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## QUAIL RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB ALLOWS FIRE RESCUERS TO TRAIN ON SOON-TO-BE-DEMOLISHED CLUBHOUSE

BOYNTON BEACH, Fla. – Fighting fires and saving lives is a risky business, partly because it's difficult to replicate the dangerous conditions.

Quail Ridge Country Club, a high-end golf community, saw an opportunity to help the area's fire-rescue personnel by allowing them to work on their soon-to-be-demolished clubhouse.

Multiple units from Battalion 4 of Palm Beach County Fire Rescue have been visiting Quail Ridge in recent days to train. They have been punching holes in roofs – from above and below -- breaching walls and simulating rescue conditions by blacking out windows and pumping smoke into buildings.

“We were looking at other ways to use the clubhouse until its torn down in three weeks and we came up with this wonderful opportunity to help our local fire-rescue,” said Bill Langley, general manager of Quail Ridge, whose membership this year voted to build a \$22 million clubhouse that will be completed next fall.

“I was talking to a firefighter, and he said in the 11 years he's been doing this, this is the first opportunity they have had to do training like this that can be done in real time. Not only does it help the fire-rescue personnel who are on site, they are making videos so they can use this for training in the future.”

Firefighters will spend almost two weeks using various buildings at Quail Ridge such as the clubhouse, the cart barn and the restaurant for their training. Each of the buildings were constructed in different ways, so it gives fire rescuers more opportunities to adapt and learn.

Eric Price, Quail Ridge's director of community safety, approached Palm Beach County Fire Rescue officials with the idea a month ago and said the program has been extremely successful.

“It's our hope that other country clubs that are going to demolish their clubhouses will provide the same opportunity for their local fire rescue,” Price said. “It's a valuable experience.”

Quail Ridge Country Club is in the process of building a new \$22 million clubhouse which should be complete by October 2017. Located 20 minutes south of West Palm Beach and only minutes north of Boca Raton, Quail Ridge Country Club offers its members two Joe Lee designed championship golf courses, extensive practice facilities, a 16-court tennis center, 29 community pools and a free-standing health and fitness center. For more information about Quail Ridge Country Club contact Heidi Brzyski, Director of Membership and Marketing, at (561) 737-5100 ext. 3306 or visit [www.quailridgecc.com](http://www.quailridgecc.com).

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