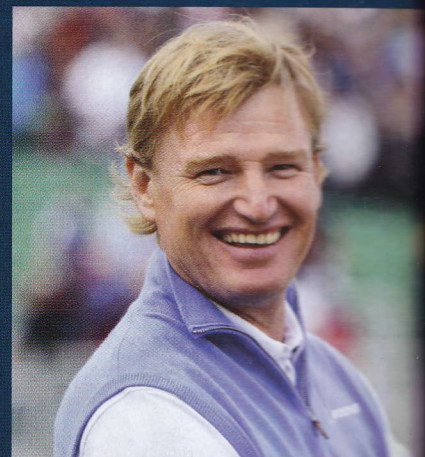


Ernie Els on golf development in Africa, Middle East

Golf Inc.™

MAY/JUNE 2015



Clubhouse *of the* YEAR

A South Carolina clubhouse charms judges, earns best of show and a ranch-style club in Arizona shows just how powerful a renovation can be



IN THIS SECTION

- 25 New Construction
- 31 Clubhouse metrics
- 34 Renovations

Clubhouse

of the YEAR

A South Carolina clubhouse charms judges to earn best of show, and a ranch-style club in Arizona shows just how powerful a renovation can be

By **Laira Martin**

It was the year of the American clubhouse. While clubhouses from across the globe have dominated our Clubhouse of the Year competition in recent years, this year the Americans made their mark. Eight of this year's nine honorees are in the U.S., illustrating the culturally varied designs of the country's cardinal points.

Representing the South is Plantation Golf Club at Sea Pines Resort in Hilton Head, S.C., this year's Best of Show winner. Its Southern style is nothing short of charming. The Country Club at DC Ranch in Scottsdale, Ariz., which placed first in the renovation category, pays homage to the West with a bold, equestrian interior design.

But the two clubhouses that placed first are not exactly as they seem. Both play with exterior visual illusions that tease unsuspecting members. Plantation Golf Club appears to be a single-story building, only to surprise members with an additional story, visible only from the rear. Upon first look, the Country Club at DC Ranch has hardly any surface changes at all, though the fa-

cade was extended out an additional 20 feet to make room for a nearly 2,000-square-foot addition.

As always, the scope of designs, both interior and exterior, impressed Golf Inc.'s four judges. This year's judging panel was Kenneth Hart, principal of Kenneth Hart Architecture and past clubhouse honoree for his work at Iverness Country Club in Birmingham, Ala.; Angel del Monte, founding principal and vice president of Alfonso Architects, the team behind a winning clubhouse at Streamsong Resort in Bowling Green, Fla.; Frank Benzakour, general manager at Village Club of Sands Point in Sands Point, N.Y.; and Linda Blair, principal of Image Design, an interior design firm recognized by Golf Inc. for its work at Shadow Wood Country Club in Bonita Springs, Fla.

Entries were judged on three factors: efficiency (25 percent), aesthetics (25 percent) and overall design concept (50 percent). Golf Inc. separated the entries into two categories: new construction and renovation, with nine projects earning scores high enough to be called winners.





NEW CONSTRUCTION

Best of Show/1st Place Plantation Golf Club

Hilton Head Island, S.C.

Owner: Sea Pines Resort LLC

Clubhouse Architect: Cooper Carry

Interior Design: Kent Interior Design Inc.

Contractor: Fraser Construction



Take one look at the new clubhouse at Plantation Golf Club and its role as a winner is clear. The elegance of the Lowcountry aesthetic awed judges for being simultaneously grandiose and understated.

It sits at the intersection of two courses: Pete Dye's Heron Point and the Mark McCumber-designed Ocean Course. Robert Neal and Manny Dominguez, architects of the Atlanta-based firm Cooper Carry, dutifully explored both courses before deciding a backward design approach was best.

"We looked at it as if the clubhouse had been there forever and the courses had been built around it," Neal said. "We sort of reversed it, so when you're there

BY THE NUMBERS

Public

Size: 23,000 sq. ft.

Cost: \$17 million



WHAT THE JUDGES SAID:

"The siting and layout of the new clubhouse was well conceived and executed from the positioning of the site amenities and site circulation. The scale of the clubhouse and limited range of materials provide a formal yet intimate environment that reflect Southern charm."

- Kenneth Hart

"Lowcountry in every aspect. A home run."

- Linda Blair

"What a beautiful design and furniture. The project is done with great thoughts, taste and pizzazz. Get ready, members; celebrating your milestone events will make your guests want to join the club."

- Frank Benzakour

"The plan is simple, well organized and responds well to both large and small groups of golfers."

- Angel del Monte



you have a certain sense of expectation and elegance that the clubhouse exhibits before you go onto the course."

