



## Lakeview Golf Club ~ All The Right Moves

Nick Ciattei



Spring Hole 7 Par 4



Spring Hole 9 Par 5

I made a very wise and right decision when I moved to the Shenandoah Valley back in the late 1970s. Sure, every now and then I miss my hometown, especially the crab cakes, but I do not regret making this beautiful part of the country my home for the better part of the last 35 years. I have also been pleasantly surprised that I have been able to continue my love for the game of golf in this region with quite an array of fine courses within 45 minutes of my front door.

This valley so rich in history has seen quite a lot of growth since I sprouted roots here. The city and suburbs of the Harrisonburg, VA, region have exploded with James Madison College jumping to the university ranks and with the building booms of the 80s and 90s. In keeping up with the Jones's

per se, Lakeview Golf Club also saw the need to expand during these times and moved forward with a fourth nine being added to their existing 27 holes. They also redesigned the original nine holes. Without a doubt I have never played a more unique 36-hole facility than Lakeview with its four different nine-hole segments built by four different architects at four different times. Not many courses can include these incredibly rare facts on their resume.

Throughout the years, each nine has been partnered with another. Head Professional Mike Gooden feels the current rotation gives players equal part challenge and variety. Russ Roberts designed the original course, the Spring Nine, that opened at Lakeview in 1963. Ault, Clark and Associates completely redesigned it in 1987. Its winding spring-fed creek and several doglegs pair well with the Peak Nine's tree lined fairways that require more precision off the tee on the Buddy Loving designed nine that opened in 1976. The Lake Nine, another nine designed by Roberts, debuted in 1967 and incorporates more water for the golfer to negotiate around and over. The Mountain Nine, with Virginia resident Lester George taking the creating credits, was unveiled in 2001 and pairs its incredible views with the Peak's to form another great combination.

Given the current setup at Lakeview Golf Club, let's highlight some of the signature holes to play on your shuttle across this very diverse landscape. The most difficult hole on the Spring Nine, the fourth, presents a long par 4 that plays through a beautiful wooded section. The eighth may be this writer's favorite on this loop. A short par 4 cascades downhill and to the right and offers as natural a

golf hole as you can play. The Spring Nine wraps up with one of the more memorable holes at Lakeview. The 512-yard dogleg left par 5 plays from an elevated tee that dramatically tumbles down to the fairway below, which is infiltrated by a ball-flogging creek. From there, travel basically straight uphill to a small green that slopes sharply from back to front.



Peak Hole 4 Par 3

The Peak Nine puts forth some of the tightest driving holes at Lakeview and yet balances them very nicely with generous greens and approaches. Peak opens with three consecutive par 4s. The first two dogleg gently left, while the lovely downhill third plays shorter than advertised. Good scores on these starting holes will help your total because this nine gets progressively harder as it goes on. The par 3 fourth, the poster child hole for the Peak, features a 50-foot drop from tee to green. The par 5s range from the interesting, uphill fifth that is only 440 yards from the whites to the more conventional three-shot closer that plays to a well bunkered green.



Peak Hole 9 Par 5

Most consider the Lake Nine the easiest of the four, but several ponds and a spring-fed creek will keep you thinking throughout play. Big hitters aren't the only ones to easily reach the greens on the par 5 second and fifth holes. A right to left shot off the tee on the second hole provides your optimal chance at glory, but any



Lake Hole 9 Par 4

miss-fired second shots will most likely meet a watery grave in a pond short of the green. The latter par 5 plays over 75 feet downhill to an ample landing area. Sand traps protect the small putting surface, but even this writer has reached its green in two! The Lake Nine wraps up with a terrific par 4 that plays uphill to a green handsomely decorated by a bulk-headed pond.

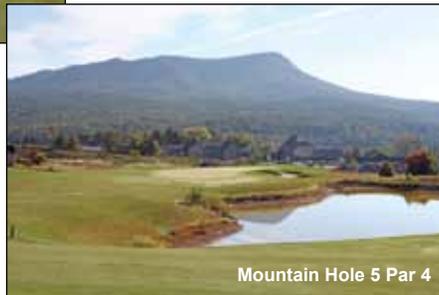


Lake Hole 5 Par 5



Mountain Hole 3 Par 5

The Mountain Nine opens rather timidly with an easy par 4, but the second hole is anything but. Also a par 4, it can stretch to 490 yards from the back tees. Raw beauty and dramatic bunkering punctuate the sweeping par 5 third. Playing in an open section of the property with a delightful view of the Massanutten



Mountain Hole 5 Par 4

Peak in the background, both the par 3 fourth's and par 4 fifth's lakes become formidable obstacles to your game. The seventh's unique split fairway makes golfers decide whether to take the more easily accessible high road or the more direct low side. The par 4 ninth can be played several different ways from the tee, but that does not change your approach from a fairway that is some 50 feet above the green.

Lakeview hosts several large tournaments each year and has always been recognized for its superb conditioning and outstanding value. Playability and a well-maintained rolling landscape offer just a couple of explanations for Lakeview Golf Club being regarded as one of the best 36-hole facilities in the Commonwealth. Locally, the club has captured the "Best in the Valley" title for golf by readers of the *Daily News-Record*. The club maintains a solid membership while still being able to court daily fee players. The service-friendly atmosphere and professional staff foster enjoyment of the game at any level. Lakeview has an outstanding practice complex for long game, short game, and putting practice. The club continues to make improvements to their website and on-line reservation feature. These smart decisions please today's technology driven consumer who demands information faster and more conveniently. Lakeview Golf Club in Harrisonburg provides exceptional golf while making all the right moves. 

For more information visit [lakeviewgolf.net](http://lakeviewgolf.net)