on tees, fairways, and approaches, Tee Reconstruction, and irrigation renovation.

Experience

West Bay Club, Estero FL
September 2020-Present
Head Golf Course Superintendent

Course Designed by: Pete & P.B. Dye
Course Renovation: Jason Straka 2018

- Accountable to deliver a premier golf experience for members and guests on a daily basis.
- Oversee the overall maintenance, operation and management of the golf course and grounds including construction, renovation, personnel management, equipment repairs and maintenance, wildlife and habitat management, purchasing, budgeting and all record keeping associated with the golf course

- Course is currently ranked #142 in Golf Week's Top 200 Residential Clubs
- Manage a staff of 20+ and budget of over 2 million.
- Restored all greens surfaces back to tournament conditioning.
- Tee renovation project in summer of 2022 to eliminate contamination, reshape and realign the tee boxes, as well as enlarge several teeing grounds on the course.
- Construction of a new putting green, nursery green, and sod nursery

Shadow Wood Country Club, Bonita Springs, FL

March 2016 – September 2020

Golf Course Superintendent (South Course)

Course Designed by: Bob Cupp (1998)

Course Renovation: Rees Jones 2018

- Directly lead a total total department staff size of over 60 employees
- Successfully completed a 7-million-dollar renovation on the North and South Golf courses (re-designed by Rees Jones)
- Worked closely with Glase Golf Construction and Rees Jones Design on the North and South Course renovation project of 'Tif-Eagle' greens and new bunkers with Bunker Solution Liner

Palm Beach Country Club, Palm Beach, FL

March 2013 – 2016

1st Assistant Course Superintendent

Course Re-designed by: Brian Silva (2010)

- Directly lead 20+ person crew year round
- Intensive planning and scheduling of all maintenance practices and duties to provide elite playing conditions for members on a daily basis
- Involved with the record-keeping process of both fertilizer and pesticide applications.
- Responsible for the development of 2nd Assistant and Interns
- Worked closely with MacCurrach Golf Construction on the reshaping and complete reconstruction of 2 greens and green surrounds (Holes 10 and 13)
- Assisted the superintendent in the planning and scheduling of all fertilizer and chemical applications
- Experience with the operation and maintenance of a Reverse Osmosis system
- Oversaw the operation, repair, and additions to the irrigation system (RainBird Nimbus II)
- Gained familiarity with the operation, installation, and repair of turf siphon drainage
Palm

Palm Beach Country Club, Palm Beach, FL

March 2011 – 2013

2nd Assistant Course Superintendent

- Performed the majority of the mixing, loading, and spraying of all chemical and fertilizer applications to the golf course and common grounds
- 'Champion' No-Till greens renovation
- Experience managing a crew of 20+ employees

Calusa Pines Golf Club, Naples, FL

September 2010 – March 2011

Assistant-in-Training

Course Designers: Dr. Michael Hurdzan, Dana Fry (2001)

- Gained familiarity with Toro OSMAC and SitePro irrigation system.
- Conducted safety meetings for 25+ employees.

- Assisted in calibrating, mixing, and applying fertilizers and pesticides (liquid and granular).
- Participated in irrigation operation, installation, and repair (Toro OSMAC)

**TPC @ Sawgrass Stadium Course, Ponte Vedra, FL
January 2010 – August 2010**

Intern

Course Designers: Pete Dye, Alice Dye (1980)

- Integral part of the 2010 PLAYERS Championship
- Agronomic preparations, team organization, green surface repairs (sodding and plugging), fertilization applications, walk-mowed greens during tournament week
- Organized all equipment each morning and evening during tournament
- Ultra-Dwarf Bermudagrass experience (Mini-Verde)

Education

University of Florida
Bachelor of Science Degree: Golf and Sports Turf Management (2010)
Minor: Business Administration

Polk State College
Associate of Arts Degree (2007)

Professional Affiliations

Golf Course Superintendents of America Class A (GCSAA):
Member since 2009
Florida Turfgrass Association (FTGA): Member since 2009
