



Bear Lakes member Phil Cotton, CEO of Nicklaus Companies, hitting balls while his daughter takes a break on the newly unveiled practice facilities at Bear Lakes Country Club.

Bear Lakes Unveils High Tech Golf Practice Facilities

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida -- Bear Lakes Country Club is the latest to take advantage of golf's technological advances with golf practice facilities that four-time major champion Ernie Els calls the best in South Florida.

The 13-acre facility's grand opening was November 4, where Bear Lakes members were introduced to Trackman technology that will be available on the north and south sides of the practice facilities. The entire facility has been upgraded with renovated hitting areas, more visible target greens and landing areas along with the enhanced technology.

"They're doing good work there," said Els, a member at Bear Lakes. "They've redone the Lakes course and the Practice Facility now. I was there last week, and they showed us the new range. Wonderful facility now. I think it's the best range in the community."

The practice facility was built by Nicklaus Design – Jack Nicklaus designed both the Lakes and Links courses – and includes the latest in ball-flight technology. Multiple radars situated on both ends of the facility will track the flight of every ball from every hitting location and provide eight actionable data points including carry and total distance, ball speed and height, launch angle and direction, and when selecting a specific target, lateral overall distance to that specific target.

In addition to helping a player's game, the enhanced range also will provide hours of enjoyment with exciting, easy-to-use applications that provide the ultimate practice facility experience for golfers at every level through practice, games, and virtual golf.

Jimmy Gascoigne, PGA Director of Golf at Bear Lakes, said, "Tremendous upgrades have been provided to The Learning Center on the south end to provide the optimal teaching and club fitting environment for members and PGA Professionals."

The bays will feature: JC Video swing capturing software to record and analyze golf swing, individual Trackman 4 Ball Launch Monitors which will capture a total of 40 swing and ball elements, new installed wall-to-wall putting turf as well as new hitting station turf, club fitting and demo equipment will be centralized in this location, and club loft, lie and adjustment equipment for the perfect fitting experience.

The renovation expanded the previous short-game areas from two to three fantastic greens complexes that will now simulate the conditions experienced on both the Lakes and Links courses.

On the north side, the green size, surrounds and practice bunker have all been enlarged, while on the south end, the original complex has been expanded into two separate action areas. The first short-game area will mimic the Lakes Course turf and playing environment while the second short-game area (nearest Links #7 tee) is shaped and grassed similar to the Links Course surrounds.

Bear Lakes also installed the latest in artificial turf technology on both the north and south ends. The system installed allows the Golf Operation Team to regularly rotate the artificial turf panels to different stations to maintain the longevity of the turf conditions. On a daily basis, the club will utilize both ends of the practice facilities with one side hitting from grass conditions and the other side hitting from the artificial turf.

Bear Lakes Country Club, located in sunny West Palm Beach, Florida, offers a highly sought-after private luxury lifestyle in a convenient location. Just minutes from I-95, Palm Beach International Airport, downtown West Palm Beach, Palm Beach, Singer Island, and Jupiter, you'll find a welcoming environment that blends sports, family, and community. Established in 1984, Bear Lakes proudly honors our history while adapting to meet the needs of their members. That's why they say, Bear Lakes is "Tradition Redefined." Learn more at www.bearlakes.org.

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