



# THE 19TH HOLE

STONO FERRY • THE PLANTATION COURSE • TOT HILL FARM

## GENERAL MANAGER STONO FERRY

### GREG WOOD

As the fall golf season approaches, I want to thank the membership for your patience as we continue working on improvements to The Links at Stono Ferry in 2025.

**Completed Projects:** We have successfully completed several key improvements this year, including raising and regrading the chipping green (\$20,000), installing a new sod-face practice bunker at the Learning Center end of the range (\$52,000), upgrading the outdoor bar area on the gray deck (\$20,000), installing curbing around cart paths (\$10,000), and completing sodding repairs on holes 7, 11, 12, 13, 15, and 17 (\$25,000). We are currently in the process of installing laser-leveled and newly sodded green tees on holes 6, 8, 9, 10, and 18 (\$25,000).

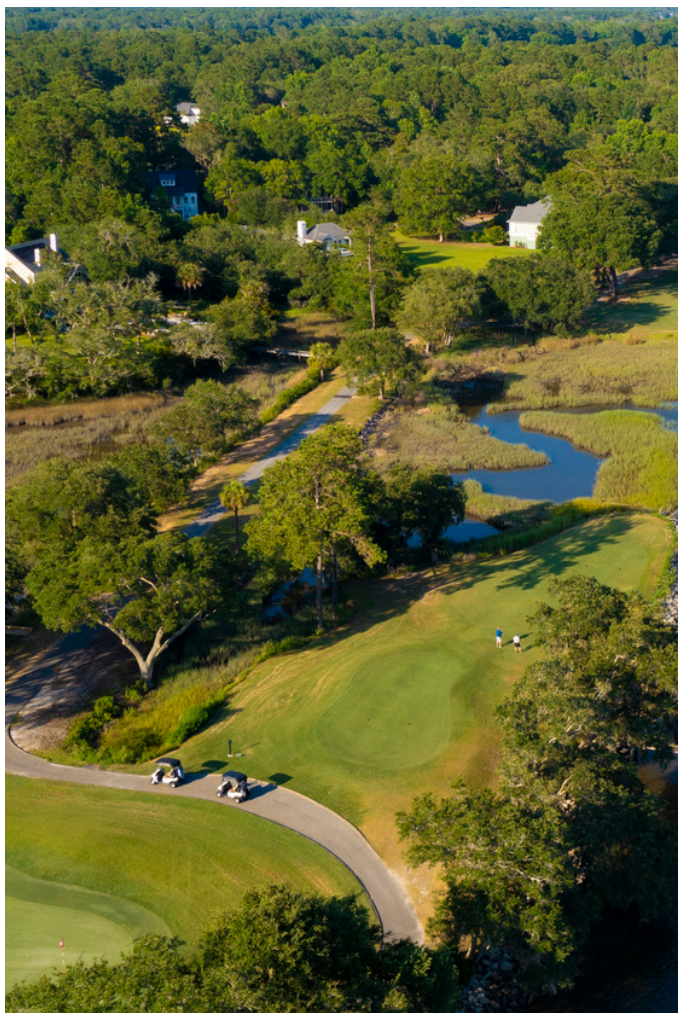
**Upcoming 2025 Projects:** Work remains on completing the new artificial teeing area on the driving range (\$62,000), with a target completion date of September 12. The new tee line allows players to alter the teeing height to their preference, eliminating the need to hit balls in front of the teeing area. This feature will provide a safer place to practice and eliminate the worn turf issues in front of the teeing area. Beginning September 8, we will lower the grade of the maroon tee on hole 6 to match the gold tee elevation, using the excess soil to widen the



tee. Once widened, we will laser-level and sod the entire area (\$20,000). Later this year, we have planned cart path repairs (\$50,000).

**Major Infrastructure Investment:** Irrigation is the lifeblood of any golf course, and I'm excited to announce a comprehensive irrigation system upgrade beginning late 2025 and early 2026. This \$657,000 investment will feature a new Toro system with updated irrigation heads and controls, new irrigation loops around each green, and GPS mapping technology to ensure precise water application. This upgrade will deliver better conditions on greens, fringes, and surrounding rough, plus more consistent greenside bunkers. Best of all, the course will remain open during installation.

Our goal is to provide exceptional and consistent course conditions year-round. Thank you for your continued support of The Links at Stono Ferry.

DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION **STONO FERRY****ANDREW EMERY**

Over the past 18 months at Stono Ferry, I've been grateful for the support and enthusiasm from our membership. **My YouTube channel** is approaching **50,000 subscribers** and nearly **6 million views** (<https://www.youtube.com/@AndrewEmeryGolf>), but nothing compares to helping golfers here at home. Thank you to everyone who has trusted me with their game.

