



Exciting Renovations Underway at The Polo Club of Boca Raton

BY DEBY GOLDFARB

t is said that we only have one life to live, so live it well or, as the famous quote goes by poet George Herbert as far back as the 16th century, "Living well is the best revenge." If it's true that the ultimate goal is to make the best of whatever life throws at us, there is no better place to indulge and raise the bar to the highest possible standard than The Polo Club of Boca Raton. The Club has always been known as the pinnacle of fine living but now, even more so. With its current \$65 million renovations underway, it's arguably surpassing every other country club in the area in its beauty and amenities.

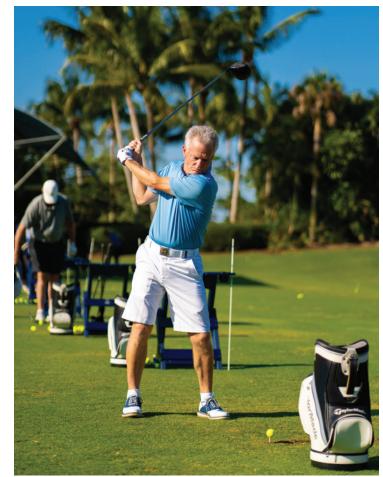
The process of renovations started in conversation two years ago since the influx of new members has been an impetus for the Club to consider various changes and upgrades every eight to ten years. Lili Hang, Polo Club's General Manager & COO, explained, "As our current membership is changing, we are taking the new, younger membership into consideration." She cited the Club's conversions and additions to a total now of 18 pickleball courts and 22 tennis courts. She added, "We are now the largest court offering in South Florida."

Golf is another area of focus at The Polo Club. An innovative and impressive "TopTracer" will be added in the coming months. TopTracer is the #1 Range Technology in golf, offering the largest

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library of game modes in the industry so that members can experience playing at famous courses such as Pebble Beach in California, Augusta National in Georgia, St. Andrews in Scotland, and more. It also gives real-time performance analysis and personalized feedback. Even the Pros like it since, with the use of digital screens, they can help players analyze the speed and angle of their swing. The Polo Club will have 22 bays, offering both beginners and "scratch" golfers plenty of availability to get in some practice, not to mention the fun, social aspect of mingling with others or simply just watching.

Of course, everyone is interested in new restaurants and The Polo Club does not disappoint. Lili said, "Our restaurants will offer a variety from casual poolside dining with shaded cabanas to our indoor Michelin-level upscale dining restaurant that is a cut





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above any steakhouse in the Boca area and an experience like no other." A few years ago, Covid inspired the need for more outdoor amenities and the Club has responded by making it easy to relax and enjoy spending time al fresco with the ability to serve 1,000 guests per day for outside dining. Renovations include enlarging existing bars and adding another new outdoor bar. The decor is exquisite and the cuisine is so excellent that many members choose to celebrate their weddings and galas right at The Polo Club.

The spa and fitness center at The Polo Club is a member favorite. Members can relax at the elegant Spa that offers facials, massage therapy, a steam room, a dry sauna, a whirlpool, hair and nail salon, or take advantage of the fitness and aquatic areas. The fitness facilities at Polo are community-driven and aesthetically pleasing to usher in a new era of boutique gyms. Many other special enhancements include the Club's investment in a 1 1/2-acre farm, Vintage Roots. The heart and soul behind The Polo Farm is Cristian (Cris) DeRusha, the new Director of Farming. With a decade of global farming experience, from Australia to Colombia to Senegal, Cris brings a wealth of knowledge in organic vegetable production, land design, sustainability to our Club and produce with no preservatives. For every tree removed, mulch has been made. Bees are being raised and there are over 80 fruit trees. Polo's entire thinking is geared to deliver the highest quality products with no impact on the planet.

Desserts and pastries are made in-house at Polo's brand-new Patisserie headed by Executive Pastry Chef and Chocolatier,

Devin Cowan, and his team. Lili added, "We will be making our own ice cream and roasting our own coffee." The Polo Club has active social and cultural programs that include buses to art exhibits, Broadway shows, lectures and the FIU symphony hosted on premises. There are six live shows per year and several hundred members usually attend. Finally, The Polo Club has not forgotten its little members who can visit the Youth Center, splash pad, and playground.

The Polo Club will complete over 100,000 square feet of design renovations to the Clubhouse. The renovations are expected to be finalized in the next two years. "However," Lili explained, "They will be done in stages in order for the Club to continue to operate during construction. Maintaining our same special lifestyle is our number one goal." She concluded, "We have 1711 homes in the Polo Club and only a few are for sale. People WANT to be here. We are renovating because it is always critical to drive forward." stb

For more information please contact the Membership Department. 561-995-1200 membership@poloclub.net

Deby Goldfarb has taught at Boston University, been a newspaper columnist and TV show host in Boston, and has contributed to Simply the Best since 2008. She also owns an event website, SteppingOutFlorida.com

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