



GEO Certified®

GEO Certified® Report

TPC Southwind

Prepared by independent verifier Eddie D. Seagle, Ed. D.

Certified by GEO Foundation: 2025
Recertification due: 2028

“TPC Southwind in Memphis, TN USA is truly a testament to environmental stewardship and sustainable practices throughout the golf course property, incorporating elements such as drought tolerant grasses, sustainable irrigation practices, strategic programs to promote golfing awareness, and implementing various initiatives to help combat plastic wastes and environmental protection. The golf course maintenance team exhibits professionalism and supports being responsible for creating and maintaining a better environment on and around the golf course. And the entire club team demonstrates professionalism, cooperation, effective communication skills, and an obvious passion for the environment, their profession, the club, the members, the community and their colleagues. Long-tenured staff is indicative of the level of dedication and respect of each employee for the golf course and the environment.

I look forward to seeing continued and expanded successes throughout the facility with energy conservation; habitat renewal, encouragement, protection and signage; and expanded use of collegiate internships and university test plots on site.”

*Eddie D. Seagle, Ed. D.
(GEO accredited independent verifier)*



Introduction

GEO Foundation is pleased to confirm that TPC Southwind has successfully achieved GEO Certified® status for its outstanding work to foster nature, conserve resources and support the community.

GEO Certified® is the most respected certification for golf, based on a credibly and transparently developed modern sustainability Standard of best practice.

TPC Southwind has:

1. Met the required certification criteria for sustainable golf operations
2. Successfully completed the official third-party verification process
3. Successfully passed the final evaluation by GEO Certification Ltd. (autonomous subsidiary of GEO Foundation)

GEO agreed with the conclusions of the official verification report, that, having achieved all mandatory criteria; and with specific Continual Improvement Points (CIP) set for the future and Critical CIP's (CCIPs) to be reviewed at recertification, TPC Southwind should be awarded GEO Certified® status.

For the certification period stated above, TPC Southwind can therefore claim a position as a leader in advancing sustainability in golf – making important contributions in protecting nature, conserving resources and strengthening communities.

The GEO Certified® Report that follows comments on the actions undertaken against the criteria, as observed by the independent verifier during the assurance process.

Certification is nearly always the result of a dedicated team effort resulting in many practical and valuable social and environmental results around the golf course, maintenance facility and clubhouse. These dedication and leadership qualities are an important part of ensuring the resilience of the golf facility and the golf industry into the future and also as part of society's wider effort to pull together for people and planet.

We congratulate all involved.

Jonathan Smith
Founder and Executive Director, GEO Foundation
GEO Certification Ltd. Board Member

Kelli Jerome
Executive Director, GEO Foundation

Carole Kerrey
Director, Data and Reporting, GEO
Certification Ltd.



Verification and Certification

Verification

The official third-party audit was carried out by an independent verifier, accredited by GEO to undertake verifications of golf facilities applying for certification.

Verification involves reviewing practices and data, using the International Voluntary Standard for Sustainable Golf Operations as the guide to ensure comprehensive and consistent evaluation of performance. A detailed verification report is submitted for evaluation by GEO Certification Ltd, a subsidiary of GEO Foundation.

Certification

GEO Certification Ltd, an autonomous subsidiary of GEO Foundation [both not-for-profit entities], undertook a full review of all content submitted through the OnCourse® online platform and the report submitted by the verifier, ensuring:

- Comprehensiveness – that activities undertaken touched on all elements of the Standard
- Consistency – that the verification approach was balanced, well weighted and with consistent depth of evaluation across each theme
- Accuracy - matching the verification report with evidence submitted by the golf facility to ensure statements and claims were accurate

GEO Foundation is an international not-for-profit founded to advocate, support and reward sustainability in and through golf. Over more than ten years, the group has worked collaboratively with dozens of golf industry associations and government and non-government organisations around the world, to help golf become a sustainability leader, striving for a net positive social and environmental impact. In addition to managing and assuring GEO Certified®, GEO Foundation also provides a suite of credible, practical programmes for golf facility management, new golf developments and golf tournaments called OnCourse®, often delivered in partnership with national golf bodies. Find out more at www.sustainable.golf

Credibility

GEO Certified® is part of the ISEAL Alliance, a group of the world's foremost credible certification systems including Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance, Forest Stewardship Council, Marine Stewardship Council and many others. GEO Foundation earned and retains full membership of the ISEAL Alliance global association following a rigorous evaluation against the ISEAL Codes of Credibility in Sustainability Standards and Certification. The ISEAL Codes cover standard-setting, assurance, and monitoring and evaluation. Find out more at www.isealliance.org



Verifier's Report

The Sustainability Agenda for golf covers the following themes and action areas:

THEMES	ACTION AREAS
Nature	• Habitats & Biodiversity • Turfgrass management • Pollution prevention
Resources	• Water • Energy • Materials
Community	• Partnerships & Outreach • Golfing & Employment • Advocacy & Communications

Included below are the observations made by the Independent Verifier against each item in the Standard.

