

Lakeview Golf Club ~ Good Vibrations

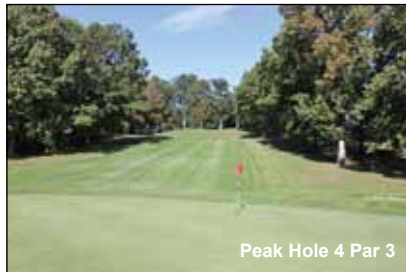
Nick Ciattei



You would be hard pressed not to feel the positive atmosphere that lurks at Lakeview Golf Club these days. The Harrisonburg, Virginia, golf facility has taken the proverbial horse by the reigns and has it pointed straight into the future with exciting additions and features. General Manager Ryan Hite is a forward thinking kind of guy as you will see. He recently added Andy Stotan as the new PGA Head Professional.

Lakeview Golf Club now features three nine-hole circuits with the resurrection of the Peak Nine to go along with Mountain and Lake. I think the 27 holes represented at Lakeview provide a unique golf experience because all three nines were built by different architects. Each is as distinct as the other, but all are very playable for all golfers. The Lake Nine, as you'd expect, features several ponds and a spring-fed creek that will keep you thinking strategy throughout. Not just big hitters find both par 5 second and fifth holes very reachable. A right to left shot off the tee on the second hole yields an optimal chance at glory, but any misfired 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. The small putting surface is protected by sand traps. The Lake Nine wraps up with a terrific par 4 that plays uphill to a green handsomely decorated by a bulkheaded pond to the left.

Walkers out there find the Lake and Peak nines the easiest one to tread. Many golfers were glad to hear they were bringing back the Peak, where most of the difficulty is squarely placed on how straight you hit the ball. Even though it has many tree-lined fairways, generous greens balance it out nicely. Peak opens with three consecutive par 4s. The first two gently dogleg left, while the lovely third runs downhill and plays shorter than advertised. The poster boy hole for the Peak, the par 3 fourth, features a 50-foot drop from tee to green. Five is a short par 5 by today's standards at 476 yards from the tips. It's radically longer playing uphill and doglegging like a banana to the right. The conventional three-shot par 5 closer on this nine plays to a well bunkered green.

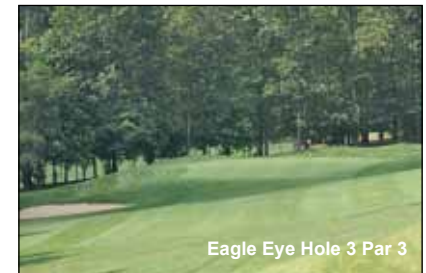


The Mountain Nine, the newest and longest of the lot, first opened in 2002. This nine begins softly with an easy par 4, but the second hole, also a par 4, is called anything but easy. It can stretch to 490 yards from the back tees. Raw beauty and

dramatic bunkering punctuates the sweeping par 5 third. Playing in an open section of the property, both the par 3 fourth and par 4 fifth have lakes that serve as formidable obstacles to your game. This loop gets its name from the awesome view of the Massanutten Peak as it rises up in the background. The seventh offers a unique challenge because it features a split fairway where golfers must 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 will not change your approach from the fairway some 50 feet above the green.



Lakeview Golf Club is unveiling their new Eagle Eye Par 3 Course which is routed over the old Spring Nine. Hite thinks this will be a great product for those just taking up the game to cut their teeth. Golfing families will love this walk in the park. It winds through a beautiful section of the property, and even the most advanced players can have fun.



I think we have all tried our hand at black light bowling, and many golfers like myself have enjoyed a round or two of glow ball at our favorite club. Hite has brought a new feature to Lakeview Golf Club that combines the two mixed in with amusing effects that even young ones will find cool. The Cosmic Driving Range is pretty much what it sounds like. Lakeview transforms their normal range at night into a glow in the dark golf pinball machine. Lights! Sounds! Scores! Sign me up. The Cosmic Driving Range is open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings. I can really see this being popular for friends' night out as well as birthday parties and private events.

Finally, Lakeview Golf Club will soon debut their new simulator with HD Golf™. It will take some of us as close as we may ever get to places like Pebble Beach and Saint Andrews. Discover accuracy and realism you thought impossible from a simulator. Experience weatherproof golf in its purest form in crisp, luxurious detail.



Lakeview Golf Club features 27 holes of the best golf the Shenandoah Valley has to offer, and now you can experience some modern new extras that provide some positive new ambience into the region's golf menu.

For more information visit lakeviewgolf.net