



Redemption Course



Ammortal Chamber with red light therapy.



Members gather at stYr for signature cocktails paired with sushi and tapas.

## Defining the Intersection of **Man** & **Nature**

*With \$75 million in capital projects complete, there has been renewed interest—across multiple generations—to live at Addison Reserve.*

DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA: With approval in hand from the Board, management at Addison Reserve had an important decision to reach. Who to award the contract for the renovation of its three nine-hole courses? “The club formed a task force of eight Board members and the executive staff,” recalled Kevin Baldizar, director of

golf. “We sent an RFP [request for proposal] to all the major design firms, and our list was narrowed to three candidates quite quickly for presentations.

“The choice was clear. Rees Jones and his team won us over. Their in-depth preparation, comprehension of the project, and positive attitude nailed it. They understood our goal for a total redo, not a cosmetic renovation. Their design team offered the best expertise to elevate our golf experience. Who could argue hiring the ‘Open Doctor’ for the project.

“Once we announced the decision to our membership, Rees expertly answered all the ‘difficult’ questions during a ‘town hall’ meeting. His presence carries the room, and he’s just a genuine all-around guy.”

Before grass was planted, discussions focused on the “big picture.”

“Rees was hands-on every step of the way,” continued Baldizar. “We were constantly on the phone together. It was a collaborative effort. Our banter was so frequent that I wondered if I had moved up on his speed dial roster [referencing the famous *Seinfeld* episode where Jerry’s girlfriend is ‘rewarded’ by boosting her ranking



Salvation Course

**“Twenty years ago,** we were a sleeper club. The community is now recognized as No. 4 out of the top 150 country clubs in the country and No. 21 in the world by Platinum Clubs of the World. The road to success is always under construction. We can’t stop. We’ve got to keep paving the way to the future. Our focus now turns to preventive health care [both mentally and physically] for our membership.” — MICHAEL McCARTHY, CEO/GM

**“I kept in mind** the member demographics to not make the courses play overly long. I want each nine to be interchangeable, with only personality differences. I think all would agree that there is nothing more fun than to smack that ball off the tee. It’s such a great sensation! By implementing various locations for the bunkers throughout the golf course, they create an appropriate strategy for every player, no matter what distance they hit the ball.” — REES JONES, GOLF COURSE ARCHITECT



Addison Reserve’s 35,000 square-foot Lifestyle Complex features a two-story fitness center, spa, tennis, padel and pickleball complex, basketball court, green space, resort pool, outdoor whirlpool, children’s splash pool, and casual dining restaurant.



Trepidation Course

from No. 9 to No. 7 on the list.”

While overall playability was key, designing courses that would assist the higher-handicapped player with favorable bounces and risk/reward opportunities for the lower-handicapped player required forethought. “More than once, Rees inquired where my staff in the golf shop would hit it. The next day, bang, a bunker had been placed there!” grinned Baldizar.

### THE OPEN DOCTOR

Rees Jones has designed or renovated more than 300 golf courses in his career. He has earned the moniker “The Open Doctor” for his work in preparation for numerous major championships. His renovation and restoration skills have been applied to seven U.S. Open venues, nine PGA Championship courses, six Ryder Cup and two Walker Cup sites, as well as three Presidents Cup venues.

“The courses are wall-to-wall Platinum Paspalum,” expressed Josh Fleisher, director of agronomy at Addison Reserve. “It is visually stunning, and conditioning looks like you could be competing in the Players Championship

up in Ponte Vedra Beach every day. Going from a rickety irrigation system [that was decades old and often required ‘scotch tape and bubble gum’ to keep it running] to a modern system with all the bells and whistles is a superintendent’s dream. Another benefit during the renovation? We were able to reduce irrigable turf by ten percent. You expect a good lie in the fairway, but the tightly woven grass blades usually provide a beneficial lie even in the rough.”

Addison Reserve prides itself on firm and fast playing conditions. “It’s a delicate balance,” said Fleisher. “South Florida’s warm weather [where nighttime temps often are warmer than 70 degrees] is similar to growing grass in a petri dish. If our Platinum Paspalum shows signs of a purple hue, watering is needed, but the grass will quickly recover. If it shows a blackish hue, it means it’s not coming back. Often, weather that is perfect for golf isn’t ideal for growing grass.

“Rees built three excellent courses; now it’s my job to maintain them.” ■

For more information, please visit [AddisonReserve.cc](http://AddisonReserve.cc).