NATURE			
N1 Habitats and Biodiversity			
Objectives	Requirements	Mandatory Practices	Verifier Notes
N1.1 Understand the site and surroundings	N1.1.1 Sound understanding of the nature and landscape value of the site	Map all habitats and vegetation types on the site; Regularly update landscape / biodiversity surveys	TPC Southwind engages with various organizations on the site's nature and landscape value, including the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), Tournament Players Club (TPC) Management Team, Professional Golfers' Association of America (PGA

				of America) agronomist, University of Tennessee (Knoxville), Tennessee Golf Course Superintendents Association, Memphis Area GCSA, and Audubon International (Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program). CIP: Please expand interaction and activities with the University of Tennessee's Turfgrass Science and Management program within the Herbert School of Agriculture's Plant Sciences. Native grasses which are encouraged and maintained include fine fescue blend, reseeded with turf-type tall fescue and bluegrass mixture serving as a nurse crop for the fine fescue. There are 20 acres of native areas which serve to frame areas on the course rather than being focal points and attraction devices. CIP: Please explore ways to give fine fescue areas more density in spring and early summer, rather than using herbicides. CIP: Please do not mow natives in the summer. Foxtail, little barley and nutsedge are enemies in the natives (competition).
		N1.1.2 Knowledge of legal designations for protected areas, habitats and species	Understand legal responsibilities for protected landscapes and species; Record and monitor protected, endangered, or rare species found on the site	TPC Southwind is very aware of their responsibilities for environmental stewardship and implements necessary plans and needed procedures to maintain an appropriate environment for such. Course management continues to excel in the protection, conservation, and naturalization of the landscape. TPC Southwind is promoting naturalized areas that help support a variety of wildlife. Specific areas on site are natural habitat for wildlife supporting biodiversity. CIP: Please expand the identification of native areas by placing labels and signs throughout each site to highlight areas of environmental interest and biodiversity for educational purposes for members, golfers, students and groups using the course. Wildlife biodiversity include coyotes, foxes, white-tail deer, grey squirrel, bats, turtles, beavers (come upstream from south direction but not a current issue), muskrats (in the lake banks, burrows are an issue), and moles (are an issue, physical control, no chemicals). Domestic cats (Poncho and Lefty) help with pest control around the maintenance facility. And birds include migratory ducks, Canada geese, killdeer birds, eastern bluebird, robins, northern cardinals, morning doves, heron, red-headed woodpeckers, hawks and crow.

			Two dogs at maintenance (Millie, 12 y/o border collie, and Honey, 7 y/o golden retriever) assist with geese management. TPC Southwind partners with Diane Callahan (local garden club member) and Tennessee Bluebird Society (Collierville, TN) in promoting bluebird and other native cavity-nesting bird conservation. They also develop public awareness, educational programs, and workshops, and encourage and aid in the development of nestbox trails and collecting data for research. They also provide social opportunities for members to share information and experiences relating to bluebirds, birding, conservation, and related topics. Twelve new bird houses are located on the course and six wood duck boxes (not seeing much activity here as yet). Bat houses are in the plans. Bird houses are installed and monitored (seasonally) by Callahan, the garden club and Tennessee Bluebird Society. All bird activities are monitored, including surveying the eggs, hatching, etc. TPC Southwind expresses interest in establishing bee colonies on-site and is looking to partner with someone or a group in these efforts. CIP: Please continue the bluebird project partnership with Tennessee Bluebird Society, maintaining houses in a manner conducive to increased bluebird populations. Please also initiate efforts to promote Monarch butterfly communities. CIP: Please continue plans to develop and install bat houses (6) around the course. CIP: With the vast area reserved for tournament preparation activities, please consider introducing honeybee colonies to support pollinators and develop honey. This honey could be used at the club restaurant and made available to annual pass members, etc. Outsourcing the honey to make honey whiskey could be another interesting option.
	N1.1.3 Understanding and respect for cultural heritage	Protect any archaeological, historical or cultural designations on the site	There are no cultural, historical, or archaeological designations at the site. However, two grain silos and a windmill have been preserved from the original dairy farm. They serve as conversation pieces, as well as a means to curb appeal in non-playing areas of the golf course. Also, TPC Southwind is planning to have tee markers custom-made as a replica of the grain silos for use on the golf course (when the FedEx trucks are not being used). CIP: Please continue to upgrade the grain silos and windmill so as to preserve them. These offer a glimpse of years gone by as golfers enjoy their game on any given day.

