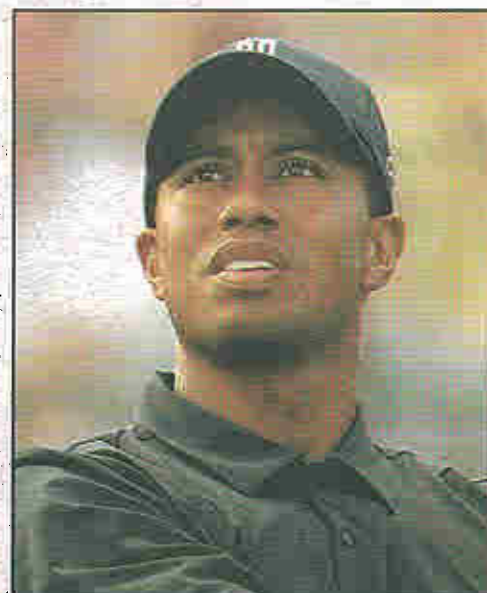


Now in Its 17th Year as The Charlotte Region's #1 Source of Golf Information

March 2007

FREE!



Tiger's So-Called Streak Is Over

A photograph of a large, two-story clubhouse with a grey metal roof and a central tower, situated on a golf course. In the foreground, there is a green fairway with a sand trap and a body of water.

New Dream For Stonebridge

Change In Ownership Means Bright Future

IN THIS ISSUE:

- **Commentary:** Thank Goodness Tiger's So-Called Streak Is Over (page 4)
- **Equipment:** Best And Worst From The PGA Merchandise Show
(Exclusive Coverage Begins On Page 6)
- **Equipment:** Head-To-Head Test With Tour Edge, Tourmaker Iron Woods (page 16)
- **Calendars** Of All National, Regional & Local Golf Tours (page 19)

Color Pull-out Map of Local Courses • Area Tournament Directory

New Ownership Brings A New Era To Stonebridge

By **REID SPENCER**

Editor

A lot has changed at Stonebridge Golf Club in the nine years since the course opened, but those changes have come without sacrificing the quality of the layout itself, which is the centerpiece of the large property located near Highway 75 in Mineral Springs, four miles east of Waxhaw, N.C.

Reid Spencer



Richard C. Osborne designed the golf course, which compares favorably with his other notable works: Cypress Lakes in Australia, Cheval Golf & Polo Club in Florida, and Nevel Meade in Kentucky.

When we first played Stonebridge in March of 1998, this is what we wrote about the experience:

"Golf course architect Richard C. Osborne shares a creative perspec-

tive with the great sculptor and painter Michelangelo, who could look at a massive block of stone and visualize the masterpiece that ultimately would take shape within its rough exterior.

"Similarly, Osborne found an eminently playable, challenging golf course within a 650-acre tract of untouched land three miles east of Mineral Springs.

"The result is Stonebridge, a marvelous addition to the growing firmament of star-quality layouts in and around Charlotte."

Nothing has changed to alter our opinion of the golf course, but as I mentioned earlier, much has changed with Stonebridge.

First and foremost, US Land Investments, a real estate development and investment company that makes its home in Charlotte, purchased the course in March of 2006 with an eye toward developing and managing the facility through its US Land Golf Division.

What US Land Investments did not change is the open access to course. Stonebridge continues to support its own membership, but the golf facilities remain open to outside play, thereby providing



Photo courtesy of Stonebridge Golf Club

Natural hardwoods highlight the beauty of the Stonebridge property.



Photo courtesy of Stonebridge Golf Club

Stonebridge has its own version of Swilcan Bridge on the par-5 first hole.

golfers in Mecklenburg, Union and surrounding counties the opportunity to sample some of the best greens in the area.

US land Investments already boasts an impressive track record.

Among its accomplishments to date are Legend Oaks Golf Plantation near Charleston, S.C.; Birkdale Village in Huntersville, N.C.; The greens at Piper Glen in Charlotte; Waxhaw Commons;

LOCAL COURSES



Delta Bluff in the Savannah, Ga./Hilton Head, S.C., area; and Lake Russell in Abbeville County, S.C.

To its ownership of Stonebridge, US Land brings a long-range plan for constructing new facilities and upgrading existing ones, as well as for providing home sites for those who want to live and play at the club.

The new owners have already spent more than \$1 million on capital improvements and have developed a three-phase improvement program.

The first phase of the program involved the addition of a new fleet of golf carts and the purchase of

center that will include four tennis courts, a junior Olympic swimming pool and a childrens' play and water feature.