My approach is simple: Golf Instruction should meet you where you are. Small, focused adjustments can make a big difference in confidence and consistency.

Watch my latest YouTube video here!

**"How to STRIPE Your Irons - The Drill That Unlocks Insane COMPRESSION!"**

<https://youtu.be/w4nhKeXmQ-g>

If you'd like to take these ideas further and apply them directly to your game, Pete Skirpstas and I have two opportunities coming up:

**SWING FOR LIFE - 2 DAY GOLF SCHOOL**

August & October spots unavailable.

Limited spots still available in our September School:

**Sept 23rd-24th**

RESERVE YOUR SPOT HERE:

**<https://www.emerygolfcoaching.com/a-swing-for-life>**

**SHORT GAME MASTERCLASS**

**Saturday, Aug 30th**

SIGN UP in the Golf Shop

I look forward to seeing you on the lesson tee!

**Andrew**



## GRASS CLIPPINGS STONO FERRY

### MICHAEL EARGLE

It is hard to believe that Fall is approaching fast! As we progress further into the year, the course will see major changes. Along with the tee box renovations that are currently taking place, I am excited to announce that we will begin an upgrade of our irrigation system starting in November and weather permitting should take approximately 90 days to complete, with no disruption of play. Water management is the most crucial part of maintaining and improving the overall quality of turf, and this upgrade will be an enormous step towards achieving this goal.

Phase 1 of this project began approximately three years ago when we upgraded our pumping station, which is the heart of the system, to a modernized system that replaced the unreliable mechanical aspects. Overall, it has made this part of the system more dependable with consistent flow of water, and fewer mainline leaks.

Phase 2 of this project, which will begin in November will consist of replacing every irrigation head, rewiring the system, adding new greens loops with directional heads, and integrating new software that will allow each individual head to be controlled. This individual head control is huge! Currently the system heads are programmed to operate in two, three and sometimes four heads per station. This lack of individual control has made irrigating the golf course incredibly challenging. Due to the current systems limitations, we are forced to program irrigation in a way that creates uniformity issues such as overwatered and underwatered areas, which has a negative impact on the game.

This new upgrade is extremely expensive and lacks the wow factor because everything is underground and you do not see it. However, what you will see, and notice are firmer approaches and greens surrounds, firmer greens with less ball marks. Overall healthier, more consistent turf throughout property.

In October, We will overseed the tees and fairways with ryegrass. Overseeding provides defined landing areas, desirable year-round color and protection for the permanent bermudagrass. To ensure a successful winter crop, please keep carts (including pull carts) on the path and off of tee tops. Until after first mowing-usually about a week after seeding date. Looking ahead, the maintenance team will continue to focus on keeping the course in top condition for winter play. We encourage you to enjoy the beautiful fall weather and play as often as you can!

#### **Dates to Remember:**

**October 14th-16th** Overseed tees and fairways



## PRO SHOP UPDATE STONO FERRY

### PETER SKIRPSTAS

Hello Golfers,

As we wrap up a hot and humid summer, we're excited to kick off our fall tournament season! Michael and his crew have done a tremendous job restoring the course after a tough winter and spring, and it's now shaping up to deliver both beauty and challenge for the months ahead.

As many of you know, Stono Ferry continues to offer a true test from every set of tees. In my opinion, it's one of the toughest tracks in the Lowcountry at the yardages we play — and recent updates to our course and slope ratings confirm that. In fact, every tee and combination set has come back with higher ratings than before.

Here's why:

- **SCGA Review & PCC Data:** Since the Playing Conditions Calculation (PCC) system was introduced in 2020, Stono Ferry has consistently registered adjustments of +1 to +3. This means our course has been playing tougher than previous ratings reflected.
- **Changing Conditions:** Wind patterns, rough height, and green speeds (stimp) have all increased since our last rating in 2018 — or were undervalued at that time.
- **Updated Rating Methods:** The latest system places more weight on features like penalty areas, especially for bogey golfers. This has notably impacted slope ratings on longer tees.

These changes mean our challenge is now more accurately reflected on paper — something many of us have felt in practice for years.

### TOURNAMENT NEWS

The WGA and MGA Club Championships are set for September 13–14, and both Associations are expecting record turnouts. It promises to be another exciting weekend of fun and competition.