N1.2 Opportunities to naturalise the course	N1.2.1 Measures taken to identify and minimise the required area of managed turfgrass	Observe, track and / or monitor golfer play	The total land area is 220 Acres including 200 Acres for turf (3.25 Acres greens, 4 Acres tees, 18 Acres fairways, and 12 Acres in practice area including professional tees on one end and regular tees on the other end), 150 Acres of Tifway (Tifton 419) rough, 18+ Acres of native areas, waste area and 7 lakes, and 3 Acres of bunkers (90). In addition to the total land area, another adjacent 40 Acres is reserved for and used by the FedEx St. Jude tournament preparation team. Water flows smoothly from west to east and north to south throughout property with creeks connecting the lakes. The flow direction ultimately converges and exits property in a north to south direction. This varies approximately 75 ft throughout property. Water exists on 11 holes of the golf course. Buffer zone is 6-10 ft between turf and lakes and streams.
N1.3 Actively manage habitats for wildlife	N1.3.1 Projects to manage habitats in the best way for wildlife and golf	Regularly review and follow a habitat management plan; Prioritise native species when planting and landscaping	TPC Southwind plans to continue to develop, enhance, maintain, protect and conserve essential habitats on and around the golf course for biodiversity.
N1.4 Conserve key species	N1.4.1 Practical conservation measures for priority species		There are several noteworthy conservation projects which are: Great care has been taken to incorporate the rough, native and waste areas into the course design, creating a compelling, strategically diverse, and strikingly beautiful playing field for golfers of all skills, as well as visitors and classes seeking to observe the habitats. Creating and restoring habitats for deer, hawks, turtle, bats and bluebirds. Natural area preservation and improvement throughout site. Native areas provide numerous benefits, including wildlife habitat, reduced maintenance costs, and water conservation. Minimal chemicals, irrigation water, and cart traffic are used in these areas. Cores collected from aerification process are used as a topdressing around trees throughout the course, etc. Greens mix removed during recent renovation was recycled and re-purposed throughout golf course (hundreds of tons). Capture precipitation (rain) and restore ponds, then used in irrigation (this is a large watershed that has become most useful for the golf course and environment).

			Course maintains a buffer zone (6-10 feet) around ponds and creeks, mowed at 3 in. The Tournament Service Area (TSA) is a dedicated parcel of property on site that is utilized for all things tournament (40 Acres, in addition to earlier listed acreages). Area used for parking, tournament office trailer and rules officials, etc. Also, train containers used for tournament storage. Copper lightning rods are installed for storm protection on specimen trees (10) around the course. Plans are to add protection to 10 more specimen trees (mostly oaks). Tree services are contracted to a tree company. Engaged in discussion at present time to accomplish these goals. CIP: Please expand the use of copper lightning rods to include additional specimen trees needing storm protection as a means of continued environmental preservation and curb appeal.
N2 Turfgrass			
N2.1 Maintain optimum turf and soil health	N2.1.1 Appropriate turfgrass varieties adapted to climatic and other geomorphological factors	Select appropriate grass species for climate	Established in 1988, the TPC Southwind was renovated in 2004 (resurfaced greens), 2019-2024 (second renovation, fairways), and 2020 (re-do bunkers with sand from Columbus, GA USA – BB202). In said renovation, there was no sand cap procedure employed. Instead, used a blend of 6 in depth using 2 parts sand and 1 part soil. Sand source was local (Memphis area) using concrete sand (coarse) and mason sand (fine) for topdressing. Variable depth greens as per Dr. Trey Rogers at Michigan State University which provides consistency in speed, growth, drainage and playability. Greens mix from Cambden County, TN USA (Golf Agronomics – Vulcan pit) which is a medical grade sand (byproduct from sifting). Medical grade sand refers to specially-processed, ultra-pure silica or quartz sands, cleaned and sifted for special uses like sand tray therapy (sensory/psychology), medical device filtration, or as non-absorbent filler for X-ray/MRI positioning bags. The greens sands were sifted from this process, thus medical grade sands. Recycled old greens mix was the sand source for the tees mix during renovation. Thus, the tees renovation was simultaneously scheduled with the greens redo. The course now features TifEagle bermudagrass greens mowed at 0.085-0.090 in. in summer and 0.110 in winter (not overseeded, use pigments for color plus iron in winter), Tahoma bermudagrass on the tees