From the facade, the structure appears to be a one-story building. The sheer mass of the 23,000-square-foot structure is not visible until seen from the rear, where the second story comes into view.

"We asked ourselves, how can we design the building so it doesn't lose its charm," Dominguez said. "It's really almost three buildings connected with

wings. It's a big building, but we didn't want it to feel big. We wanted it to feel like a composition of smaller structures."

Along with wings, the building's three smaller areas are connected through a perimeter of porches — a truly Southern element that Neal says could not be overlooked.

"The Southern expression of a porch has a lot of connotations," he said. "It is

really meant to be the living room of the community."

Though Neal, Dominguez and interior designer Karen Kent, of Kent Interior Design, were responsible for replacing an existing structure, they did not want members to feel displaced. Elements

of the previous clubhouse, including Savannah gray bricks and a bronze alligator statue, were reclaimed.

"It was important that members felt like they had some of their past integrated

in the design," Dominguez said. "We reused old materials so as not to let go of that history."

Utilizing plenty of large windows, the clubhouse takes advantage of the 270-degree view to the north, east and west. Though the view of the South Carolina sunset is free, the clubhouse has a hefty price tag. The \$17 million project is the priciest in this year's competition.

"It's a big building, but we didn't want it to feel big. We wanted it to feel like a composition of smaller structures."

TPC Stonebrae Country Club



NEW CONSTRUCTION

2nd Place

TPC Stonebrae Country Club

Hayward, Calif.

Owner: Stonebrae Club Partners LLC

Clubhouse Architect: Hornberger + Worstell Inc.

Interior Design: Martin-Vegue Design Studio

Contractor: Lusardi Construction Co.



Inspired by Prairie-style architecture, the new clubhouse at TPC Stonebrae Country Club uses glass walls and a combination of wood and metal accents to blur the lines between the indoors and outdoors.

The color scheme of golden browns, rusty reds, dark bronzes and a muted orange is no accident. Architect Mark Hornberger of Hornberger +

Worstell and interior designer Phyllis Martin-Vegue of Martin Vegue Design

Studio wanted to ensure that members and guests had a constant connection to the surrounding nature of northern California.

Like most clubhouses, TPC Stonebrae very much hopes to bring people together, though this particular approach emphasizes the utmost importance of considering the diversity of members to create what the entry calls a “blended country club experience.” In its first six months after opening, an additional 75 families have joined the club, and not a week has gone by without the clubhouse hosting a wedding or other joyous event.

WHAT THE JUDGES SAID:

“A fresh and modern aesthetic that departs from the traditional clubhouse yet includes current planning trends in the fitness studio and outdoor dining options. A judicious use of metal and wood that provides a clubhouse atmosphere without looking like a commercial facility.”

- Kenneth Hart

“Very beautiful design on an exquisite property. This space will create many memories for all your social gatherings and special events. On a 1-to-10 scale, the views are a 12.” - Frank Benzakour

BY THE NUMBERS

Private

Size: 25,000 sq. ft.

Cost: \$13.5 million

Espiche Golf Club

BY THE NUMBERS

Public

Size: 8,406 sq. ft.

Cost: 1,200,000 or \$1,291,00



NEW CONSTRUCTION

3rd Place

Espiche Golf Club

Algarve, Lagos, Portugal

Owner: Espiche Golf S.A.

Clubhouse Architect: Nadine Berger

Interior Design: Tacon - Thorntons

Contractor: Consdep SA

Espiche Golf's clubhouse and course, built on an ecological reserve in the southernmost corner of Portugal, has what the entry calls an "essential ethos of sustainability for a changing world." If the clubhouse's design is any indication of where the changing world is going, it is surely a world worth living in.

The juncture between sustainability and history is best displayed by architect Nadine Berger's use of reclaimed materials. All original stones from the pre-existing ruin and surrounding area were used to construct external walls. Solar panels, energy-reflecting glass, harvested rainwater and drought resistant grass all further contribute to the project's environmentally conscious practices.

With just over 5,000 square feet of base land and a budget laden with the region's recession woes, Berger had to be efficient. She went with a two-story design — using terraces, lounges and expansive windows to create the illusion of additional area in a confined space. Though Berger faced a few challenges in the design process, she made sure none of them are visible in the final product.



