



The Gate Golf Club Introduces Leadership Hires: Superintendent Mike Shafer and Director of Golf Jeffrey Raimer

(NAPLES, FL — February 20, 2026) — The Gate Golf Club (“The Gate”) is pleased to announce the hiring of two seasoned industry leaders to guide course development and golf operations ahead of the course’s opening. Mike Shafer has joined the team as Superintendent and Jeffrey Raimer has been selected as Director of Golf.

Shafer joined The Gate in March 2025, bringing more than 30 years of experience in championship-level course management and agronomy. From 1994 to 2025, he served at one of South Florida’s premier private golf clubs—ranked among the Top 10 Private Courses in Florida by *Golfweek* and *USA Today*—where he guided long-term course planning, major renovations and environmental certification efforts.

As Superintendent of The Gate, Shafer oversees all aspects of grow-in, course maintenance, and agronomic planning. He is dedicated to supporting the club’s commitment to exceptional playing conditions, sustainability and planning for the course’s long-term health and durability.

“This is a special project, and I’m excited to be part of it,” said Shafer. “The turf has established well so far, and my focus is on continuing that progress while taking care of the course as we move toward opening.”

The Gate also welcomes Jeffrey Raimer as Director of Golf. With more than 35 years of experience as a PGA Professional, Raimer is known for his leadership in player development. As a South Florida PGA Hall of Fame member, he has built a career focused on delivering a welcoming golf experience, developing staff and junior programs, and creating strong, sustainable golf operations.

In his role as The Gate’s Director of Golf, Raimer oversees and leads the development of golf operations plans, instruction and programming, including tournaments and player development initiatives, with a focus on fun, accessible public golf ahead of the club’s opening.

“Serving as a PGA professional for over 35 years in Naples, I have witnessed firsthand the transformative power of golf for families and communities, including my own,” said Raimer. “This personal connection fuels my passion to give back to the game that has enriched our lives. The Gate offers an unparalleled opportunity to contribute to a groundbreaking public golf initiative.”

For more information about The Gate Golf Club, visit TheGateGolf.org.