

# THE 19TH HOLE

FOR THE MEMBERS OF STONO FERRY & THE PLANTATION COURSE



## FROM THE DESK OF THE GENERAL MANAGER GREG WOOD

Just like you we at both Plantation Course at Edisto and Stono Ferry have new year's resolutions. 2020 was a year of constant adjustments for both courses as we worked very hard to provide quality golf services and conditions during the pandemic. Through all of the changes in 2020 golf has emerged as a very popular sport. Membership has grown and overall rounds are up at both properties. As rounds increased more pressure has been applied to pace of play. Please read Scott Glaze's article as he describes the benefits of the GPS system that was installed at Stono Ferry this past August on the new cart fleet. He does a great job describing the pace of play, convenience, and safety aspects of the new system. Both Curt Sheffer, Plantation Course, and Michael Eargle, Stono Ferry, have been very busy with their staffs taking care and improving both courses. As play increases it is very important for everyone to be vigilant in filling fairway divots, and properly repairing ball marks. Dan Lorentz and his real estate team at Stono Ferry have been dealing with a very hot real estate market. Evidently, everyone is moving to Charleston. Please take the time to stop by, email, or call Dan and his team for all of your real estate needs. What is a resolution article without fitness goals. Many thanks to all who were patient with the opening of the fitness center during the pandemic. Now that it is open I want to again thank all of you for observing the new safety

rules while using the facility. If there is a need for guidance and accountability for New Year's fitness goals, I highly encourage you to contact our fitness partners at Chucktown Fitness. They can be reached at 843-990-9362.

One of the popular items to purchase during the pandemic is a golf cart. The fleet at Edisto is going to be sold this March/April to make way for a new fleet of golf carts. These carts have an off white body and tan seats and the batteries are in excellent condition. The membership will have first opportunity for purchasing one of these golf carts. The price is \$2,900 plus tax which includes the golf cart and charger. Members will be able to call Duane Stauter at 843-869-1111 starting February 1 to reserve a golf cart for purchase.

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## GRASS CLIPPINGS STONO FERRY

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!** I hope everyone had a great holiday season and are looking forward to the upcoming year. I know 2020 presented many challenges for each of us across the board, but I find myself being truly thankful that we were able to continue enjoying golf and the golf course.

For the maintenance operation, during the months of January and February our top priority is to prepare the golf course for play each morning. This takes about four hours and requires every staff member. Once the golf course is ready for play, work efforts will be focused on things such as, irrigation repairs, bunker repair (redistribute sand), tree work, and leaf removal. Much of this clean up and repair work is performed on a priority basis or “moments of opportunity.” Also, the Department of Agriculture, after months of scouting and

### MICHAEL EARGLE – Course Superintendent

planning will be on the golf course for the next several weeks removing trees that have been infected with the Asian long horned beetle. The majority of the work will be around holes 11,12,15, and 16. Furthermore, we will be planting trees and shrubs along property lines on holes one, two, and three softening the new neighborhood. Busy! Busy! Busy!

Your comments are always much appreciated, please continue with your feedback, so we can continue to get better with our day to day operations. I also, want to thank you for creating many bright spots for my crew and myself this past year with your praise and appreciation for our efforts in maintaining your golf course. May your drives be straight and your putts short!

**Michael**



## GOLF INSTRUCTION BEN SLOAN

### 3 CHANGES TO BETTER STRUCK CHIP SHOTS

One of the quickest ways to improve your score is to improve short game. If you are one of those players that consistently chunk or thin those scoring shots around the green, then this article is for you! Lets get to it:

#### FIRST

**Head centered over the golf ball with a small amount of shaft lean (from players perspective the butt end of the club should appear even with the golf ball).** If you are looking to consistently hit the ball first it helps if your head is centered over the ball versus having it set up behind the ball.

#### SECOND

**Narrowed Stance (4-5inches apart) and Pressure slightly favoring lead leg (Left leg for Right-Handed Player).** For a shorter shot such as a chip or even a pitch we don't need to use our lower body for power so lets narrow up that stance and put a premium on solid contact. Keep about 55% of your pressure on your lead foot throughout the swinging motion.

#### THIRD

**Momentum moving to the target.** Picture yourself throwing a ball to a target. Where does the momentum of your body go? Well if you are throwing it accurately I would guess it's heading toward your target. Use that same visual on a chip shot.

If you can apply these 3 principles to your short chip and pitch shots around the green you will be well on your way to a more solid and consistent short game!

I'm looking forward to a very exciting 2021. I recently launched my website, [www.bensloangolf.com](http://www.bensloangolf.com), which now gives you the ability to book and pay online!

