



The 13th International Turfgrass
Research Conference



13th ITRC Technical Tour Information Sheet

Bayonne Golf Club



Simply put, a Sports Illustrated writer called the project “the most audacious golf course in the world”. Bayonne Golf Club (<http://www.bayonnegolfclub.com/>) was opened in 2006, in Bayonne NJ, on a 150 acre Hudson River site located roughly four miles across New York Harbor from the Island of Manhattan (NYC). On the surface of the site, the links style Eric Bergstol design pays tribute to the great seaside courses of Scotland and Ireland. Individual holes twist and tumble through toweringly high dunes, while the waterfront setting challenges golfers with ever-changing sea breezes, yet rewards them with superb views of New York Harbor and Manhattan’s iconic skyline.

Beneath the surface lies the sites complicated history: part landfill for the city of Bayonne, as well as part Port Authority of New York and New Jersey dump-site for millions of tons of dredge from New York Harbor to maintain functional shipping lanes. In order to transform the waste site into the golf course, the original relatively flat site was built up (to 90 feet above sea-level in some areas of the property) with over 7 ½ million cubic yards of additional dredge, river silt, and soil fill. All fairways and primary roughs were capped with six to eight inches of clean sand to maintain the firm and fast playing conditions required of links-style golf courses, while the grassing plan included traditional links grasses with fescues used for seeding the rough, dunes, and mounds, colonial bentgrass and Chewings fescue for the fairways, and velvet and creeping bentgrasses for the putting greens.

The enormous scale of the property is complimented by the \$19,000,000.00 clubhouse and attached lighthouse. Both structures sit atop the highest point of the property offering sweeping picturesque views of the golf course, club owned ferry dock and helipad, New York Harbor, Statue of Liberty, and the lower Manhattan skyline.

Meet the Turf Manager: Mr. Thomas Woodward has been Superintendent at Bayonne Golf Club since 2014. Mr. Woodward received a B.S. degree in Sports Management from Colorado Mesa University in 2010, and completed the Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School in 2012. Prior to becoming the Superintendent at Bayonne Golf Club, Mr. Woodward was a crew foreman at Redlands Mesa Golf Club (CO) and an intern at Bayonne Golf Club.