

Stephen Bio

Stephen Tharrett - President, Club Industry Consulting

Stephen Tharrett is a thirty year veteran of the health, fitness and sport club industry, having worked in both the commercial, non-profit and private sectors. Stephen is currently the President of Club Industry Consulting, a company he founded in 2006. In October 2010, Stephen returned from an assignment in Russia, where for two plus years he served as the CEO of the Russian Fitness Group, owners of the World Class and Fizkult club brands. The Russian Fitness Group is the largest fitness club operator in Russia, with 48 clubs, over 100,000 members, and annual revenues of over 150 million U.S. Prior to forming Club Industry Consulting, Stephen was an officer and senior vice president with ClubCorp, a Dallas, Texas based company that owns and operates private clubs and resorts. During his twenty year tenure with ClubCorp he oversaw operations in the areas of athletics, tennis, and later golf. Cumulatively, these operating departments accounted for over \$250 million in revenue. During this period he was also responsible for the design, construction and development of over \$30 million in new fitness properties, with projects ranging from \$500,000 to \$6,000,000. Stephen is currently a member of Club Industry Magazine's Advisory Board and is a former president (1996 - 1997) and board member (1994 - 1997) of the International Health, Racquet and Sportclub Association. Stephen has served as co-editor for the 2nd, 3rd and soon to be released 4th edition of ACSM's Health and Fitness Facility Standards and Guidelines. Stephen is a former adjunct professor at the University of Texas at Arlington. Stephen is the author of four management books published by Healthy Learning. The first book, Fitness Management; A Comprehensive Resource for Developing, Leading, Managing and Operating Successful Health/Fitness Club, was first released in December 2005 and a second edition was released in January of 2008. In 2011 Fitness Management will be released in Russian and by the end of the year the 3rd edition will arrive in the U.S. The second book, ACE's Fitness and Business Forms Handbook, was released in May 2006. The third book, entitled, Recruiting and Retaining Great Employees, was published in the summer of 2007. In March of 2011 his fourth book, entitled Legends of the Trade, was released at the IHSA convention. Stephen is also an accomplished public speaker and presenter, having given presentations in Australia, Argentina, Brazil, England, Hong Kong, Ireland, Japan, Russia, Spain, Turkey and, throughout the United States.