			mowed at 0.300 to 0.400 in, Zeon zoysia on the fairways mowed at 0.400 in, Tifway (Tifton 419) bermudagrass plus native grasses (turf-type tall fescue and fine fescues) in the rough mowed at 2.75 in. Greens are covered with greens covers from November to March on an as needed basis for winter protection. Pigments are used on greens during winter season. And fairways and tees are painted for winter definition. Also, 0.5 oz Primo is applied to greens every two weeks to help maintain turf density. Turf nursery located back of practice area for greens, green surrounds and fairways, as needed for repairs. Do not have a Tahoma bermudagrass tee nursery at present time since this grass is readily available at low height of cut from a local turf farm. The microclimate on the golf course favours these selections of grasses for better sustainability and effective stewardship. Maintained to PGA standards, the course is complemented by an impressive 12 Acre practice facility featuring a regular tee for daily golfers on one end and a professional tee for the pro golfers on the opposite end. These tees are 2 Acres in size. This facility is the largest such facility in the Memphis area, featuring 25 hitting bays and a dedicated short game area with putting and pitching/chipping greens complete with practice bunkers. Also, a three-tier 350-yard practice area with target greens and a 10,000 sq ft putting green. There are periodic inspections from the TPC's regional agronomist concerning management, condition and maintenance of the playing quality of the golf course. This agronomist comes in at tour time for two weeks, and additional visits (3-4) throughout the year.
	N2.1.2 Practices to maintain good soil structure and condition		Annual soil testing is accomplished using a TFR 350-unit, soil moisture is checked twice per day and soil temperature is checked regularly. Soil salinity is not checked regularly (but have capability to check with current meters). Practices to maintain good soil structure include topdressing (greens-weekly, and tees-monthly) and aerification. Core aerification is practiced on greens (three times per year in spring with ¼ in core, early summer in Jun-Jul with ½ in core, and late summer with ¼ in core), tees (once per year with 5/8 in core), and fairways (two times per year with 5/8 in core).
	N2.1.3 Careful and responsible fertiliser application throughout	Undertake soil tests and nutrient analysis	Fertilization program based upon soil testing. Core samples are taken once per year on the greens. Practice foliar fertilization program weekly during growing season at 1/10 rate, and monthly granular application

	the year to avoid over-fertilisation		containing gypsum. Bi-weekly applications in the off-season (winter) using pigments, iron and micronutrients. University of Tennessee (UT-K) has conducted experimentation trial plots at TPC Southwind on control of Poa annual (annual bluegrass) since 2023, and is on-going. CIP: Please expand test trials on the golf course by UT-K research professors as an agronomic/turfgrass benefit, as well as maintaining current networking modules. TPC Southwind follows and implements the TPC agronomic consultancy recommendations and university research findings.
N2.2 Prioritise mechanical maintenance	N2.2.1 Non-chemical pest, disease and weed management	Sharpen mowing blades; Remove surface moisture; Hand weeding	Cultural practices to maintain plant health and playing quality with minimal chemical use including regular blade sharpening, aeration, occasional rolling and sand topdressing, Reel grinding and bed knife checks on regular basis. Mowers inspected regularly as a preventive maintenance measure. Tournament bedknives are in play on the greens and mowing equipment receives daily attention on sharpening and grinding as needed.
N2.3 Use chemicals responsibly	N2.3.1 Application of chemicals only when necessary to prevent or cure defined / identified turf health issues	Establish patterns and levels of risk for pests and diseases; Scout the course daily for early signs of pests and disease; Accurate pest and disease identification; Map and track pest and disease hotspots; Establish pest and disease thresholds	Daily scouting of the course is practiced to identify and monitor pest pressure to effectively manage pests and diseases, as well as addressing any environmental concerns. There is daily machinery washing to a set management plan to prevent and/or minimize pests and diseases. There are daily and weekly practices employed to keep the bay area clean and environmentally-friendly.
	N2.3.2 Application of chemicals with full safety precautions	Use only legally registered and approved products; Ensure staff are fully qualified and licenced to use pesticides; Regularly calibrate and test applicators; Use appropriate protective equipment; Dilute and dispose of leftover product on untreated areas of turf .	Pesticides are selected and applied based on products specific to weed, insect and disease identification and toxicity rating. Staff are qualified and trained to use pesticides (Tennessee Department of Agriculture Pesticides Section) Pesticide Licensing, Training and Registration), IPM techniques and spot treatment. All chemical applications require two signatures as a system of checks and balances by the golf course superintendent and assistant golf course superintendent/spray technician. PlayBooks for Golf program used for chemical management (pesticides and fertilizers) for compliance of chemical and fertilizer planning and tracking. Save on labor and simplicity in technology. Proper signage is posted throughout chemical area.