Don't miss the MGA's Friday Night Championship Social from 5–9pm on September 12, the evening before the Club Championship. We'll also host the Final Four Match of the MGA President's Cup, starting at 12:30pm. Each player will compete in three simultaneous matches, with scoring as follows:

- Win a hole: 1 point
- Halve a hole: ½ point

The top two players (and ties) after 18 holes will advance to a shootout on hole 18, scheduled for approximately 5:15–5:30pm. Come out and cheer them on!

### College Golf Returns

We're thrilled to welcome back the Men's and Women's College of Charleston Golf Programs, both of which are building on highly successful 2023–24 seasons. If you see the players around, please introduce yourselves and give them a warm Stono Ferry welcome.

**Note:** The Member's Range will be closed from 1–5pm, Monday through Friday, for the remainder of the year to accommodate their practice schedules.

Please reach out with any questions — and we'll see you out on the course!

**Pete Skirpstas**

## FOOD AND BEVERAGE STONO FERRY

### GREETINGS FROM THE FOOD & BEVERAGE TEAM!

We're gearing up for an exciting and busy couple of months here at The Links at Stono Ferry, and we're thrilled to share what's ahead. From fun theme nights to our signature annual events, there's something for everyone. Mark your calendars and get ready to enjoy delicious food, refreshing drinks, and great company!

#### SEPTEMBER EVENTS

##### **Burgers N Brews**

**Thursday, September 11th | 5 PM – 8 PM**

Join us for one of our most popular evenings! Juicy burgers, local brews, and a laid-back vibe make this a mid-week treat you won't want to miss.

##### **Club Championship Kickoff Party**

**Friday, September 12th**

We're kicking off the Club Championship with a fun night full of live music, fantastic food, and tasty libations. Whether you're competing or just here for the fun, it's a night to remember!

##### **Club Championship**

**Sunday, September 14th**

Good luck to all participants! We'll be fueling your game with great food and drink throughout the weekend.

#### OCTOBER EVENTS

##### **Annual Oyster Roast**

**Friday, October 3rd**

A true member favorite! Enjoy fresh oysters, live music, and delicious drinks as you watch the sunset over hole #14—always a showstopper.

##### **WGA Member/Member Weekend**

**October 10th – 12th**

A weekend packed with golf, laughter, and of course, incredible food and drinks. We'll wrap things up on Sunday with a Hawaiian-themed menu—think tropical flavors and festive vibes!

##### **Burgers N Brews – October Edition**

**Thursday, October 16th | 5 PM – 8 PM**

Couldn't make the first one? Here's your second chance to dig into our handcrafted burgers and enjoy a cold brew with friends.

##### **MGA Member/Member Weekend**

**October 24th – 26th**

The guys always bring the energy, and this year will be no different! A full weekend of golf, camaraderie, and a great spread of food and drinks awaits.

Whether you're joining us on the course or just stopping by for a meal and a drink, we can't wait to see you. Cheers to an incredible fall season at Stono Ferry!

##### **Regina Forehand**

Director of Food & Beverage

Links at Stono Ferry



## REAL ESTATE STONO FERRY

### DAN LORENTZ

As summer winds down and fall approaches, Stono Ferry is still full of energy—both on the course and around the neighborhood! Tee sheets remain packed, the Pro Shop has been busy with golfers and visitors alike, and the clubhouse continues to see a steady flow of activity. With the fall market right around the corner, it's the perfect time to tap into the seasonal momentum.

Our on-site office is just inside the clubhouse (first door on the right) and open seven days a week. Whether you're curious about the current market, considering selling, or simply want to drop by, we're always happy to connect. If we happen to be out on a showing, you can leave your information on the iPad outside the door and we'll reach out as soon as we return.

Inventory is beginning to edge up, and interest rates have dipped slightly—prompting some buyers who were waiting to take the next step. With one of the busiest seasons of the year ahead, now is an ideal time to start the conversation!

We also proudly serve Edisto, Stono Ferry's sister course community. From year-round residences to vacation homes and investment properties, we deliver the same expertise and personalized service in both markets.

If you're considering making a move this fall, let's talk!

For immediate assistance or personalized advice, don't hesitate to contact Dan directly at **843-532-4653** or [dan@danlorentz.com](mailto:dan@danlorentz.com). If selling your property is part of your New Year's goals, we're here to help make it happen!

#### Dan Lorentz

Greater Charleston Properties Team

The Boulevard Company

Cell: 843.532.4653

Office: 843.631.2463

#### QUICK STONO FERRY MARKET STATS:

There are currently **5** active homes for sale, and **1** homes that are active contingent.

There have been **9** homes to close in the last **6** months, the average sale price for non waterfront homes is **\$312.29** per sq ft (includes the Reserve at Stono Ferry), and the average time on market is **111** days.

