



Olde Eight grassed and ready to open

Olde Eight Golf Club, formerly known as The Links at Stoney Point, in Greenwood, South Carolina, is set to reopen in November 2025 following a renovation by Drew Rogers.

The architect is preserving the original Tom Jackson routing but completely redesigning every hole to deliver a new golfing experience. Rogers is working alongside Total Turf Golf Services, Leibold Irrigation, Mazzella Partnership, Tahoma 31 and Better Billy Bunker.

Olde Eight's founding partners are Ashley and Shane LeBaron, Mitch Kovitz and Matt Green, and former professional golfer David Duval is involved as an investor.

Rogers, Shane LaBaron and Nick Mazzella discussed the project in the Summer 2025 issue of *By Design* magazine, with LaBaron saying: "It was vital for us to produce something out here with Drew that would create a memory where the holes talk to each other. I want you to play this once and it sticks. I want everyone to be able to tell a story of all 18 holes."

The course is growing in and according to Chris Jordan, director of greens and grounds at Olde Eight, it is well set for the reopening date of 7 November.

"We have Tahoma 31 everywhere except the greens which are sprigged with TifEagle," said Jordan, who has grown and managed Tahoma 31

before, at the Tom Fazio-designed North course at Berkeley Hall in Bluffton, South Carolina. "I like how tight you can mow it. If you want to take your tees or your collars down to a quarter of an inch, you can. Tahoma 31 has a lot of body to it – it's a full upright-feeling grass."

"Some of the grasses that make good playing surfaces at fairway height don't do well in the rough at two inches. Tahoma 31 keeps enough body as an upright grass in the rough and I can mow it at a quarter to three inches if I need to, and it will still do what I want. The flexibility in the height of cut allows us to use it in different areas on the course, too."



Photos: Rob McCallum



Tees, fairways and rough have been grassed with Tahoma 31

Grassing has comprised of about 40 acres of sprigs and 40 acres of sod. The large slopes around tees, bunkers, greens and drain basins were sodded, and the flatter areas sprigged. The overseeded Tahoma 31 dormant sod was laid in January 2025.

“On tees where people are going to take divots, it will grow back quickly,” said Jordan. “If you do get damage, either from traffic or mechanical injury in the growing season, it will fill in rapidly, which is big.

“It over-winters well and wakes up and survives the transition back into spring. It’s not like we did the bulk of work in the winter, but if you can put the sod down, you can lock in your bunkers

and greens and you can loop everything just to hold it in place so that if we had a big rain event in March, it’s not just a bunch of dormant grass that can just be washed away, you’ve got something there holding it up.”

By spring 2025, investors and prospective members saw how the golf course was growing in. “In April, the azaleas were blooming, and all the green surrounds were a dark, beautiful green and striped up,” said Jordan. “It has got people pretty excited about the opening of Olde Eight.”

The April 2025 issue of Golf Course Architecture featured a Q&A with Drew Rogers about the project.



Photo: Sports Turf Solutions

Cambodia resort prepares to open second course

Chhun On Golf Resort in Cambodia is set to open the Palms course, designed by Curley-Wagner Golf Design, joining the Lakes layout that opened in 2024.

“We decided on Lynkz Zoysia from Sports Turf Solutions,” said Fabrice Ho, general manager at Chhun On, on the choice of grass. “The results with the Lynkz greens are simply amazing. In the last five months, we’ve done almost nothing to them, yet they are already performing exceptionally well.

“Mowed at three millimetres (mm) with a triplex, they easily reach a Stimpmeter of 10.5 with an incredible roll. We can’t wait to see the results at 2.5mm. The smaller leaf means almost no grain, combined with a dark green colour and a smooth, consistent surface. We truly can’t wait to host our guests on these greens.”



Photo: Brian Curley