



MAY & JUNE 2024

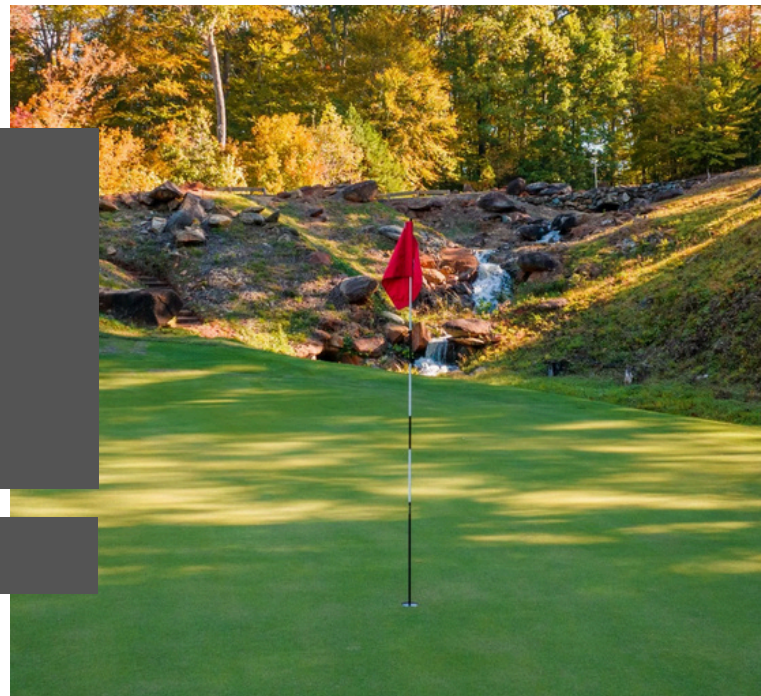
# THE 19TH HOLE

STONO FERRY • THE PLANTATION COURSE • TOT HILL FARM

GENERAL MANAGER **STONO FERRY**

## GREG WOOD

It is that time of year when repairs and improvements to all three of the courses begin to happen. At Stono Ferry, drainage and cart path repairs were made to the sixth hole. Sod was put down at multiple locations with the majority of it being laid on the fifteenth and seventeenth holes. The fairway on the seventeenth hole will subtly be shifted to the right side inside of the 150 yard marker. Work began the first of May at The Plantation Course at Edisto. Cart path repairs and improvements in conjunction with drainage and sod projects will continue to improve an already great product. Drainage is being updated and sod is being laid to the left of the fairway on the thirteenth hole. Drainage behind the sixteenth green and the seventeenth tee is also being addressed. The fairway bunkers on the seventeenth are being renovated, and the drainage to the left of the green is being updated. Sod and drainage work is also being done on the seventh, fourteenth, and fifteenth holes. These holes are adversely impacted by flooding, and the goal is to reduce the damage to the turf by water and also replace any damaged turf. The bunker on the first hole is being removed, and additional cart path repairs are also being done. Tot Hill Farm went through an extensive renovation last year, and yet work to



improve continues to take place. Sod projects are being assessed as the course comes out of winter dormancy. A new maintenance facility is in its final phases of construction, and new on course restrooms are being constructed on the seventh and fourteenth holes. .

Rain has played a major part in course conditions this winter. Large rain fall amounts have caused drainage issues at all three courses. Recently at Stono Ferry a portion of the outfall pipe that drains into the marsh adjacent to the sixth green collapsed.

Being a golf course superintendent is a hard job. The skills necessary for the position are agronomy, irrigation, chemistry, mechanic, leadership, team building and employee development. They must combine all of these skills with healthy doses of common sense and perseverance. I am very grateful to work with the superintendents at all three courses. Michael Eargle (Stono Ferry), Zach Rish (Edisto), Curt Sheffer (Tot Hill) have a wealth of experience and knowledge, and they take a lot of pride in the work they produce. The skills and hard work they and their teams perform on a daily basis is key to the success of our courses.

Thank you very much for being a member of our clubs. Your business and input is greatly appreciated!

## GRASS CLIPPINGS STONO FERRY

### MICHAEL EARGLE

The maintenance staff has been hard at work the past several weeks preparing the golf course for the upcoming season. Now it is time to focus on the transition from the overseeded winter grasses back to the summer bermudagrass. In order to have a smooth transition, close attention is paid to soil moisture, fertility levels and cultural practices. Depending upon Mother Nature, this transition usually ends mid to late June. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we work to ensure a successful transition.

