

by Erika Johnson
Redstone Golf Club



Redstone Rocks! New Golf Club on Green Course

Completing a new 18-hole championship golf course, hosting a PGA TOUR event, and experiencing a steady growth in memberships and tee times would be a great run for any premier golf course. To accomplish it all in a single year and still be gaining momentum is even more impressive, but that's exactly the type of year Redstone Golf Club is experiencing.



Redstone Golf Course view

Redstone Golf Club is located in Humble, Texas, just minutes from downtown Houston. The Club is home to two beautifully maintained and challenging courses – the private Member Course and the new public Tournament Course.

The Member Course

The Member Course was masterfully designed by the highly acclaimed duo of PGA TOUR professional Peter Jacobsen and designer Jim Hardy. The 7,508-yard, par-72 course is surrounded by natural wetlands and native wildlife. It played host to the prestigious Shell Houston Open – Houston’s only PGA TOUR event – in 2003, 2004 and 2005. The course conditions, challenging play and layout of the Member Course moved 2003 Shell Houston Open Champion, Fred Couples, to declare, “I loved this course from the start.”

New Home of the Shell Houston Open

Despite the Member Course’s storied tradition, it was the newly completed Tournament Course that generated the most buzz this year, as it became the new home of the Shell Houston Open. The change of venue put the 7,422-yard Tournament Course in elite company, as it became one of only 11 public courses in the country to host a PGA TOUR event. Like the Member Course, the Tournament Course owes its design to another well-known duo in golf circles. Legendary course creator Rees Jones with PGA TOUR professional David Toms as course design consultant specifically designed it for the Shell Houston Open. Given this year’s resounding success, it is scheduled to host the event every spring through 2010.

The 2006 Shell Houston Open will be remembered not for last-second heroics or nail-biting drama but for one of this year’s most dominant performances in the world of golf. Australia’s Stuart Appleby fired a final round 67 to clinch a wire-to-wire victory, the first ever in the annals of the Houston tour stop. His final score of 19-under put him six strokes ahead of second - place finisher Bob Estes, making Appleby only the Open’s ninth multiple winner (he also won in 1999). At \$990,000, Appleby’s share of the \$5.5 million dollar purse was almost as impressive as his play.

“There was no time when I felt like I had to change the game plan, to be more aggressive or more defensive,” said Appleby after his incredible performance. “I felt that I was in ultimate control of what I was doing and no one else was putting enough pressure



Former British Open Winner John Daly

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on me to make me be more aggressive or more conservative.”

The 2007 Shell Houston Open may prove to be even more unforgettable, for next year’s will move to the week before the Masters. Such prime placement is sure to lure the PGA TOUR’s biggest names back to Redstone Golf Club as they look to prepare for the Masters and unseat Appleby as the Shell Houston Open champion. Past champions of the Houston stop include Vijay Singh, Fred Couples, Hal Sutton, David Duval, Payne Stewart, Curtis Strange, Arnold Palmer and Byron Nelson.

Tournament Course Open to the Public

Redstone Golf Club also excelled out of the spotlight as the Club continued to attract golfers looking for Houston's best public course. The opening of the Tournament Course meant more than a new home for the Shell Houston Open. It gave golfers across Houston and the state a rare opportunity to play where the pros play.

Even though the Tournament Course is open to the public, it is not short on special treatment typically reserved for members. One highlight is their unique forecaddie program. Each foursome is assigned their own forecaddie to help golfers find their ball, select the proper club for the distance, read putts and more – all covered in Redstone's green fees. However, given the invaluable tips forecaddies provide, they get plenty of generous tips, too.

Hot Destination for Company Events

Not surprisingly, several of Houston's top companies have taken notice of Redstone Golf Club's magnificent facilities. It's become a hot destination for companies looking to host tournaments and special events. The event staff at Redstone has extensive experience hosting tournaments of all sizes and can help any company planning a golf-themed event. The elegant 33,000-square-foot clubhouse is a perfect venue for corporate entertainment. It's convenience to Houston's major business arteries is only par for the course – 15 miles north of downtown Houston and five miles east of George Bush Intercontinental Airport.

Passport Program

Membership, limited to 525, offers a Passport Program giving playing privileges at five other exceptional courses with access to 90 holes of the Houston area's best golf. Besides Redstone's Tournament and Member Courses, the passport covers The Houstonian Golf & Country Club, and both the North and South Courses at BlackHorse Golf Club. As if that isn't enough, members also enjoy reduced rates on accommodations at The Houstonian Hotel and treatments at its luxurious Trellis Spa.

In a region peppered with public

and private golf courses to choose from, Redstone Golf Club has captured the attention of golf lovers near and far with a pair of championship courses, memorable golf and social events, and facilities for both public and member golfers. Quite simply, Redstone Golf Club has made setting the standard for golf in Houston.

For more information about Redstone Golf Club, event planning or membership opportunities email Erika Johnson, director of membership at ejohnson@redstonegolfclub.com.