



**About Tim Cate, The Architect of Panther's Run®, Tiger's Eye® and Leopard's Chase®**

Golf architect Tim Cate has five solo projects to his credit, including Tiger's Eye Golf Links® and Panther's Run Golf Links® which make up two-thirds of the vaunted trio of Big Cats at Ocean Ridge Plantation. Tiger's Eye is regarded as one of the premier courses along the Grand Strand and the state of North Carolina. As a reward for his award-winning work at Ocean Ridge, Cate has been commissioned to design the development's fourth course, which is currently under construction.

Cate became interested in golf course design while working at Sea Palms Resort on St. Simons Island, Ga., in 1985. His interest in the design business grew, and he began to pursue a career in the field. Cate attended West Virginia University and the University of Georgia, graduating in 1984 with a degree in Landscape Architecture. After graduation, Cate moved to Hilton Head Island where he spent more than six years in the design business.

In 1992, Cate designed a new course at the Brunswick County development where Willard Byrd's Lion's Paw had already opened to rave reviews.

With Panther's Run, Cate carved a beautiful golf course from the natural terrain of the land, moving little dirt. Environmentally sensitive areas were preserved and made a part of the course. The result is a course with holes set against a backdrop of beautiful wooded scenery and cart paths that run along the edge of a dense forest. Water comes into play on most of the holes, adding to the beauty of the course.

Putting his own design theories to work at Panther's Run, Cate also created wide, open fairways with little mounding. Most courses today have fairways defined by mounding, but at Panther's Run, golfers will find many fairways lined with grassy, depressed areas or water.

Following Panther's Run, Cate turned his attention to designing the Players Club at St. James Plantation in Southport, N.C., where he took a 35-year-old pine forest and creatively figured out a way to wind the course between and over wetlands.

Next, Cate focused on The Thistle Golf Club in Calabash, N.C., which opened in March 1999 to rave reviews. Cate sculpted The Thistle from flat land, moving tons of dirt and adding contours, including some Scottish style mounding. Cate also used tall ornamental grass and water on 16 holes to complement and frame the picturesque contours.

Tiger's Eye is Ocean Ridge's crown jewel. An upscale, daily-fee 18-hole golf course, Tiger's Eye is carved from a virgin pine forest in Sunset Beach, N.C. Tiger's Eye is distinguished by dramatic 60-foot elevation changes reminiscent of the North Carolina sand hills and a stunning combination of natural waste areas, native grasses, wild flowers, pine and oak trees and water, including Carolina Bays, two waterfalls and marshland typical of coastal environment. With constantly shifting TifSport Bermuda fairways, combined with large, severely sloped G-2 bentgrass greens, Tiger's Eye is a thinking-man's course requiring precise shotmaking and a reliable shortgame.

Recently, Tim has been designing the newest Big Cat, Leopard's Chase, scheduled to pounce on the scene in Fall 2006. This \$15 million dollar, 18-hole design will have a mighty roar. The course is a collaboration of design ideas and covers a timeline of more than five years in the making. The course incorporates a bold design and has some very unique and distinctive features including a waterfall and island green. It surely has more than its share of challenges while blending with the best of the coastal North Carolina environment.