

The heroes of Southern Hills take a Stand on Penn A-1 and A-4 blended.



Number 14,
Southern Hills CC
Tulsa Oklahoma
Perry Maxwell, Architect
Opened 1935

From left to right: John Carothers, Pat Boyer, Aaron Baker, Barry Hargrove, Todd Towery, John Szklinski, Eric Smith, Jeremy Dobson, Chris Wilson, Roy D. Bradshaw.

“When an unknown vandal destroyed some of our PennLinks greens in 1999, we realized we’d have to re-grass all 18. PennLinks had provided a fine putting surface, but the newer Penn bents were available at the time of reseeding, and the Penn ‘A’ series looked good in our trials. But which one would work best in Tulsa, Oklahoma, capital of the Transition Zone? At the urging of Dr. Joe Duich we had Penn A-1 and Penn A-4 blended for us by Tee-2-Green Corp. and are pleased with the results, but more pleased that our members recognize the difference in density, grain-free smoothness, plus putting speed and consistency. Winter mowing height is 0.135”, which we lower to 0.110”—the same height of cut we’ll use at the U.S. Open—for summer play.

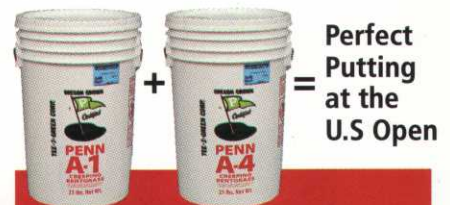
I’m very impressed with the Penn blend’s ability to establish a strong, dense root system so

quickly. We can cut a cup in our soil push-up greens and pull the plug with total confidence of no breakage.

Poa annua is a fact of life in Tulsa, but we’ve had no invasion or encroachment in the two years since we’ve seeded our relatively small greens. With the extreme density of our Penn A-1 / A-4 blend, the use of alternative spikes only, and pre-emergent applications, *Poa annua* doesn’t get a chance to start.

The team of Southern Hills heroes here stand on the belief that our greens will be a fast but fair test for the world’s best golfers during the U.S. Open in June, and remain excellent for member play long after the television cameras are gone.”

John Szklinski, Superintendent
Southern Hills CC, Tulsa, Oklahoma



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