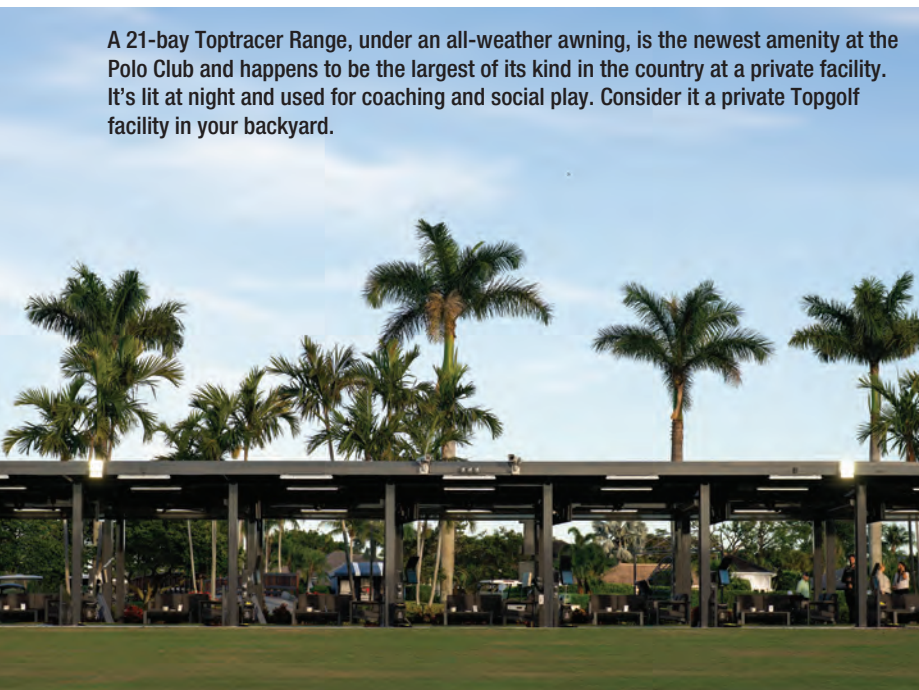


## THE EQUESTRIAN COURSE



The Equestrian Course is known for its bursts of color and exotic plants, including Asian red Tis, that symbolize good luck by releasing “positive energy and happiness.”

A 21-bay Toptracer Range, under an all-weather awning, is the newest amenity at the Polo Club and happens to be the largest of its kind in the country at a private facility. It's lit at night and used for coaching and social play. Consider it a private Topgolf facility in your backyard.





# THE POLO CLUB OF BOCA RATON

# MEMORIES MADE WELL

*Where luxury and community meet.*

By Mark Pazdur, Publisher

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA: Google's definition of montage is "a technique of producing a new composite from *fragments*."

During my trip to The Sunshine State to tour and conduct interviews at the Polo Club of Boca Raton, once you pass the stately entranceway and drive by several manicured fairways, you can't help but be impressed by its grand clubhouse. I liken it to a posh resort but in a private club setting.

So, I thought I would examine the five basic human senses of smell, sound, taste, and sight in the community which are the *fragments* that allow us to understand and perceive the world around us.

## AROMA CHEMISTRY

"As the director of golf course maintenance, my day starts early," explained Jake Tenopir, CGCS (certified golf course superintendent). "The smell of fresh cut grass on our 200 acres of maintained turf is intoxicating. Often, since many of our mowers are electric to limit noise pollution, the sun is yet to rise when I am already on our courses. As I make my rounds, the whiff of freshly baked goods from the clubhouse kitchen sends my appetite into overdrive." Other scents that jump out at you are the inviting aroma from the spa and the smell of funnel cakes during annual street fairs.

## PINGS AND PONGS

"We strive to maintain 'best management practices' to create wading habitats for our robust list of birdlife," said Pat Breton, assistant director of golf operations, PGA professional. "More than once, we've had a golfer back away from addressing their ball when a Limpkin bird lets out a distinct and loud scream. The sound similar to a crying baby.

"Our driving range, tennis courts, and pickleball courts are adjacent," continued Breton. "The *ping* of golf balls making contact with a driver's clubface and the *pongs* of a pickleball paddle during a volley are sure signs of activity





## THE CLUB COURSE



The Club Course is more forgiving and friendlier for higher handicappers. Abundant use of native grasses and trees makes for an authentic Florida design.



Polo's Vintage Roots Farm



**OVER 100,000 SQUARE FEET** of architecture and interior design renovations to the clubhouse are well underway.

and competition. Even our pool is abuzz in the morning with water-aerobic classes set to energetic music and an instructor strongly pushing members to give it their best.”

### *THAT PURE FEEL*

There is a tug-of-war between Jake and Pat regarding golf handicaps. “One of my morning rituals is to run my hand across the surface of the greens to check for imperfections or the hint of grain. I know I have done my job when I can safely say, ‘someone is going to three-putt here today,’” teased Jake.

“I have a different opinion on feel,” advised Pat. “I know our teaching staff has accomplished their goal when a member realizes that the swing they have been working on clicks, and the feel of their swing is natural and not forced.”

### *A SEXTET OF TASTES*

The Polo Club of Boca Raton offers a half dozen distinct dining venues. What had been the old valet stand has been transformed into a Patisserie specializing in sweet treats (the chocolate-covered turtles are a member favorite), cold-pressed juices, gourmet coffees, and light meals.

“Vintage Roots offers a farm-to-table menu with vegetables and herbs grown in our community garden,” extolled Melinda Drummond, administrative assistant to the Board of Governors. “We even have an on-site bee hive to harvest our honey. Another one of our big hits is the food truck “Street Fare,” located at our new Toptracer facility. Its fire-grilled smash burger is all the rave!”

### *WINDOWS OF THE WORLD*

A sure sign that high season is kicking into high gear is the sight of car carriers arriving from the Northeast.

“Our social calendar is packed with activity,” stated Lili



There are few reasons to leave other than for gas and groceries. Its 35,000-square-foot fitness and spa facility even includes a salon.



Hang, general manager/COO. “The smiles of grandchildren landing their first large-mouth bass during our fishing rodeo are priceless. When I arrive to start each workday and see the rays of sunshine piercing through the palm fronds, I can’t help but feel that good things are in store.” ■

*For more information on the best of South Florida living, please visit [PoloClub.net](http://PoloClub.net).*