



Golf Pro Now Available

The new driving range has proven to be a popular addition to the amenities available to Silver Saddle Ranch & Club members. That's where Denny Parks comes in. Denny has come on board to help Silver Saddle Ranch & Club members learn the game of golf, or to get better at it.

Denny Parks has played golf since he was a boy. He won hundreds of amateur championships and continued to play during high school and college. On the PGA Tour, he beat all the local pros and qualified in the Orange County Open. He was Coast Conference Champion and won the Southern California Amateur Championship before joining the Army after college.

Denny turned pro after the Army and has been teaching golf for the past 30 years. Among his positions were Director of Instruction at the Santa Ana Country Club, at River's Edge in Bend, Oregon and the Monarch Bay Golf Course in San Leandro, California.

"I love to play and I love to teach," Denny says. "I've taught students as young as 5 and as old as 85."

Denny's teaching philosophy focuses on mastering the basics of golf—grip, posture, and alignment—first.

"You have to crawl before you can walk," he advises. "I prefer that my students don't even think about hitting a ball until they've got the groundwork well in place. The swing should come after that. Everyone is eager to get to that point, but the trick is to have the patience to get the basics down first. Those who do find their swing is much better than if they just start out swinging."

For players who have been playing for a while and have developed a few bad habits in the process, Denny has devised a series of drills to correct them. He helps those who are already pretty good at the game to concentrate on their rhythm and timing so their game improves.

Lessons from Denny are 45 minutes long, and all you bring is your desire to play. The Ranch provides clubs and balls. He teaches individually or groups up to five players. You can reach Denny by phoning the Ranch at (760) 373-8617.