



Bali Hai GOLF CLUB

Oozing the Old Vegas Atmosphere

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA: Before corporate America purchased the majority of resorts on The Strip, iconic casinos like The Desert Inn, Stardust, and the Golden Nugget were the “big properties” that were influenced by even “bigger personalities” of Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., and Elvis Presley.

Billy Walters, owner of Bali Hai Golf Club, a living legend in Las Vegas and among sports bettors worldwide, was inducted in 2023 into the Sports Gambling Hall of Fame as part of its inaugural class of nine individuals.

“As the news has been reporting, visits to Las Vegas have been down during the past year,” said Walters. “While overpricing is partly to blame, many properties have lost the ‘art of personal touch’ and focused on the bottom line. For more than a quarter of a century, I have strived to provide service at Bali Hai that is from a bygone era.”

STEPPING UP TO THE PODIUM

During the Great Recession, Billy Walters employed thousands. “As you remember, employers were firing employees left and right,” recalled Walters. “I called an ‘all hands on deck’ meeting for my staff. A sense of worry permeated the air. I stepped up to the podium and announced I have good news. There will be no lay-



offs or cutbacks. Now is our time to shine. All I ask of you is to treat visiting golfers as if they were the ‘only one in the world.’ Looking back, that was a pivotal moment in our company’s history. It’s a culture that still carries over today.”

MY ACE OF SPADES

“When Mr. Walters hired me to oversee the food and beverage operations at Bali Hai, he had one directive, ‘If you only have one item on the menu, make sure it’s the best in the town,’” stated Mitch Epstein. “I consider Mr. Walters to be a father figure that I would literally do anything for. I trust him implicitly.

“At every club, golf is and will remain the king of the castle,” continued Epstein. “Food is often an afterthought. Typically, golf brings in four times the revenue as the food/beverage operations. So, it makes sense to focus on what you do best. Quality golf operations can survive without food, but food operations can’t survive without golf. At Bali Hai, we have combined the best of both worlds.” ■

For tee times, visit BaliHaiGolfClub.com. To learn more about Billy Walters, visit RealBillyWalters.com.

“It’s important to think of gambling as recreation, not a get-rich-quick scheme. Set aside what you can afford to lose, because you probably will. Don’t kid yourself. Less than one percent of avid, active gamblers can survive long term.” — BILLY WALTERS