## The New Kid on the Block

## Olde Eight— A Family Sanctuary

GREENWOOD, SOUTH CAROLINA: Creating a name and logo for a new golf club is more difficult than you think. "We Googled every animal name you can think of that has ties to The Palmetto State. We learned that South Carolina was the eighth state to ratify the Constitution in 1788. That's a lot of eights! In my book, history matters. Considering the University of South Carolina was in existence before California was a state, the name Olde Eight seemed apropos," revealed Shane LeBaron, partner and director of instruction at Olde Eight.

"Teaching is built into my very fabric. My stepfather was a golf pro, and from the day I was born, I knew I wanted to be involved in golf. Olde Eight will be a high-IQ golf club. However, family connection and legacy will be important components. We definitely won't be a one-trick pony," continued LeBaron. "At Olde Eight, we hire the person, not the resume. Substance counts, not sizzle. You are doing your job if the work gets done out of direct earshot of members. You have hired the correct person

for the job if you can hand them the keys and say drive."

Lake Greenwood, with its 235 miles of shoreline, is a bass fisherman's haven.

"In addition to golf and a strong family focus, two hooks are needed

to be successful in the golf development business," said LeBaron. "First, a lake, ocean, or mountain needs to be nearby. Second, it's critical to have a major city and an international airport within easy driving distance. Olde Eight has both points covered. We are adjacent to Lake Greenwood, and Charlotte is a two-hour drive away.

"I've had the good fortune to give golf lessons to some of the best players in the world, including David Duval. While David was touring the property, he called me from the soon-to-be third hole and said, 'I'm in as an investor.' As a former No. 1 player in the world, he knows how to practice. We look forward to collaborating on the design of our practice facility with David and golf course architect, Drew Rogers."







## HOTBED OF DEVELOPMENT

Olde Eight blends

tranquility with convenience

in an elevated yet

welcoming landscape.

South Carolina is a hotbed of golf course development, with ten new courses currently in the planning or construction phase.

"The course at Olde Eight offers tremendous 'elbow room,' with three holes playing alongside the shores of Lake Greenwood," said David Engram, director of golf at Olde Eight.

"While we cleared some smaller pencil pines to open the vistas, we were intentional about preserving the stately 70-foot pines that give the property its character. The terrain is naturally varied, with a mix of open and wooded areas, diverse vegetation, and changing elevations."

Unlike many new destination golf properties that focus

solely on the course, Olde Eight is taking a more holistic approach.

"In our region, many new clubs are designed as pure golf getaways, with limited amenities for families," Engram explained. "We're creating something different—a balanced

lifestyle club. Alongside championship golf, we're building comprehensive non-golf amenities and launching a youth caddie program to foster connection and growth across generations."

And the club's long-term vision is just beginning.

"We've acquired 700 acres of pristine lakefront just five minutes away to support thoughtful future expansion," Engram noted. "We're not just rebuilding a golf course at Olde Eight—we're shaping a legacy destination where families, friends, and future generations will want to gather for decades to come."

For more information on the progress at Olde Eight, please visit <u>OldeEight.com</u>.