



## TONY RISTOLA, MASTER GOLF COURSE ARCHITECT



Built with a crew of Polish locals who had never seen a golf course before.  
Designed, shaped, finished and detailed by this architect in the field all-day, every day.

One of only five golf course architects in the world  
who is on-site leading construction... Daily.

100% focus & commitment. Protecting your investment of millions by maximizing  
every opportunity of your land and budget during your most costly, critical and  
permanent Design Phase... Construction... Every Day.

If there were a better way to protect the client... I'd use it!!!



GOLFCLUB EMSTAL  
*Golf Magazin Top 50: 17th, 30th and 33<sup>rd</sup>*



ARTLAND GOLFCLUB  
Leadingcourses.com, T 23 in Germany



SAND VALLEY GOLF RESORT, POLAND  
*Golf World, Continental Europe's Top 200*



ARCHITECT OF THE FIRST GOLF COURSE AWARDED  
Germany's Golf & Natur Gold Certificate



PROJECT BERNHARD VON LIMBURGER, FOUNDER  
Aimed at preserving the rapidly disappearing courses of Germany's  
only historic golf course architect, Dr. Bernhard von Limburger

It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer.

Albert Einstein

# ARCHITECT COMPARISON FORM



Tony Ristola

Insert Arch Name

- 1. Architect on-site leading construction daily
- 2. Former Tournament Professional (PGA)
- 3. Former Teaching Professional (PGA)
- 4. Golf Course Construction Experience
- 5. Personally Shapes greens, and critical features
- 6. Leads finishing & personally finishes greens and surrounds
- 7. Can use local builders and general contractors
- 8. Draws own plans; Does not leave this job for associates
- 9. Documented relationship with environmentalists
- 10. Artist; illustrates his vision for builders
- 11. Photo documents entire process
- 12. Daily Design/Construction Blog & Book
- 13. GC Maintenance experience
- 14. Creates Design Bible; Guide for course management
- 15. Lifetime Service

**NO**

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Tony Ristola

Insert Arch Name

## TOTAL SCORE

# 100%

# ?

When love and skill work together, expect a masterpiece.

John Ruskin

# 1 ARCHITECT ON-SITE DAILY DURING CONSTRUCTION



1. **More time on-site in 5-days** than typical architects during a 300-day project!!!
2. **Guarantees** the design is continuously improved... Daily.
3. Close working relationship with the builders. Builders **do not** wait days or weeks for decisions. This **keeps the project moving forward and reduces costs**.

**Only five architects in the world** protect their clients by being on-site leading construction daily. Tony has done so with every project. If there were a better way to protect his clients... he'd use it. Ask them, they'll tell you.



Tony Ristola



Architect on-site all day, every day?



# 2 FORMER TOURNAMENT PROFESSIONAL (PGA)

A former tournament professional, Tony knows how the finest golfers play and think.



Tony Ristola



Tournament Professional?



# 3 FORMER TEACHING PROFESSIONAL (PGA)

Having given years of lessons to golfers young and old, male and female, beginner to professional, **Tony has a clear and deep understanding how all golfers attack the game**. This knowledge, developed over 40-years, **is applied to every aspect of the design... Daily**.



Tony Ristola



Understands all classes of golfers?

# 4 GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION EXPERIENCE



Tony has been in America, Mexico, Finland, Czech Republic, Poland, Romania and Germany building golf projects. From the Tropic of Cancer to just south of the Arctic Circle.

Tony is on-site daily on all his projects, transferring his knowledge gathered over 2-decades in a variety of landscapes: river bank, coastal, landfill, environmentally protected areas, rural and urban flood control properties.

Transferring knowledge daily eliminates the builders need to guess at their work, and helps them achieve excellence. They get information directly from the architect... Daily. Builders value this immediate help. It maximizes budgets, every opportunity and creates an atmosphere of cooperation, harmony and flexibility needed to build exceptional golf courses... Economically.



Tony Ristola



Worked in construction?

## 5 SHAPER: OPERATES HEAVY EQUIPMENT



Tony is the very rare golf course architect who can and does operate heavy equipment. He shapes his own greens and critical features. There is nothing more efficient. This talent is insurance the developer will receive a golf course that exceeds expectations. Just ask his clients.



Tony Ristola



Operates heavy equipment?

## 6 LEADS THE FINISHING PROCESS



If everything is perfectly constructed, and the finishing process uses the wrong equipment, is hurriedly or carelessly completed, all the good work done up to this point is wasted. Finishing does not mean polishing everything to perfection! Sometimes large machines and too much polishing erases touches designed to give the project its natural, unique feel. By being on-site, Tony informs the builder what equipment not to use, and when to stop polishing. This communication and daily oversight during finishing is critical to success, and prevents the exceptional from turning into the generic.



Tony Ristola



Leads Finishing Daily?

## 7 CAN USE LOCAL BUILDERS AND GENERAL CONTRACTORS



Tony does not require a golf course construction company. He can and has used conscientious general contractors and crews of locals without a loss of quality. Being on-site daily allows critical communication and oversight so work is exceptional and keeps moving forward.



