



# GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT PROFILE

## SPRING LAKE COUNTRY CLUB

### SPRING LAKE, MICHIGAN

#### **The Club and Community**

Spring Lake Country Club takes great pride in its family friendly atmosphere and welcoming membership. The club offers a magnificent 18-hole golf course nestled between the shores of Spring Lake and sprawling acres of forest. A meld of formal and informal dining options, a Youth Activities Center with complementary supervision during dining hours, two outdoor pools, tennis and paddle tennis courts, an exercise facility, boat dock and much more create a home away from home that is unmatched in West Michigan.

The Club is located in Spring Lake Township in Northwest Ottawa County. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county leads the state in percentage, growing 10.1% from 2010 to 2018. The area boasts many opportunities that attract new people, including excellent schools and parks, low crime rates, great health care, and an affordable cost of living. The area of Grand Haven, Spring Lake and Ferrysburg offers miles of beautiful waters, beach access and a great selection of restaurants, shops, entertainment and accommodations.

The Spring Lake Country Club was established in 1911 by William Savidge (1863-1916). Thomas Bendelow, a pioneer golf architect nicknamed the “Johnny Appleseed of American Golf Design” drafted the golf course. The Clubhouse, built in 1926, has been continually updated to meet the changing needs of club members. Remodeling projects – on both the clubhouse and golf course – have been a constant over its history to address structural problems, replace outmoded equipment and expand in areas that would attract new members and be beneficial to the membership.

Today the club remains a special place where friends and families enjoy leisure time activities. The diverse facilities inspire opportunities to provide active social programming year-round. Always striving to strike equilibrium between positive change and tradition, the Club’s mission is: To Provide a Sanctuary to Enrich Lives.

#### **Golf Course Overview**

At Spring Lake Country Club our golf course is our most valuable asset. As mentioned above Tom Bendelow was the architect of the course that opened in 1911. SLCC has a traditional private club layout that features large mature trees with four sets of tees that range from 6614-5032 yards. Over the years there have been some golf course changes and updates, most recently the irrigation system in was replaced in 2015. The club is also working towards a complete bunker renovation and cart path update in the near future. SLCC is a member friendly course and known for its impeccable conditions, along with some of the best greens in the state.

Along with the golf course there is a wonderful practice area that includes a large range tee, short game area and putting green. SLCC golf course features Poa/Bent playing surfaces and is open nearly 8 months a year depending on Mother Nature. The club hosts 8-10 outside golf events, along

with a busy member golf schedule. SLCC plays roughly 17-18K rounds per season. The majority of the golf events are from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

## **Golf Course Superintendent Position Description**

The Golf Course Superintendent (GCS) at Spring Lake Country Club is responsible for all phases of Golf Course Maintenance and Agronomic operations. The GCS is expected to provide the members exceptional golf course conditioning.

The GCS should be passionate about turf grass management and engaged in ongoing education to stay on the forefront of industry trends, research and technology. Additionally, the GCS must be a proven leader with a history of success in team building and development and have a natural eye of details.

The GCS will be encouraged to engage and build relationships with the membership and share their love for the game of golf.

*Spring Lake Country Club's staff mission statement is to "Maintain a culture that is fun and upbeat, focused on excellence and member satisfaction, and holds one another accountable to those standards".*

## **Initial Priorities of the Golf Course Superintendent**

- Gain immediate familiarity with the property, staff, club policies and procedures.
- Establish practices that improve communications with staff and work on building trust with your new team.
- Considering the annual budget, review year-to-date turf maintenance practices and establish turf maintenance plan for 2020 season.

## **Organizational Structure**

Spring Lake Country Club operates under the General Manager/Chief Operating Officer organizational structure. The GCS reports directly to the General Manager and works closely with the Greens Committee Chair. In peak season, a total of 22 staff members made up the golf course maintenance team this past year.

## **Candidate Qualifications**

The successful candidate is/has:

- *A strong and passionate leader in the turf management industry with a proven track record of providing exceptional golf course conditions with a positive personality that is engaging and genuine.*
- Strong agronomic skills-stays current with advances in turf technology and equipment
- A proven track record and successful experience with poa/bent USGA greens.
- Experience with the challenges with turf issues in the Midwest climate (snow mold, snow removal, off season irrigation)
- Proven experience managing and maintaining irrigation systems, preferably with Rainbird
- Project experience, specifically experience with bunker renovation would be ideal
- High energy and is a focused leader
- Strong observational and problem-solving skills, detail oriented

- Strong budget management and forecasting skills
- Strong relationship builder with a history of excellent relations with their Golf Professional and General Manager
- Excellent communication skills with both club members and team members
- Experience with seasonal workforces and resort communities
- A golfer/student of the game with a sound understanding of ideal playing conditions
- Experience mentoring team members
- Experience developing capital equipment replacement plans

## **Educational Qualifications**

A degree in turf management or related field of study is required. GCSAA Certification is preferred. A valid driver's license is required.

## **Salary and benefits**

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The club offers an excellent performance bonus and benefit package along with typical GCSAA benefits.

## **Spring Lake Country Club by the Numbers**

- 450 members in all categories
- \$5.0M in total operating revenue
- Main Clubhouse, Pool Clubhouse and Halfway House
- Club open year round
- 17,500 rounds of golf per year
- 57 average age of membership

## **GM Profile**

Kevin Green, CCM, was hired at Spring Lake Country Club in 1996 as the Dining Room Manager and became General Manager in 2001. He is a past president of the Michigan Club Manager's Association and is still an active member.

Mr. Green is passionate about the Club and has built a solid reputation on leading successful club operations and mentoring and developing talented associates and managers.

## **To Apply for this Position**

Interested candidates should submit a resume and a thoughtful, detailed cover letter describing their alignment with the qualifications outlined in this profile and the reason for their interest in the Golf Course Superintendent's position at Spring Lake Country Club.

Resumes should be sent to the General Manager, Kevin Green at [kevin@springlakecc.com](mailto:kevin@springlakecc.com).