			Also, PULA (Pesticide Use Limitation Areas) Bulletins are accessed and utilized. PULA Bulletins and Playbooks refer to the U.S. EPA's system for enforcing pesticide use restrictions to protect endangered species. The developmental life cycle/state of the disease, insect or weed, legal requirements, bird breeding and insect pollinators are further considerations in pesticide application and management. Chemical labels and Material Data Safety Sheets (MSDS) are readily available, as well as QR code availability for referencing. Applicator equipment is regularly calibrated and tested. Residual product(s) are diluted and properly disposed.
N3 Pollution Prevention			
N3.1 Prevent pollution across the entire site	N3.1.1 Practical measures to ensure pollution risks are minimised from golf course operations	Document procedures for emergency spill responses; Maintain mowing buffer zones around water and all ecologically sensitive areas; Maintain spraying and spreading buffer zones around water and all ecologically sensitive areas; Create a map / aerial visual reproduction, drawing etc of the course showing buffer zones and no-spray, no-spread areas.	Emergency spill procedures are on display at the door of the chemical storage building. There are mowing buffer zones (6-10 feet) next to water bodies and ecologically sensitive areas.
	N3.1.2 Practical measures to ensure pollution risks are minimised from clubhouse operations	Ensure all hazardous materials are safely and securely stored; Ensure compliance with all required standards and systems for hazardous waste and wastewater discharge	Hazardous materials are safely and securely stored with proper signage and under lock and key.
	N3.1.3 Practical measures to ensure pollution risks are minimised from maintenance facility operations	Ensure wash areas are on impermeable, leak-free surfaces; Mixing and loading of pesticides and fertilisers over an impermeable surface; Triple rinse pesticide containers and applicators	Attention to safety detail in mixing pesticides and fertilizers, and triple-rinse pesticide containers. Again, all chemical applications require two signatures as a system of checks and balances by the golf course superintendent and assistant golf course superintendent/spray technician. GPS spray units are the standard at TPC Southwind.
N3.2 Safely manage hazardous substances	N3.2.1 Legal compliance in the storage, handling, application and safe disposal of all hazardous substances	Maintain a register of hazardous materials available to authorised staff; Safe storage in secure and ventilated concrete or metal building; Sufficient storage capacity;	Practices are in place to safely manage chemicals including safe storage of hazardous materials in a secure building, spill kits, fire extinguishers, and safety guidelines.

		Impermeable flooring; Spill containment kits present; Emergency wash area; Fire extinguisher in the immediate area; Secondary containment for fuel, either externally constructed, or integrally manufactured; Regular inspection of storage tanks	Fuel storage tanks are above ground and in proper order and containment for efficiency, safety and environmental awareness. Tanks are 500-gal diesel and 500-gal gasoline. Spill kit is located on site. Fuel logs at tanks. Permit through State of Tennessee for fuel, which is an annual permit. Fuel storage tanks are inspected regularly for safety and efficiency. Fire extinguishers (7+) properly located and spaced throughout maintenance facility and 2 fire extinguishers are located at the pump stations. Annual inspection procedures, annual tagging process, quarterly inspection procedures, and are part of safety meetings each quarter. Emergency wash areas were identified and properly maintained.
N3.3 Responsibly manage waste / storm water	N3.3.1 Appropriate wastewater usage and discharge licences	Wastewater discharge licence; Appropriate treatment of machinery wash water (impermeable surface, oil / grease / clipping separation)	OSHA storage and containment with sump. Appropriate treatment of machinery wash water is practiced continuously.

RESOURCES			
R1 Water			
Objectives	Requirements	Mandatory Practices	Verifier Notes
R1.1 Minimise water demand	R1.1.1 Measures to reduce the need to consume water	Target irrigation to essential playing surfaces only	Actions to reduce water consumption on the course include turfgrass species selection and irrigation frequency which is closely regulated. Schedules created to minimize water use and optimize plant health. Only playing surfaces are irrigated. Best Management Practices (BMP's) followed through TGCSA.
R1.2 Maximise water efficiency	R1.2.1 Practical measures to use water more efficiently on the golf course	Conduct regular irrigation performance checks; Provide staff training on efficient irrigation practices; Ensure effective application of water to target areas; Ensure irrigation schedules are informed by weather patterns and soil moisture analysis	TPC Southwind checks, calibrates and upgrades its sprinkler system for irrigation efficiency. Internal audits during winter months. There are adjustable, optimally located sprinklers to target playing area only. Also, Werth Pump Services (Chris Werth, local), Inc. checks and calibrates irrigation system annually, including assessments and audits. Three rain gauges on site for measuring precipitation are located throughout the course, results of which directly impact irrigation

			scheduling. No weather station on site. Instead, use the internet weather for updates etc. All rainfall is logged into records. Also, weather data in PlayBooks. Suggestion: check out Ambient Weather WS-2000 Smart Weather Station online.
	R1.2.2 Practical measures to use water more efficiently in buildings	Audit water use regularly; Review bills frequently and look for irregularities; Encourage water-saving practices amongst staff and visitors; Categorise and track water consumption	Staff turn off any running water and ensure dishwashers are full before use. Water records are maintained and reviewed for the State of Tennessee and Shelby County. Water withdrawal records are submitted to State of Tennessee in Nashville, annually.
R1.3 Source water responsibly	R1.3.1 Measures towards alternative, lower quality sources of water	Ensure appropriate water abstraction permit and reporting, as required	Water for the clubhouse is from the main public water system (city). Water for irrigation is pumped from the irrigation lakes around the course which is supplemented by a deep well system. State of Tennessee collects samples annually (2 samples from each pump at 2 pump stations).
R2 Energy			
R2.1 Reduce energy demand	R2.1.1 Measures to reduce the amount of energy consumed in course maintenance	Minimise areas of managed turf to reduce mowing, irrigation, and turf inputs	Areas for the course are natural habitats (18 acres) for wildlife and biodiversity that receive no mowing, irrigation and turf inputs. The maintenance facility's machinery is mostly 50% diesel and 50% gasoline. Utility carts and small mowers are gasoline. Two backpack blowers are electric (tournament use), and the remainder are gasoline (for heavy leaf-blowing activities). Two string trimmers are electric (used to edge irrigation heads and valve boxes for better precision) and 10 string trimmers are gasoline. Equipment is managed by a labelling system for equipment identification, ie. 24-404. Whereas, 24 is the year of service (2024), next number is 4 which is the category for tractor, and the last number (04) is the unit number. Category numbers are: 1 for utility equipment, 2 for reel units, 3 for rotary mowers, 4 for tractors, 5 for small equipment, 6 for pickup and dump trucks, 7 for topdressers and aerators, 8 for bunker rakes, and 9 for miscellaneous units. The golf cart pool at the clubhouse includes 75 lithium-ion golf carts and 2 electric utility carts.