Tony Ristola



Can use any conscientious builder?

## 8 DRAWS OWN PLANS



“To err is human”, so there never has and never will be perfect plans. Even if an architect produced perfect plans, no builder left alone for days or weeks at a time will build the course as the architect envisioned.

Plans are necessary to estimate schedules, material and labor costs, but plans have only been a starting point for architects seeking exceptional results. The truly great courses were built using a flexible and dynamic construction process... Creativity. A process of continual thought and improvement.

Tony draws his own plans, but more importantly, he builds the features himself or interprets them to the builders, and monitors their progress, in the field, face-to-face... Daily. It is the only way to ensure excellence is built in the first time.



Tony Ristola



Draws own plans?

## ENVIRONMENTALIST SUCCESS RECORD

9 Daily on-site leadership demonstrates responsibility that builds confidence, trust and excellent relationships with local bureaucrats and environmentalists (BUND & NABU).



BUND's *Annual Report* described Tony's work in the Landschaftschutzgebiet ("protected landscape") along the banks of the Ems River "a model for the integration of a sports facility in a protected area." The course been ranked 17th in Germany by *Golfmagazin*. It was constructed with a general contractor that had never built a golf course before!



Tony Ristola



Great relationship with officials?

## 10 ARTIST, ILLUSTRATOR



Tony's Grandfather was an artist, and he planned on following his footsteps from a very young age. This talent, illustrating concepts for builders, helps them see his vision. These valuable working illustrations are also an interesting part of the club history and wonderful as clubhouse artwork.



Tony Ristola



Artistry?

## 11 PHOTO DOCUMENT BEFORE & DURING CONSTRUCTION



Being on-site daily, thousands of photos are taken, documenting the entire process. Any way this is calculated, either per day or per photograph, this is easily more than 50,000 Euros of value. These photos can be used by the press and marketing, and become more and more valuable to the club's story and history and club committees with every passing year.



Tony Ristola



Daily photo documentation?

## 12 DAILY BLOG DOCUMENTING THE ENTIRE PROCESS



Tony is the only architect to write a blog about his projects... Everyday. Your daily club blog will feature photos, video, illustrations or a few short paragraphs about the design and construction process. A couple of these blogs can be found here:

[www.guthahuesgolf.blogspot.com](http://www.guthahuesgolf.blogspot.com) and [www.sandvalleygolf.blogspot.com](http://www.sandvalleygolf.blogspot.com). Blogs are ideal for informing local and international media, informing current and future members and guests. A *Best of Blogs* book with before and after photos makes an ideal marketing and media tool.



Tony Ristola



Daily Design/Construction Blog?

## 13 GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE EXPERIENCE



Tony has worked in golf course maintenance in Central and North Europe, including working with a pair of Scandinavia's finest golf course superintendents. **The experience, in one of the harshest climates for maintaining golf courses helped Tony clearly understand the agronomic headaches caused by construction errors and the relationship and limits between design and maintenance.**



Tony Ristola



Worked in GC maintenance?

## 14 DESIGN BIBLE



This *Bible* explains how the course was built, how it should be maintained, what the club should do, but more importantly, what the club should not do.

This *Bible* should be posted online so all members, guests, members of the press and architect aficionados can learn why your course was built and is managed as it is. Continuity helps strengthen the image of the club and eliminates whims of future committees, wasteful spending and potentially destructive proposals because the membership can view every proposal against the architect's intent as outlined in *The Club Bible*. Historic clubs today would pay millions to have the thoughts behind their architect's design.



Tony Ristola



Club Bible?

## 15 LIFETIME SERVICE



Tony Ristola



Lifetime Service?



## Feel Free to Distribute This Information

For the advancement of golf, and golf course architecture, you are encouraged to distribute this document in part or whole, without editing, and provided the content and links remain intact.

Tony Ristola, Master Golf Course Architect, [agolfarchitect@gmail.com](mailto:agolfarchitect@gmail.com), [www.agolfarchitect.com](http://www.agolfarchitect.com)

+49 (0)151.700.955.21 +1 909.581.0080 Skype: tony.ristola



Munster, Germany: A cost effective, elegant green-site, rich with height, color and texture contrasts. Minimal earth moving required. Designed, shaped and hand-detailed by this architect.

[agolfarchitect.com](http://agolfarchitect.com)



**RISTOLA**  
**PERSONAL**  
**DESIGNS**

H A N D C R A F T E D  
Since 1995

**Architect's Time On-Site During Construction**

**100%**

Tony Ristola  
Master Golf Architect

**CAUTION !!!**

**0 to 6%**

Typical  
Golf Architect

**If there were a better way... I'd use it.**

PROJECT  
BERNHARD VON LIMBURGER



**GOLF & NATUR**

DGV Zertifikat  
GOLD



Architect of the first golf course to be awarded the German Golf Association Golf & Natur Gold Medal

The German Environmental Group BUND called the golf course a "model of the integration of a sports facility in a protected area".

The golf course was constructed by a company that had never built a golf course before.

The golf course, GC Emstal, was rated 17th in Germany by *Golf Magazin*.