

## Ramon Aparece Jr. Shares Lessons Learned From Managing Golf Courses Through Extreme Weather

Palm Beach County Golf Course Superintendent Ramon Aparece Jr. discusses resilience, preparation, and operational planning in an era of increasing climate challenges.



**Palm Beach, Florida Jun 9, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.IssueWire.com))** - After more than two decades managing golf courses across Florida, Ramon Aparece Jr. has learned that success often comes down to preparation long before a challenge arrives.

As Golf Course Superintendent at Palm Vista Country Club in Palm Beach County, Aparece oversees a 27-hole championship facility in one of the country's most weather-sensitive regions. From hurricanes and flooding to prolonged heat and drought, Florida's climate presents constant operational challenges. According to Aparece, resilience is no longer a seasonal concern—it has become a year-round responsibility.

"Extreme weather isn't something we plan for once a year anymore," said Aparece. "It's something we think about every day. The question isn't whether conditions will change. The question is whether your systems are prepared to adapt."

Throughout his career, Aparece has led golf course operations through major weather events, including Hurricanes Irma and Ian. Those experiences reinforced the importance of planning, communication, and adaptability.

"One of the biggest lessons I've learned is that recovery starts before the storm arrives," he said. "The decisions you make days or weeks beforehand often determine how quickly you can get back to normal operations."

At Palm Vista Country Club, preparation includes detailed hurricane response plans, equipment relocation procedures, pump station protection strategies, drainage management, and crew coordination protocols. The goal is to reduce downtime while protecting both infrastructure and personnel.

"We spend a lot of time preparing for situations we hope never happen," Aparece said. "That preparation may seem excessive when the weather is calm, but it's invaluable when conditions change quickly."

Beyond hurricanes, Aparece says golf course operators are increasingly focused on long-term climate resilience. Water management, turf selection, and infrastructure planning have become critical priorities.

"Florida's environment is always changing," he said. "You have periods of heavy rain followed by periods of drought. Courses need systems that can handle both."

Aparece has been a longtime advocate of preventative management practices. His approach emphasizes soil health, smart irrigation technology, moisture monitoring, and data-driven decision-making.

"You can't control the weather," he said. "What you can control is how prepared you are to respond."

Technology has also become an important part of modern course management. Tools such as drone mapping, weather monitoring systems, and moisture sensors help identify potential issues before they become larger problems.

"The earlier you identify a risk, the more options you have," Aparece said. "Whether it's a storm, a drainage issue, or turf stress, proactive management usually produces better outcomes than reactive management."

While weather-related challenges continue to evolve, Aparece believes adaptability remains one of the most important qualities for leaders in any industry.

"Every operation faces uncertainty," he said. "The organizations that perform best are usually the ones that build flexibility into their planning. They don't assume conditions will always be ideal."

For Aparece, resilience extends beyond infrastructure and equipment. It also involves investing in people.

"Your team is your most important asset during any challenge," he said. "Training, communication, and trust become even more important when you're working through difficult conditions."

Looking ahead, Aparece expects climate resilience to become an even greater focus across golf course management and outdoor operations.

"We're seeing more organizations think about long-term sustainability and preparedness," he said. "That's a positive shift because resilience isn't just about recovering from a problem. It's about being ready before the problem arrives."

As weather patterns continue to create new challenges, Aparece believes one principle remains constant.

"Preparation doesn't eliminate uncertainty," he said. "But it gives you a much better chance of navigating it successfully."

About Ramon Aparece Jr.

Ramon Aparece Jr. is a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) and Golf Course Superintendent at Palm Vista Country Club in Palm Beach County, Florida. With more than 20 years of experience in turfgrass management, he specializes in sustainable agronomy, water conservation, environmental stewardship, and climate-resilient golf course operations. He is an active member of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association and has led numerous initiatives focused on operational efficiency and long-term sustainability.

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