Below are the 2021 Stono Ferry Lesson rates:

#### Non Members

1 Hour - \$95

1/2 Hour - \$60

(4) 1 Hour - \$320

(4) 1/2 Hour - \$200

#### Stono Ferry Member's

1 Hour - \$80

1/2 Hour - \$50

(4) 1 Hour - \$280

(4) 1/2 Hour - \$160

#### Junior

1 Hour - \$60

1/2 Hour - \$40

#### Playing Lessons

9 Hole Individual - \$185

9 Hole Group(up to 4 players) - \$235

18 Hole Individual - \$350

18 Hole Group (up to 4 players) - \$400

*Hope to see you on the lesson tee soon! - Ben*





## THE PLANTATION COURSE AT EDISTO UPDATE

HEATHER HENDERSON

As we say goodbye to 2020, I think we can all agree it has been a very strange year for everyone. We are glad members and guests could still enjoy golf while social distancing and staying safe. In fact, we have seen many new faces at the course with more and more people wanting to get outside. We faced some challenges with some companies having slow shipping times and others closed for several months, but we made it through with minimal inconvenience for our customers. I would like to thank everyone for their cooperation with our different rules set by the Town of Edisto Beach as well as the golf course in an effort to keep our staff and customers as safe as possible.

The Pro Shop has some great Sale items as well as new merchandise. We have recently added several new lines including Johnnie-O clothing, SlowTide beach towels, Main-street baby gifts and several more. Come by and check us out...I'm sure you will find something you need! New spring items will begin arriving in the shop late February.

Happy New Year to all members and we hope to see you all on the course real soon!

## GRASS CLIPPINGS EDISTO

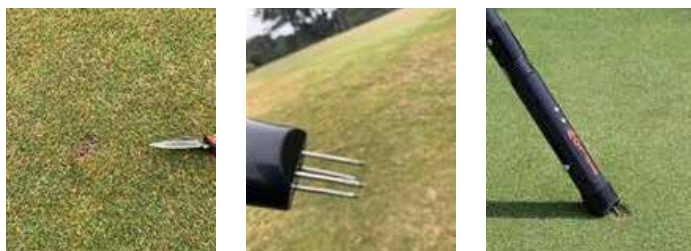
CURT SHEFFER – Course Superintendent

### *We have noticed*

- We have noticed that there has been a golf boom courtesy of the pandemic.
- We have noticed that there are a lot more golfers at the Plantation Course.
- We have noticed that you golfers are getting better and hitting more greens in regulation.
- We have noticed the increase in ball marks on the greens.
- We have noticed that it got cold and our grass has gone dormant which significantly slows the recovery time for ball marks...Actually, we did not notice, we just "Know This".

As a result, we bought ourselves a couple of early Christmas gifts this year. They are called GreenStiks and they are used to repair ball marks. These handy little tools will get a workout this winter. Here is how they work...

The tool has spikes that extract when you push down on the ball mark at an angle. The ball mark is repaired by standing the tool vertical while the spikes are in the ground.



When the tool is lifted, the spikes retract, and a small amount of green sand drops out and into the repaired mark. The result is a smoother surface. Each repair only takes seconds!



While we do ask that everyone please repair your pitch marks on the greens, we now also have a tool that will aid in keeping the greens surfaces smoother year-round!

## REAL ESTATE CORNER DAN LORENTZ

Hello Stono Ferry members!! The Greater Charleston Properties Team hopes you all had a very safe and happy New Years. We are officially in 2021 and there are plenty of reasons to be optimistic. With all the changes happening around us in our nation what can we expect from the Real Estate market in the coming year? The short answer is many variables to project the same. We still find ourselves in a pandemic that continues to keep inventory and interest rates at historic lows. These variables should stay consistent until we start to see nationwide clarity regarding the vaccine and the pandemic as a whole.

During these trying times we have taken extra precautions and have invested in our own virtual methods. We have developed new technology to continue to virtually assist our clients. We are now able to do virtual 3-D showings with high definition clarity. We put the health and safety of our clients first!

If you have any real estate related questions please feel free to reach out to us anytime. Look forward to seeing everybody around the clubhouse soon!

### ATTENTION STONO FERRY RESIDENTS:

-Stop by our office in the clubhouse and register for your chance to win a new YETI cooler for FREE!! Drawing will be held on Valentines Day so make sure to stop by before then!

-We still have several buyers very interested in joining the Stono Ferry Community ASAP. If you have considered selling your home please contact us today at 843-532-4653 and we can determine if it would be a good fit.

### QUICK STONO FERRY MARKET STATS:

-5 active homes for sale, there is 1 home active contingent.

There have been 23 homes to close in the last 6 months, the average price per square foot is \$170.60, the average time on market is 43 days, there are 2 months of inventory currently.

If you have any questions about the current market or need to speak with a lender please contact us today!