"It's a small-scale gem. Designed with delicate balance of an upper level that is enclosed in glass and a lower level that is enclosed with stone." - *Kenneth Hart*

WHAT THE JUDGES SAID:

"The project showcases a spectacular building on a spectacular site. This kind of beautiful architecture demands to sit on top of a hill as a reference point for golfers." - *Angel del Monte*

"What a spectacular design. Modern, clean lines and gorgeous views. This design is a few years ahead of its time." - *Frank Benzakour*

Golf Inc.™

Management Company Directory

**INSIDER
ACCESS**

**TO MANAGEMENT COMPANIES,
OPERATORS & INDUSTRY
PROFESSIONALS**

**150+ COMPANIES LISTED
20 LARGEST MANAGEMENT COMPANIES**

UPGRADE OR SUBSCRIBE NOW
GOLFINCMAGAZINE.COM/JOIN



NEW CONSTRUCTION

Honorable mention

Cobblestone Park Golf Club

Blythewood, S.C.

Owner: D.R. Horton Co.

Clubhouse Architect: LTC Associates

Interior Design: Builders Design

Contractor: D.R. Horton

BY THE NUMBERS

Public

Size: 24,000 sq. ft.

Cost: n/a

What's in a name? For Cobblestone Park Golf Club, the name is as much a design element for its new clubhouse as it is an identity.

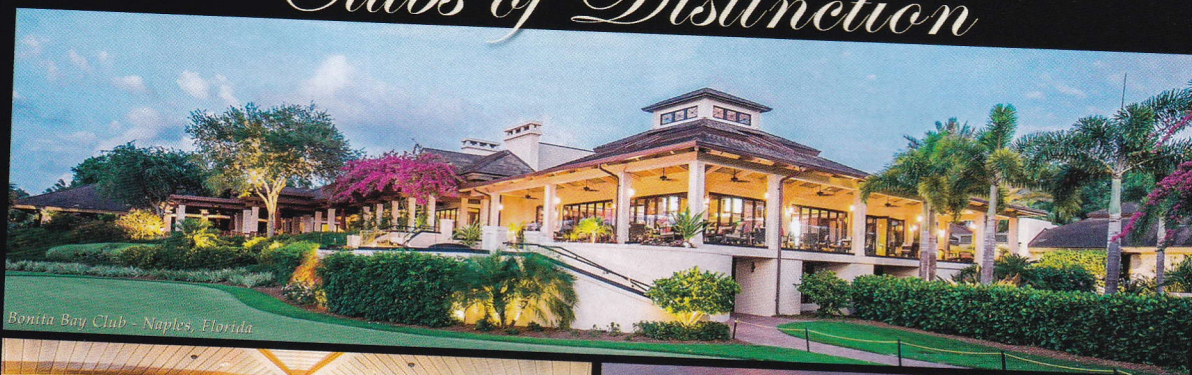
Columns of vertically composed cobblestones frame the dining room and lounges and set the tone for the dark gray, muted green and deep brown palette of the interior design.

The South Carolina clubhouse is, of course, not without a porch. Perched on high ground overlooking the 18th hole, the porch gives visitors views of surrounding ponds, fountains

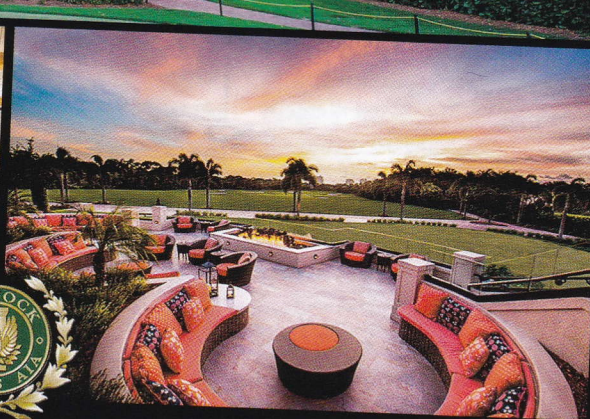
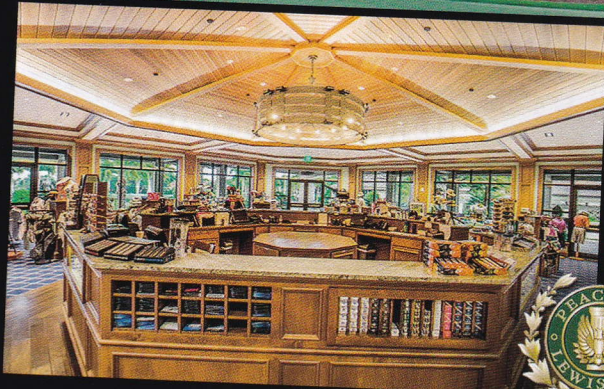
and waterfalls.

Though three stories high, the clubhouse is very much about singularity. It strives to be the one go-to place for members and those living outside of the community's gates to dine, gather and unite.

Clubs of Distinction



Bonita Bay Club - Naples, Florida



PEACOCK + LEWIS LLC

www.peacockandlewis.com
brian@peacockandlewis.com

MASTER PLANNING

ARCHITECTURE

INTERIOR DESIGN