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MAGAZINE™



## Beaver Brook Country Club

*A Must Play this Season*

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## Must Play

By JOHN TORSIELLO



# Beaver Brook CC

## Offers a Truly Unique Experience

Once a private club that was built in 1966, Beaver Brook Country Club in Annandale, New Jersey welcomes daily fee golfers with open arms, offering them a true country club experience.

American Golf Corporation took over management of the club several years ago and has worked hard to improve the overall conditions of this delightfully scenic track.

While not the longest layout you'll ever play--it's 6,601 yards from the tips--Beaver Brook's golf course nonetheless presents a challenge for even the best players because of its tree-lined fairways, elevation changes and undulating greens. Bunkers are strategically placed throughout the track, which further complicates matters both off the tee and on approaches to the rather large greens. Proper club selection is tantamount

to scoring well here.

"It's a very solid course from a player's standpoint," said James Reynolds, Field Marketing Manager for American Golf. "Some of the newer courses that have opened in the area in recent years are longer, but you really have to think your way around this course to stay out of trouble and score well. And we get a lot of people coming back for the aesthetics. The course has some outstanding views of the countryside and has a wonderful natural setting that makes it peaceful and pleasing to play."

Reynolds added, "We haven't skimped on anything from a maintenance standpoint. We have quite a few things that most public golf clubs don't have, like locker rooms for both men and women and even a swimming pool on the property, so golfers can enjoy

the course while their families hang out at the pool."

Use of the pool demands an annual membership, said Reynolds, which costs \$450 per individual or \$895 for an entire family.

"We have a cabana, a wading pool and food is delivered poolside. We also have the Greenside Grill that has plenty of seating to allow people to hang out after their rounds or before and enjoy a meal." It really does sound like an idyllic country club setting, doesn't it?

Beaver Brook CC also has a large banquet room for outings, weddings and other special events. Recent renovations to the clubhouse's bar and dining area include a new granite-top bar, flat screen televisions, new furniture and new carpet throughout.

"All in all, you'll find amenities here that

you don't normally find at a daily fee course," said Reynolds. "We are very pro-active with our members and guests and conduct a number of summer tournaments that offer prizes. Everyone enjoys the events and the competition and it's a fun way to encourage participation."

Designed by Alex Turnei, Beaver Brook's golf course is nestled in the Hunterdon Hills and is located near Spruce Run Reservoir, which can be seen from the clubhouse and several holes. Stately oaks, maples and other mature trees line the fairways. There are three sets of tees with yardages ranging from 5,384 to 6,601. Water comes into play on the sixth, seventh and 15th holes and there are 52 bunkers scattered about the layout.

The track begins with a modest sized par-five, a 508-yarder, than can be reached in two by big hitters. The hole is pretty uncomplicated, but you have to hit it straight.

Number four is only 172 yards from the tips, but with its elevated green and the swirling winds that usually kick up, this can prove a deceptively difficult par-three. Bunkers guard the right and left side of the front of the green and an overhanging tree protects the right of the putting surface.

Number five, a 403-yard par-four, offers a stunning view from the tee box. But

don't get caught up in the scenery. There are bunkers and out-of-bounds on the right side and deep rough to the left of the fairway landing area. The approach is uphill to an undulating green.

Many consider the seventh hole, a 182-yard par-three, the toughest short hole on the course. It plays uphill and usually into the prevailing breeze.

Beaver Brook crosses in front of the green and you most assuredly want to avoid the wet stuff. But the smart play is to stay short of the hole and place your tee shot on the front of the green in order to leave an uphill putt.

Number six is a tough one, playing 406 yards from the tips. The tee shot is blind and a brook crosses the fairway about 240 yards out. The best play off the tee is a fairway wood or long iron that will leave a long, but unfettered approach to a narrow green.

Number nine is a fun par-four that plays just 304 yards from the back markers. The longballers will want to take driver from their golf bags and take a run at the green.

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**"All in all, you'll find amenities here that you don't normally find at a daily fee course,"**

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Number 13 is a 392-yard par-four dogleg right that has stream dissecting the fairway about 70 yards from the green. Again it's all about proper club selection and placement off the tee to set up a fairly simple approach to the green.

Number 15 is considered one of the most demanding par-fours in the area. It begins from an elevated tee box and proceeds to a generous landing area. A lateral hazard protects the left side and, if you steer clear of trouble and strike the ball with authority, you will be left with a long iron to a green that is guarded by a large bunker and a pond to the right.

The course ends as it begins, with a rather short, 488-yard par-five. The hole usually plays downwind, which enhances a player's opportunity for birdie, or perhaps eagle, if he can manage two lusty shots. You have to steer clear of a large bunker to the left of putting surface and the green features severe undulations, which means your task isn't quite done once you reach the real short grass.

Beaver Brook Country Club also has a large practice area and a well-stocked pro shop.

"We place a lot of emphasis on customer service," said Reynolds, "and we believe we have one of the friendliest staffs you will find anywhere."

Greens fees start at \$59 for weekdays (\$29 for weekday twilight), \$39 and \$49 for senior golfers 55 and older on weekdays and weekends, respectively, and \$69 and \$79 for non-seniors on Fridays and weekends/holidays, respectively.

You can book tee times on line 24 hours a day, seven days a week at [www.beaverbrookcc.com](http://www.beaverbrookcc.com) for your convenience as well as sign up for weekly email specials.

**Beaver Brook Country Club**  
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