During the third phase of the improvement program, the new owners plan to expand the existing clubhouse, which has stood for nine years. The square footage of the new facility will grow to 5,000+, providing enough room to accommodate an exercise room, members' lounge and a dining area that can serve 140 people.

As enhancements to the exterior of the clubhouse, US Land Investments plans to add a fireplace and tournament staging area.

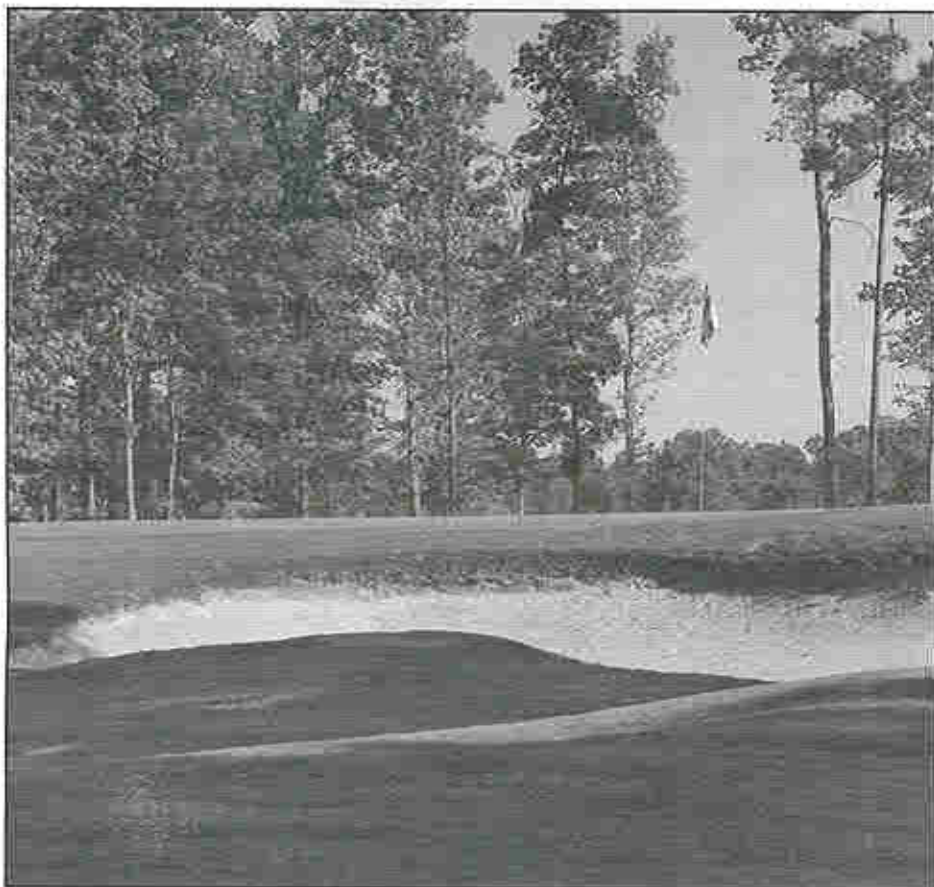


Photo courtesy of Stonebridge Golf Club

Phase I of US Land Investments' improvement program at Stonebridge included rebuilding of the bunkers.

new turf equipment. Not only can golfers enjoy an improved tee-to-green experience, but they can also enjoy the ride in the process.

Phase I also features the rebuilding of the bunkers—an improvement that already has made a dramatic difference to the appearance of the course—as well as reseeding and aeration of the greens, tees and fairways.

The second phase of enhancements to the property will feature the construction of a new amenity

In addition, there are numerous housing options within the surrounding development, with housing plans that range from the \$200,000s to the \$800,000s. All Stonebridge homeowners can use the golf course, clubhouse and amenities center, construction of which is slated to begin this spring. Homesites start at \$100,000.

For more information, or to book a tee time at Stonebridge, call (704) 283-8998.



**You love golf, you know the basics.
Your game is getting better
and you are ready
to have some real fun.**

**If that's you...
and you are 6 to 18 years old
then you are ready for the
NATIONAL JUNIOR GOLF CLUB.**

**The Largest Junior Tour
In The Southeast
Year Round Competitive
Golf Tournaments
For Members Only**

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

Eligible for all tour events

NJGC Tour Card

NJGC Member Sticker

NJGC Bag Tag

Free Range Balls

Special Retail Discounts

Tee Time Text Messaging

College Prep. Tools

College Recruitment Services

For more information call

704-829-7407

www.nationaljunorgolfclub.com



National Junior Golf Club
5700 South New Hope Road
Belmont, NC 28210