			CIP: Please consider use of electric units in maintenance operations where feasible, especially with blowers and other smaller units.
R2.2 Maximise energy efficiency	R2.2.1 Measures to use energy and fuels more efficiently in buildings	Audit energy use regularly; Regularly review bills; Categorise and track energy consumption	TPC Southwind has an energy-efficient, spacious 34,000 square-foot clubhouse featuring casual indoor and outdoor dining, a full-service golf shop, refined locker rooms, and banquet room. The banquet room is two rooms which open to make one room (accommodates 32-125 people). The upstairs (17,000 sq ft is for clubhouse use and the bottom 17,000 sq ft for golf carts, etc. including PGA Tour space 3,000-4,000 sq ft). Internal record keeping, utility bills, invoices and data management e.g. from energy-meters, as well as energy auditing procedures confirmed. Resource-saving measures include the use of LED lighting, WiFi on thermostats (Venstar), two bathrooms at clubhouse utilizing motion controls, and energy-efficient equipment.
R2.3 Source energy responsibly	R2.3.1 Measures to source alternative, renewable forms of energy	Determine potential sources of renewable energy in the area and on-site, through renewable energy providers	The Club's sources of energy are gas and electricity. Electricity runs all the buildings. Clubhouse uses gas for cooking only. Maintenance uses electricity. All stoves and ovens are gas, and all hot boxes are electrical. All trash and garbage goes into trash dumpsters (2) with contracted pickup. Grease traps are contracted out with maintenance once per month. Grease goes into black box outside. However, during FedEx St. Jude Tournament, extra services are procured for pick-up, clean-up, and removal.
R3 Materials			
R3.1 Reduce materials demand	R3.1.1 Products and materials selection based on necessity, including opportunities for recycled, reused and locally sourced alternatives	Undertake a review of materials consumed	One dumpster present at clubhouse and everything goes in it. Grease goes into a black box. Grease trap maintenance is contracted to a third party and is practiced monthly. Another dumpster is located at the maintenance building. Members, guests and employees can refill aluminium water bottles via dispensers on the course, at the clubhouse and at the maintenance facility.

			Plastic bottles still in service throughout course and the conversion from plastic to aluminium bottles is a work in progress. They must be smart on approaching this change because of a very sensitive membership viewpoint. CIP: Please reduce the use of plastic, using more refillable aluminium water bottles wherever feasible.
R3.2 Purchase responsibly	R3.2.1 Practical use of an ethical / environmental purchasing policy	Adopt a sustainable, or ethical / environmental purchasing policy to maximise the use of locally sourced goods and goods made from recycled, recyclable and certified materials	There is an informal sustainable procurement policy. There is bulk purchasing when practical to reduce excess packaging and purchasing miles. CCIP: Please develop an official sustainable procurement policy.
R3.3 Reuse and recycle	R3.3.1 Waste stream separation for maximum recycling and re-use opportunity	Demonstrate waste separation, reuse and recycling; Track how much waste goes to landfill, or is reused / recycled	There is a system for collecting and separating waste in the Clubhouse during tournament time through contractual services.
R3.4 Demonstrate legal compliance	R3.4.1 Compliance with all local and regional waste management regulations	Use authorised waste and recycling contractor for general, hazardous, industrial and green waste	Authorized and licensed waste contractors collect TPC Southwind's waste.

COMMUNITY			
C1 Outreach			
Objectives	Requirements	Mandatory Practices	Verifier Notes
C1.1 Diversify access and provide multi-functionality	C1.1.1 Social and recreational activities at the facility		As a private course located within the gated lifestyle community of Southwind in southeast Memphis (Shelby County) and situated on 220 Acres of beautiful west Tennessee land, TPC Southwind offers an award-winning 18-hole championship golf course. TPC-Southwind serves as the home of the PGA Tour's FedEx St. Jude Classic and hosts many other events throughout the year. It is the PGA Tour's only private golf club in the state of Tennessee.