During the months of May and June we accomplish cultural practices such as aerification and topdressing. The first part of June, we will be aerifying the greens a little differently. Instead of the conventional method of pulling cores out of the greens, we will be using a process called Dryject. Basically, the process injects sand into

the green with little surface disruption, leaving the green smoother and firmer than the conventional method. This program not only alleviates compaction and improves water infiltration, but allows beneficial nutrients and oxygen to reach the root zone. It also allows the roots to obtain a massive structure, which will withstand the summer heat and numerous rounds of golf. Also, the cart path on hole 6 will be repaired in May. The fairway on hole 17 short of the green will be shifted to the right now that the new sod has established a root base. This will be done by scalping down to fairway height, topdressing and allowed some time to heal before opening that area back up. Again, thank you for your patience. May your drives be straight and your putts short.

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**June 4th:** Dryject greens



## PRO SHOP UPDATE **STONO FERRY**

### **PETER SKIRPSTAS**

As we move forward into May and June the Golf Staff here is committed to ensuring we meet and exceed your expectations. We are striving for improved pace of play, improving our tee-sheet management, communication of course conditions and events, and knocking a few shots off the handicap. Help us help you! Two carts per foursome, please cancel a tee time if you are not using it, and repair your divots and pitch marks. All of these will ensure that we continue to meet and exceed your expectations and your guests.

As spring comes to an end be sure that you are receiving emails and please reach out if you are not. Please let the Golf Staff know if you are looking to join any of the group blitz's that play every day at Stono Ferry. We would be happy to introduce you to those groups and sign up to start receiving notifications via Golf Genius.

Golf Operations Manager  
Pete Skirpstas



## FOOD & BEVERAGE STONO FERRY

### VIKA BALYASNIKOVA

Hey everyone!

Get ready to mark your calendars because we've got some awesome gatherings and golfing action coming up that you definitely don't want to miss!

We're kicking things off by bringing back the crowd-pleaser – **Wine & 9** on **May 10th**. It's the perfect combo of relaxed golf and fine wines. And for the first time ever, we're hosting a **Mother's Day Brunch** on **May 12th**. It's going to be a spread worthy of the amazing moms in our lives!

And the fun doesn't stop there! As the temperature rises, so does the excitement with our much-anticipated annual event. Get ready because our **Annual Summer BBQ** is happening on **June 15th!**

A big shout-out to all of you for your amazing support which has allowed us to extend our hours at the Stono Ferry Grill! We're now serving up your favorites from 8 AM to 5 PM Monday - Thursday, and an hour earlier at 7 AM to 5 PM Friday to Sunday, because we know weekends start early! And for those who fancy a drink after a day on the greens, the bar will be pouring until 7 every day.

## MASTERING THE MENTAL GAME

### ANDREW EMERY

Golf is as much a mental game as it is physical. One key tip is to maintain focus and stay in the present moment. So many golfers dwell on past mistakes or worry about future shots, concentrate on the task at hand and you're going to be a lot more successful!

Visualize your shot before executing it and trust your instincts. Additionally, it's really important to develop a pre-shot routine to calm nerves and establish consistency. Remember, confidence is crucial, so believe in yourself and your abilities and commit to the shot!

In my experience as a coach most golfers believe they're hitting bad shots because they have problems with their golf swing, when much of the time it's because they're too concerned with the

outcome! Stinkin' Thinkin' is a big problem! - IF you stay in the present and commit to the shot at hand you're going to see much better results where it really counts - on the golf course!!



## REAL ESTATE STONO FERRY

### DAN LORENTZ

As we transition into the vibrant summer season and enjoy the rising temperatures, we're dedicated to keeping you informed about the latest updates from the Stono Ferry market! Remember that our on-site office is located within the Stono Ferry Clubhouse, first door on the right! Feel free to drop by our office whenever convenient for you. If you can't make it in person, you can leave your details on the iPad outside our office and we will get back to you immediately!