**\*\*We are COVID safety showing certified Realtors\*\***

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**Dan Lorentz, REALTOR® ABR, CRS**

*Charleston Realtors of Distinction - Platinum Circle*

*Circle of Excellence National Award Recipient*

*Charleston Top 1% of Realtors for Sales and Production*

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**Text 'dan' to 843-631-2463 to access our mobile MLS app.**



## FROM THE DESK OF THE HEAD PROFESSIONAL SCOTT GLAZE

Happy New Year! I sincerely hope that you and yours have had a wonderful holiday season and are enjoying the club in the new year. As we enter 2021 and new endeavors at Stono Ferry, I want to touch on one of the biggest improvements we experienced in 2020: Visage GPS.

Last summer, we integrated the Visage GPS system in our brand new fleet of golf carts. After learning and adapting to the new system, we were able to learn things about pace of play on our golf course that we had never known through former practices. Pace of play is arguably one of the biggest concerns as we enter 2021. We experienced extremely high

volumes of golfers in 2020, occasionally putting a strain on pace of play. One of our new year's resolutions is to improve pace of play as we continue to have lots of traffic on our course. Visage GPS will help us to achieve this goal. After researching and digging through the data provided by Visage, we found some staggering statistics. For instance, golfers play pay par threes at Stono Ferry about 4 to 5 minutes faster than the recommended USGA pace settings. On the other hand, golfers play the par fives several minutes slower than the USGA recommendations. There were even a few par fours that averaged times that did not align with the former set pace at all. As a result, we have changed the "pace par" for many of the holes on the golf course, in order to provide accurate monitoring of pace on a daily basis. This will help us to identify problems on the golf course sooner and more accurately, thus addressing and fixing the issue before it gets out of hand. Here's to faster rounds in the new year!

Along with pace of play improvements, we were also able to see common traffic patterns and golfer behavior, which allowed us to make changes to our day-to-day operation as well as maintenance practices. This helps us to continue to provide a much better overall experience. (Remember, if you drive into a "restricted zone" it is only there to help keep the golf course in top-notch shape, not to be an inconvenience.) The convenience of ordering food and drinks from the comfort of your own cart has also been a great upgrade to the Stono Ferry experience. We will continue to tap into the many features and benefits of this great software system in 2021 and continue to provide one of the best golf and membership experiences in the Lowcountry.

As always, we greatly appreciate your feedback and insight on anything that enhances your membership here at the club. Please do not hesitate to let us know how we can serve you better.

***Keep it in the short grass,  
Scott***







## MEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION NEWS

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable holiday. I wanted to get back to everyone regarding the board positions and let you know that we ended up with 3 candidates for the 3 openings. This includes myself along with 2 new members. Our new board will be made up of the following members:

**Jim Garrett**

**Ken Hendershott**

**Bill Zakrzewski**

**Jack Grecko**

**Rob Fifield**

**Randy Myers**

**Ed Tamsberg – Handicap Chair**

I am looking forward to working with everyone to insure a great 2021 tournament season.



## WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION NEWS

We have just completed a very challenging year. Covid-19 has presented many health and business challenges throughout our state. I just want to take a minute to give a big shout out to our General Manager, Greg Wood and to all the staff at The Links at Stono Ferry. Greg found a way to keep the course open and safe and create a safe haven for all of us to maintain some degree of normalcy during the past year. With a vaccine at hand, I feel certain that we will be back stronger and safer than ever.

We at the WGA have installed our new board for 2021 and by all accounts, our first meeting this week was full of fresh and new ideas to make 2021 a memorable year, watch for future announcements.

Please watch for announcement for a "Happy Hour" meeting to kick off 2021 Sponsorship Program and other important handicap updates.

Let me introduce you to the Board of Directors for 2021:

**President** ..... **Ande Savana**  
**Vice President** ..... **Vikki Callison**  
**Secretary** ..... **Susan hoemaker**  
**Treasurer**..... **Alex Tumbleston**  
**Director at Large** ..... **Wynn Hardy**  
**Director at Large** ..... **Nancy Meyer**

### 2021 Tournament Schedule:

**Feb. 27** ..... **Opening Day**  
**Mar. 20-21** ..... **Stono Classic**  
**Mar. 29** ..... **Match Play begins**  
**Apr. 17** ..... **Spring Fling**  
**May 28-29** ..... **Member-Guest**  
**June 12**..... **MGA-WGA Yellow Ball**  
**Sept. 11-12** ..... **Club Championship**  
**Nov. 5-6** ..... **Member-Member**  
**Dec.4** ..... **Closing Day**

*\*Seabrook TBD*





## 2021 MAJOR TOURNAMENT & EVENT SCHEDULE

March 20.....	Stono Cup/Opening Day
April 26.....	President's Cup Opens
June 4-6.....	Member-Guest
June 12.....	Yellow Ball
September 11-12.....	Club Championship
November 5-7.....	Member-Member
November 19-20.....	Stag Tournament



## STAFF CONTACTS



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