			Also, TPC Southwind is involved with Golf for Troops (veterans), PGA HOPE (help Our Patriots Everyday), PGA Tour for Veterans (15-20 signed up this year), First Tee of Memphis, Tennessee (August, 100,000 USD), and Charity events every Monday. Also, organizations inside Memphis include Kidney Foundation, and Make A Wish (250,000 USD), Christian Kids (Young Life). Each one raises over 30,000 USD with over 1,000,000 USD raised. Golf course initiatives separate TPC Southwind from other courses in Memphis area. TPC Southwind is the proud host of the FedEx St. Jude Championship. The PGA TOUR has held a tournament in Memphis every year since 1958 with Colonial Country Club playing host until the event moved permanently to TPC Southwind in 1989. FedEx first became the title sponsor in 1986 and has supported the tournament ever since. FedEx has been involved with the event for more than 30 years and has helped raise more than \$38 million for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. And the tournament's economic impact on the Memphis area is approximately 60 million USD annually (as per the Tournament Office). 1800 volunteers work the tournament. During the FedEx St. Jude Tournament, FedEx airplanes are a common sight at the tournament, often featuring "Purple Eagle program" where they dedicate an aircraft with a St. Jude patient's name and logo, raising awareness for the hospital and celebrating young survivors, often involving flyovers and presence on the course. Players go to the plane and to the hospital. Also, "honorary flag holders" are St. Jude Children's Research Hospital patients who serve as honorary pin flag caddies on the 18th green during the final round of the tournament. This allows the children to interact with professional golfers and be recognized on a world stage. FootJoy golf shoes are a top choice at the tournament, often featured through player sponsorships, custom artwork designs on the middle section of the shoes by the St. Jude patients (like "Purple Eagle Shoes" for charity, with proceeds benefiting the hospital. Replica FedEx truck models (slightly larger than a standard shoe box) serve as tee markers for the tournament. Nike has a significant presence at the FedEx St. Jude Classic through a multifaceted sponsorship agreement that includes event activation, branded merchandise sales, and participation of numerous Nike-sponsored athletes.
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			Other aspects include Eli Manning with the kids and the golfers, multiple YouTube videos, network stories, etc. Synonymous with the PGA TOUR's acclaimed TPC Network of premier clubs, 28,000 rounds of golf per year are played at TPC Southwind with 585 total members (of which 450 are golfing members). TPC Southwind was ranked No. 23 in Golf World magazine's Exclusive PGA Tour Course Rankings in 2012. This par-70, 7,244-yard layout was designed by noted architect Ron Prichard with PGA Tour players Hubert Green and Fuzzy Zoeller serving as consultants. Adding to the charm of the golf course are two grain silos and a windmill, remnants of the dairy farm once located on the site.
C1.2 Provide for volunteering and charity	C1.2.1 Opportunities available for volunteering and support of charities and good causes		Also, TPC Southwind participates in First Green Project, a GCSAA-run STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) education program using golf courses as labs with local high schools (field trips).
C1.3 Establish active community partnerships	C1.3.1 Positive and constructive engagement with neighbours, the local community and other groups	Create a 'sustainability working group'	Employee training on operating backhoes by United Rentals with 8 employees qualified. Also, John Deere training videos and McCord Golf Services and Safety videos are in the safety program must experience. GCS attends annual GCSAA meetings (2026 in Orlando FL and 2027 in New Orleans) and TGCSA (Tennessee GCSA). Assistant GCS's participate in local chapter. TPC Southwind participates in the TPC Share an Assistant program, whereas one assistant came to TPC Southwind and assisted with the FedEx St. Jude Championship this year.
C2 Golfers & Employees			
C2.1 Improve health and wellbeing	C2.1.1 Benefits to human physical and mental health from golf and facility activities		The total rounds played were around 28,000 in 2024, of which 25% were walking rounds supporting health and wellbeing. Also, 10% female and 10% youth. The average age of the golfers is younger than most private clubs, and TPC Southwind offers an active junior membership. CIP: Please encourage a higher percentage of walking rounds of golf for improved health and wellbeing of the golfers. CIP: Please continue encouraging youth participation in golf.

C2.2 Be open and inclusive	C2.2.1 Inclusivity and diversity in membership and visitor policies	Demonstrate inclusive policies for members and visitors	TPC Southwind is a private club in the Memphis, Tennessee area.
C2.3 Employ fairly and safely, and provide career opportunities	C2.3.1 Ethical and legal employment, working conditions and professional development	Follow all relevant national legislation and best practice for employment, health & safety etc	TPC Southwind follows relevant legislation and best practices for employment, health and safety. Training on pesticide application, sprayer operation, and course machinery risk assessments is practiced. Pesticide licensing, heavy equipment training (front-end loader, back-hoe) and CPR training are integral components for employees. Staff is CPR trained which include key staff, department heads and assistants. 3-4 personnel from each department with classes every two years. 10 fire extinguishers in the Clubhouse. 2 fire extinguishers in Cart Facility. 2 fire extinguisher at Tournament Office. All fire extinguishers are serviced regularly and replaced as needed. The management structure in golf maintenance is director of agronomy/golf course superintendent, senior assistant, and two assistants. Most employees are full-time in golf maintenance, whereas part-time employees dominate the food/beverage and golf shop departments. TPC Southwind strongly encourages professional development of staff through association involvement, ie. GCSAA seminars and tradeshow, as well as vendor meetings. Attends GCSAA each year (attend classes and tradeshow), Internal TPC conferences and mini-conferences, participate in Shop Talk for AGCS from GCSAA – connections that strengthen the GCSAA family and help them improve the communities they live in. Also, participates in TPC Tournament Support Program – share 2 assistants from network of clubs for 9 days. To effectively share assistants for a 9-day Tournament of Champions (TOC) tournament, its crucial to understand the diverse support roles and responsibilities involved. Structuring includes daily assignments, role specificity, coverage and overlap, point person, daily briefings/debriefings, and communication channels.

