

FRISCO STYLE BEST of BUSINESS 2 0 0 6

Stonebridge Ranch Clubhouse
photo by Chris Prichic

STONEBRIDGE RANCH COUNTRY CLUB

LOCATED IN MCKINNEY, Stonebridge Ranch Country Club boasts one of the few 45-hole golf courses in the area. The club opened in 1988 and has enjoyed hosting a variety of prestigious golf tournaments over the years, including the North Texas PGA Championship of 2003. Forty percent of Stonebridge members are residents of Frisco, and the club is responsible for many residents' decision to move to the area. Stonebridge Ranch Country Club took some of the first steps in establishing the northern area bordering Frisco where there are now several housing developments.

The country club holds two clubhouses, aquatic centers, tennis courts, fitness facilities, conference rooms, and four cottages accessible for extended stays or gatherings. Each clubhouse has its own fitness center and dining facility. One clubhouse leans toward the casual—the other more formal in atmosphere and décor. The two separate locations provide a choice to members planning weddings, birthday parties, conferences and other events.

The variety of services and amenities available make the club an attractive

place for members of the community to get to know each other, play some tennis or golf, or relax at the pool with friends and family. Bryan Larrow is the general manager of the club and makes it his mission and the mission of his staff to extend a heart-felt welcome to anyone interested in joining. "Some clubs are a little aloof," says Mr. Larrow. "We don't

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want that. We want to be exclusive by being inclusive." Once a family joins the facility, the staff makes an extra effort to extend the welcome mat and get the newcomers introduced to other members of the club. "If we don't think people are feeling connected we red flag them and pay special attention to getting them involved," explains Mr. Larrow. According to Mr. Larrow, the open atmosphere means new members feel connected quickly and are constantly complimenting him on the friendly staff and welcoming environment of the country club.

In the spirit of togetherness, the club provides special events each month where members get to know each other and enjoy club amenities. Special events have included a Family Pool Party, Cover Girl Makeover and Fashion Show, Reggae Party, Kids Cooking Class and Book Club meetings. Breakfast with Mikey the Monkey demonstrates the club's desire

to cater to even its youngest members.

The club also prides itself on giving to the community by providing facilities for charity events and fundraisers. "We really don't turn down requests for donations at this club," explains Mr. Larrow. Just recently Stonebridge Ranch Country Club allowed a group to use the golf course for free in order to raise money to pay medical bills for a young girl in a coma. "We are an extension of the community we are in and the lifestyles of our members," says Mr. Larrow. "It is important to us to give back."

