



A Day With The Legend at Ibis

The private community, after a \$37 million redevelopment of its Clubhouse and Sports Village, opens its new Jack Nicklaus Signature Course.



WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA: “What’s not to love about the area?” questioned Jack Nicklaus during the ribbon cutting ceremony on the Legend Course at The Club at Ibis. “This part of Florida has the best of golf, best weather, and some of the finest fishing anywhere.”

The well-attended grand opening of the course marked a milestone in the history at Ibis. “I believe Ibis is the only private community that can boast three Nicklaus family designed golf courses: the Legend, by me, and the Heritage and Tradition designed by my sons,” continued Nicklaus. “Each has a slightly different feel.”

“When I built the original Legend Course, I had nothing but wild Florida marshland to work with,” recalled Nicklaus. “Trees we planted 26 years ago have matured and allowed me to frame each hole. Number seven is a standout. I created a Redan green that is protected on three sides [the name ‘Redan’ can be traced to the Crimean War when the British captured a Russian-held fort fortified on three sides].”

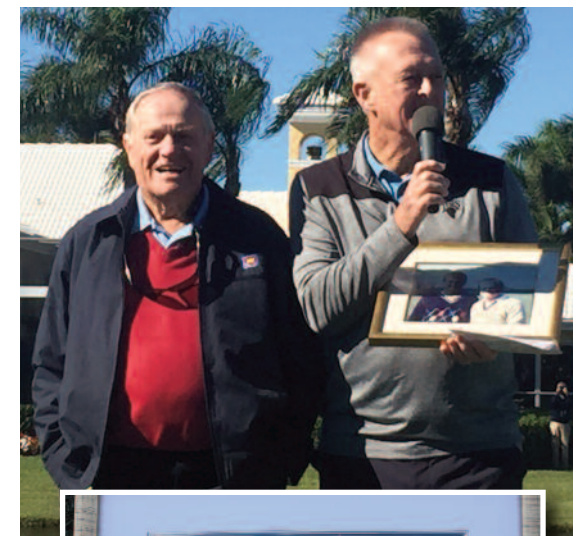
Grand Opening festivities included a lively discussion on the practice range by Martin Hall and Daniel Berger (with over \$10 million in earnings on the PGA TOUR). As Daniel pounded drives that likely showed up on Palm Beach International Airport radar, Martin questioned how an amateur can improve his game.

“I CREDIT MUCH of my on-course success by learning to manage my game. You must learn to accommodate your swing du jour.”— JACK NICKLAUS



“Under pressure, play your proven shot.
“Think tactics more than swing.
“Don’t try shots beyond your capabilities.
“Narrow the difference between best and worst shots.
“Learn to cope with bad breaks.”
— JACK NICKLAUS

(Right) Martin Hall presenting Jack Nicklaus with a photo taken of the two of them at the opening of the original Legend Course at Ibis in 1991.



“Early into my teaching career, Mr. Nicklaus had great influence on me. He was the first player I ever witnessed to hit a ball into stiff crosswinds and the ball didn’t move. It’s astonishing, 27 years later, The Golden Bear and I would be standing on the same tee box talking golf. Five words of wisdom Jack passed on to me then, are as relevant today.”

— MARTIN HALL, DIRECTOR OF GOLF INSTRUCTION AT THE CLUB AT IBIS

“In 1991, we were playing with wooden woods and balata balls. Now, with the redesign and upgrade complete, the golf course matches today’s modern equipment benefits,” critiqued Nicklaus. “Not to worry. Although the course is longer, the bailout areas are more generous. My best tip on playing the course: use them!”

The Legend Course has five sets of tee markers with combination yardages in between each one providing nine different length options to choose from. The tee markers are numbers instead of colored, eliminating any age or gender stigma when choosing the length of course to play from.

“Golf is a game that is never solved. To enjoy your day, it’s critical to play the correct set of tees,” said Nicklaus. “I have been a regular in a father/son tournament up in Orlando. For the past five years, we haven’t used my tee shot in the scramble format. I considered



dropping the event until they changed the tee positions for the over 70-age bracket. Now it’s more fun than ever.”

The Club at Ibis is almost a small town. Its 3,000 members (living in 33 distinct neighborhoods) have access to the Sports Village

and Clubhouse complex, three Nicklaus courses, and 16 Har-Tru tennis courts with sub-surface irrigation systems. It’s located 20 minutes from every modern convenience. Palm Beach Airport (PBI) is to the south and the Gardens Mall, Kravis Center, and beaches of Singer Island are due east. The international equestrian communities of Wellington are just off to the west. ■

For more information on membership opportunities at The Club at Ibis, visit ClubAtIbis.com, or phone (800) 741-4500.

“IN MOST PRO-AMS, I am astonished how low players tee the ball. No wonder they have trouble getting proper ball trajectory. Try adding a bit of height, particularly when hitting your driver,” advised Berger.

“HOW DO YOU MANAGE stress in competition?” pressed Hall. “My go-to method is deep, methodical breaths originating from the stomach,” revealed Berger. “It calms me both mentally and physically.”