

# Doug Davis -N-

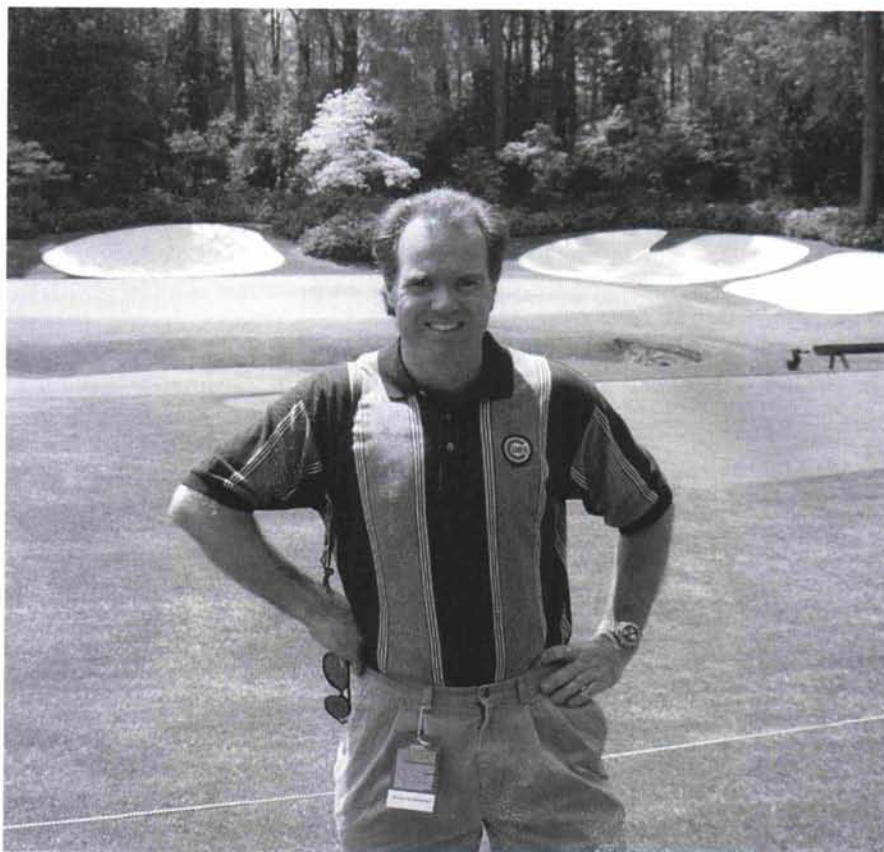


*Randy Kane*

**D**oug Davis has been the superintendent at Broken Arrow Golf Club since April of 1995, having joined the management team there as the course was nearing completion. Doug hails from a small town in eastern Iowa (near the Quad Cities), he is currently single, and most of his family remains in Iowa.

Doug followed a somewhat circuitous route to land at Broken Arrow, since he originally entered college at the University of Iowa as a classical music/fine arts major. While in college, Doug worked as a summer laborer at Clinton (IA) Country Club, and later at Finkbine Golf Course, which is the highly rated University course in Iowa City. Once Doug decided to make golf turf his career choice, he moved to the Hawkeye Institute of Technology

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*Doug Davis at the Masters.*



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**Doug Davis -N- Broken Arrow G.C.**  
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and obtained an associate's degree in horticulture/turf management in 1986.

Doug had some great experiences as a summer intern and assistant, having worked for Pete Wilson at Medinah C.C., for Skip Wilms while at Racine C.C. and, just prior to moving to Broken Arrow, for Bob Graunke at the Eagle Ridge Inn and Resort in Galena. In his free time, Doug enjoys boating and water skiing and consulting on landscape projects around the Broken Arrow development; also, he still pursues musical interests (Doug plays the trumpet!).

Broken Arrow G.C. consists of three nine-hole courses as designed by ASGCA past president Bob Lohmann. The courses are located on the southeast side of Lockport in a rapidly growing area of northern Will County, near Joliet. Broken Arrow was built by GreenVisions, Inc. and originally managed by Crown Golf Properties. Construction began in 1994, finished in '95, and the courses were opened for play in '96. Broken Arrow is a privately owned, daily fee operation that logs between 35 and 40,000 rounds per year. Taiwanese business man Agie Chen owns and operates the course.

One of Broken Arrow's three nine-hole courses, the north course, is distinguished by having double-sized greens and two flags ("hole locations") per green. The north nine was originally conceived as a "double-green" concept course; you could play it twice for an 18-hole round, using vastly different pin locations on each pass. Indeed, some of the holes play quite differently depending on which part of the double green you are trying to approach. The north nine has now been integrated with the other

two nines (east and south) so play occurs on a rotational basis. The MAGCS crew will probably play the unique north course and the east course at the meeting.

Because most of Broken Arrow was built on open farmland, only two or three holes have pre-

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existing trees or wetlands. All three nines have a Scottish links look, with mounding, contoured fairways, various types of bunkers, and lots of wind that can affect ball flight. The double greens on the north course are around 8-9,000 square feet, while greens on the other courses average around 4-5,000 square feet. Greens and tees were seeded to Penncross bent,

fairways are Penneagle bent. A total of 22 interconnected ponds dapple the three nines. Interestingly, the course was designed to carry away storm water and act as a floodwater management site for the surrounding real estate development.

Although the course is very new, a number of planned changes and projects will keep Doug and his crew busy for the foreseeable future. Perhaps the biggest project is conversion of the existing practice range into a nine-hole par three course, with construction of new practice area/driving range on nearby grounds. Broken Arrow has an active junior golf program, so the par three course will see action for teaching and practice by the youngsters. Also, a tree planting program and wooden fence construction along perimeter areas of the courses to buffer neighboring properties from golfers are ongoing.

I think you will find Broken Arrow to be an interesting and challenging golf course, so come on out in June and test your game. Just remember those 22 ponds on 27 holes, which is a pond:hole ratio of 0.81! Better bring extra balls! 



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