Our neighborhood office is committed to providing professional insights and exceptional service. We have an on-site agent in our clubhouse office **Mon-Sun 10-3 PM!** Our team leader, **Dan Lorentz**, continues to be recognized as a Realtor of Distinction, annually ranking in the **top 1%** in Charleston for all sales and production! We owe all of this success to our clients and their continued support and referrals. Thank you!

In terms of the market, Charleston is experiencing subtle shifts as we move into summer. Interest rates have seen a slight increase, and inventory levels remain low across the Tri-County area, however we have seen a slight uptick in inventory the past couple of weeks! Despite all of this, the market remains highly active. The recent uptick in property values presents an advantageous opportunity for potential sellers, positioning them favorably in the market. Conversely, inventory levels are slightly lower than in previous quarters, giving sellers a window to list their properties before potential market shifts. For potential buyers, these conditions offer a range of options and potential for negotiation.

For immediate assistance or personalized advice, feel free to contact Dan directly at **843-532-4653** or [dan@danlorentz.com](mailto:dan@danlorentz.com). Within the Stono community, we've built a strong network of potential buyers eager to join our community. If you're considering selling your property, now might be the ideal time to take the next steps!

**Quick Stono Ferry market stats:** There are currently 6 active homes for sale, and 0 homes that are active contingent.

There have been 11 homes to close in the last 6 months, the average sale price for non waterfront homes is \$275 per sq ft (includes the Reserve at Stono Ferry), and the average time on market is 60 days.

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



PRO SHOP UPDATE **PLANTATION COURSE**



**HEATHER HENDERSON**

On April 20, 2024 we hosted our 6th Chickenman Memorial Golf Tournament to honor the memory of Leland P. Vaughan, who passed away in 2016. Leland loved Edisto and the Plantation Course and worked for many years rebuilding the reputation and the quality of the course. He made so many new friends in his time at Edisto which is evident through the support we receive for this tournament each year.

The tournament was created to raise money for a scholarship fund in Leland's name at Presbyterian College where he played baseball. In 2022, we decided to do things a little different and include local charities in a portion of the money along with the scholarship. Our goal is to continue to donate half of the money raised each year to different local charities. For the 2024 event, we are excited to have our local donation go to our local rescue group, Animal Lovers of Edisto. A total of \$20,000 was raised this year.

**The 2024 Tournament Winners were as follows:**

**1st Place: Murdaugh's Tree Service**

(Lee Murdaugh, Casey Robinson, Zach Armentrout and Brian Benton)

**2nd Place: The Vaughan Boyz**

(David Vaughan, Mike Vaughan, Tucker Vaughan and Austin Vaughan)

## COURSE UPDATE PLANTATION COURSE

### ZACH RISH

With it officially the summer season here at The Plantation Course at Edisto the maintenance staff and I are in full swing. We have started our cultural practices such as verticutting and top dressing the greens. The verticutting process is very important for the type of turf we have on our greens because of the Paspalum's natural growing habits in the late spring and summer months. The Paspalum turf has a natural growth habit of wanting to grow horizontally. Verticutting trains the grass to stand upright for a much smoother ball roll for our golfers. In the same process the maintenance staff comes behind this verticutting with a light and even distribution of sand that we call top dressing. The addition of sand on the greens will firm the greens up under your feet. This process also allows us to incorporate fresh sand into our soil profile. The sand is no longer noticeable after a few days of growth of turf and irrigation. This process will be performed the rest of the growing season here at The Plantation Course at Edisto.

The rest of the golf course is getting some improvements such as cart path repairs, bunker renovation, drainage work, and additional sod work to needed areas. A big thank you for your patience and working around us as the maintenance staff and I work to finish up the improvements to the golf course.

One of the improvements is the filling in of the bunker at number one green. After much thought and consideration, we as a staff felt like the best decision was to move away from the bunker and fill it in and add sod. A few reasons being the bunker was never up to standards because of its playability. Playability was affected

by a few things; one the size of the bunker caused us not to be able to use our bunker rake that churns up the sand for better lies. Another reason was anytime the lagoon beside the bunker raised to a high level the bunker would be contaminated and lose sand immediately. Also, the middle of the bunker was just unplayable. The middle of the bunker being so narrow it put the golfer at a real disadvantage. If we were to widen the middle of this bunker, it would be susceptible to erosion of the rough into the lagoon. We are excited to see the final product once we grow the sod in.

Again, thank you for reading and have a great summer.