			Hosts First Green events – science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM) environmental outreach program that uses golf course as a living laboratory. K-12 students participate in hands-on, outdoor learning stations that include lessons on wildlife habitat, soil science, environmental sustainability, mathematics, water conservation, water quality, career exploration and much more. First Green is a program of the GCSAA Foundation, the philanthropic organization of GCSAA. CIP: Please encourage use of collegiate turf students from agronomy and turf programs for internships in golf course maintenance during summer months, as well as other semesters, ie. University of Tennessee and Mississippi State University.
C3 Communications			
C3.1 Engage golfers and members	C3.1.1 Communications activities that raise awareness and understanding amongst members and visitors	Provide information on the facility's sustainability commitments, actions, or achievements	TPC Southwind communicates on sustainability through its website, emails, and weekly department head meetings. Reports are generated from the GCS for an Agronomy update on sustainability. These notes from GCS are sent to Assistant GCS to GM to Golf Pro to PGA Regional GM, all PGA agronomy and staff, advanced rules person, and PGA Tour admin assistant via email. Information to golfers is posted in locker room and via email. Weekly safety meetings (Emergency Response and Hazard Communications). Weekly Department Head meetings and monthly business review. Outline includes: State of the Club, Golf and Outside Operations, Golf Course Maintenance, Food and Beverage, Events, and Safety and Risk Management. On Dec 16-18, 2025, the TPC Southwind Director of Agronomy/GCS served as a speaker at the annual TPC Agronomy Conference for all the owned and operated TPC clubs across the USA hosted by TPC Louisiana. Speakers included representatives from Golf Course Properties (Vic Aliprando, SVP) , GCSAA (Rhett Evans, COO), N.C. State University (Jim Kerns, Ph.D., Professor), Syngenta (Lane Tredway, Ph.D., Tech. Serv. Mgr.; and Walt Osborne, Key Accounts Mgr.), TPC Clubs (Tyler McCool, Director of Agronomy, TPC Louisiana; Brandon Reese, Director of Agronomy, TPC Scottsdale; and Nick Bisanz, Director of Agronomy, TPC Southwind), Patrick McCullough, Ph.D., University of Georgia), GCSAA (Chava McKeel, Dir. Gov. Rel.). Topics included TPC Louisiana Rebuilding; Renovation and Innovation;

			Weed Control; PULA and Gov. Update; and Golf). 36 in attendance from across USA.
C3.2 Celebrate and promote sustainability	C3.2.1 Activities that raise awareness and engage people in the wider community	Provide evidence of external communications and community engagement	The Club is working on posting its GEO OnCourse Highlights on GEO Foundation for Sustainable Golf. Such highlights include: Building, installing and maintaining bat houses throughout the property. Continuing the bluebird partnership project and expanding as needed. Continuing to use cores collected from aerification processes throughout the property around select trees. Repurposing soil mix from any area being addressed to a location in other areas of the golf course needing such attention. Continuing to capture rainwater for irrigation purposes. The Club currently maintains certification with Audubon International (Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf) and has maintained such certification for 30 years. Recently updated in 2025. Numerous Safety Awards have been received from TPC through the years, as well as awards from Audubon International.

Golf and Sustainability

Among all sports, golf has a particularly close relationship with the environment and communities, golf facilities can bring many benefits to people and nature - from the protection of greenspace and conservation of biodiversity; healthy recreation for all ages; local supply chains; and jobs, tourism and other forms of economic value.

Adopting a more sustainable approach is also good for golf. It's about presenting a high-quality golf course and providing a memorable experience in natural surroundings. It's about being as efficient as possible. And it's about supporting the community in a range of ways that bring increased recognition, respect and contact.

At a broader level, it's important that golf credibly demonstrates its commitment, and its social and environmental value – strengthening the sport's image and reputation for the long term.

Golf facilities that participate in OnCourse®, an international sustainability initiative assured by the non-profit GEO Foundation, are taking a comprehensive approach and striving to be leaders in the community.

Find out more at www.sustainable.golf