#### QUICK EDISTO ISLAND/BEACH MARKET STATS:

There are currently **45** active homes for sale, and **12** homes that are active contingent.

There have been **56** homes to close in the last **6** months, the average sale price for non waterfront homes is **\$662.42** per sq ft (includes the Reserve at Stono Ferry), and the average time on market is **46** days.



## PRO SHOP UPDATE **PLANTATION COURSE**



### HEATHER HENDERSON

After a stretch of extremely hot and dry months, August delivered more than enough rain! Unfortunately, this led to several course closures and limited play to walkers on a few other days. Despite the conditions, our maintenance team worked tirelessly around standing water to keep the course in top condition. A big thank you to them for their dedication and effort!

New fall merchandise is arriving daily! We've introduced a few new lines along with some stylish new hats in a variety of colors—perfect for cooler rounds and early holiday shopping.

#### **Fall is a Busy Season – Plan Ahead**

September and October are peak months for group outings at Edisto. We kindly remind all members to book tee times in advance and to cancel any reservations you will not be using. Also, please remember, only two carts per foursome and please use the sand provided on your carts to repair divots.

#### **Important Billing Reminder**

If you're updating your credit card for autopay, please note that Stono Ferry and Edisto member accounts are billed separately. Be sure to update your card information for both courses.

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to seeing you on the course this fall!

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

#### **October 13**

Closed for private group outing

#### **October 18–19**

Closed for the Okonite Corporate Tournament

#### **October 26–28**

Edisto Invitational Women's College  
Tournament

## GRASS CLIPPINGS PLANTATION COURSE

### JOE HILL

What a summer we've had here on the beach! We went from drought and triple-digit heat to a two-week stretch that brought over 15 inches of rain and high humidity. The course took it all in stride and I'm happy to report that the greens are looking strong and healthy as we head into the fall season.

In my opinion, September and October are the best months to play golf. The weather is cooler, the course is in great shape, and it's the perfect time to get out and enjoy as many rounds as you can before winter brings its usual unpredictability.

We're also gearing up for the College of Charleston Women's Golf Tournament, and our crew has been working hard all summer to ensure the course is in top condition. We're proud of the progress we've made and are looking forward to the next nine months of excellent playing conditions.

As we head into this beautiful fall stretch, I'd like to remind everyone to please continue helping us by repairing your ball marks and filling divots with sand. These small actions make a big difference and help us keep the course in the best shape possible.

Looking ahead, we have our fall fertilization scheduled to help maintain healthy, green turf as we transition into the colder months. You may also notice a few *Cart Path Only* days as we apply our fall and winter pre-emergent treatments to combat Poa Annua.

Thank you for your continued support of the maintenance crew. We appreciate it—and we hope you enjoy every minute of golf this fall!

See you out there,

**Joe Hill**

Golf Course Superintendent





## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**JANUARY****16th** BURGERS AND BREWS**22nd** BOURBON BINGO AND BUBBLES**FEBRUARY****8th** WGA OPENING DAY**9th** SUPER BOWL BLITZ**13th** VALENTINES DINNER**20th** BURGERS AND BREWS**MARCH****8th - 9th** WGA STONO CLASSIC**13th** BURGERS AND BREWS**APRIL****1st** WGA PRESIDENTS CUP MATCH PLAY**10th** BURGERS AND BREWS**12th** MGA PRESIDENTS CUP QUALIFIER**18th** EASTER EGG HUNT SOCIAL**MAY****2nd - 3rd** WGA MEMBER GUEST**8TH** BURGERS AND BREWS**16TH - 18TH** MGA MEMBER GUEST**JUNE****12th** BURGERS AND BREWS**20 - 21st** STAMPEDE @ TOT HILL FARM**17th** CAROLINAS OPEN QUALIFIER**29th - 30th** CANNON PRO-AM @ STONO FERRY**JULY****10TH** BURGERS AND BREWS**18TH** SUMMER SANDY SOCIAL SUMMER BBQ**AUGUST****10th** BURGERS AND BREWS**SEPTEMBER****11th** BURGERS AND BREWS**13th - 14th** CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP**OCTOBER****3rd** ANNUAL OYSTER ROAST**10th - 12th** WGA MEMBER MEMBER**14 - 16TH** OVERSEED**16th** BURGERS AND BREWS**24th - 26th** MGA MEMBER MEMBER**NOVEMBER****8th** WGA CLOSING DAY**13th** BURGERS AND BREWS**DECEMBER****2nd** GIFTS FOR GOLF**9th** STONO FERRY CHRISTMAS PARTY**11th** BURGERS AND BREWS**11th** HOLIDAY SALE