

# Crystal Coast Country Club

...where friends connect

By John Ferguson

Spring has sprung, and the Crystal Coast Country Club is very close to opening our golf course to public play. This has been a long time coming, but I think anyone who plays the course will find that it will have been worth the wait. After all, the greens, fairways, tee boxes and landscaping have been completely rebuilt or improved. Our plan is for the golf course to open for all to enjoy on May 1. This should give the grass time to "green up" and be ready for spring and summer play. I would also ask that you put on your calendar a Grand Opening Day event being planned for June 5. Our hope is that many more people will come and see the new facilities and golf course. I am sure that you will find it a place where you and your family can enjoy the many activities available.

Although we look forward to opening the golf course to the general public, I want to mention that this is just one of many steps we are completing before we achieve our goal of a premier country club. The clubhouse is almost complete now, with the fountain and landscaping surrounding the building nearing completion. The exercise facility is well underway now and will be finished in the next month or two. This will be a venue where our membership can keep in shape without having to leave Pine Knoll Shores. We are close to receiving a permit to build the dedicated pickleball courts at the club. They should not take long to complete once we get the permit. The tennis center building construction permit is being developed, and as soon as we receive it, construction will begin for this completely new facility. Our swimming venue is being completed and will be ready for the spring season. The new kiddie pool is certainly a draw for the town's children and grandchildren. To keep the pool an even safer place, the new decking will have a much softer and slip resistant coating. The safety of our members and their families is always our most important goal.

Along with our facility improvement, I think it is important to keep in mind that the club is continuing to work with the town to improve the stormwater drainage issue that has faced us all in past years. We are now in the second phase of this effort, which will allow quicker drainage from flooding streets after a major storm. The club has been a willing participant in the planning and design and will continue to be so. At the last Board of Commissioners meeting Town Manager Brian Kramer noted that this phase of the stormwater construction effort is planned for the next fiscal year. The effort takes a significant amount of preliminary work, such as engineering, designing, permitting, stakeholder input and funding before construction can begin, and all of this work has been going on for some time so the timetable set forth can be achieved.

I assure you that the Crystal Coast Country Club is proud to be an integral part of the town of Pine Knoll Shores. We look forward to completing our work at the club and working with the town management. Together we will only improve on this wonderful place to live. Now is the time for those of you who have not joined the club to come in and see one of our staff members to apply for membership.



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