

BALD HEAD ISLAND, N.C. — In our kid-centric culture, private golf clubs are shedding their stuffy image and adult focus to incorporate amenities and programming that appeal to the whole family. Following this emerging trend, the Bald Head Island Club announces the opening of its 15,000-square foot aquatics center and Horizons ocean view restaurant.

The aquatics center is designed to cater to all members of the family. A large leisure pool rimmed with chaise lounges appeals to adults and older kids, while a children's zero-entry pool features an aquatic playground at the center including a water slide, water bucket drop, climbing feature, and other interactive water play. The 600-square foot splash pad area outfitted with pop jets, water hoops, and water cannons, as well as two waterslides leading to a plunge pool, will keep little ones entertained for hours. The club also incorporated the existing pool into the aquatics center, which now serves as a lap pool. Adjacent to the water features, a dry playground boasts all-new equipment.

Dining options have also increased with the renovation, making it easier for families to spend the day at the BHI Club without worry. The new coastal-casual Horizons restaurant is a full-service poolside dining venue featuring views of the Atlantic Ocean. Horizons will serve lunch and dinner daily in the dining room as well as outdoors on its expansive wraparound porch. Adults can enjoy cocktails from Horizon's two bars, while kids will love the walkup snack bar window serving grab and go treats. In addition, a newly added cabana bar will serve drinks and lite fare.

"The new aquatics complex is a game changer for the island," said Robert Norton, the club's general manager. "We worked to create a space that would have broad appeal for the whole family, where everyone would feel welcomed and catered to. We look forward to our first full summer season with the new complex, and we're thrilled with the feedback we've gotten from members so far."

The heart of the Bald Head Island Club is its stunning seaside golf course, designed by George Cobb in the 1970s, and recently restored by Tim Cate. While golf tends to be a strictly adult activity at most clubs, the BHI Club embraces budding golfers, inviting children under age 15 to play free when accompanied by a paying adult.

The Bald Head Island Club is private club that allows use of its facilities to members, member's guests, temporary guest members, special event guests, package play golfers, and commercial operations within the community. Temporary guest memberships are available with most rental homes on Bald Head Island.

Bald Head Island is a boat-accessed community located two miles off the coast of Southport. Transportation on the island is restricted to golf carts, bicycles and pedestrian traffic. Of the island's 12,000 acres, 10,000 acres of beaches, salt marsh and maritime forest are protected and will remain undeveloped. Old Baldy, the most famous manmade structure on the island, and one of the first things visitors notice when they arrive on Bald Head Island, was built in 1817 and is one of the few lighthouses where visitors may climb all the way to the top. Those who ascend the 108 steps to the lantern room are rewarded with epic views of the marsh, forest, beach and mouth of the Cape Fear River. To learn more about the island, visit www.BaldHeadIsland.com.

CONTACT:

Lauren Frye
(212) 724-7783
lauren@gilliesandzaizer.com

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