



Hole Descriptions and Playing Tips

Written by Jim McLean

Number One: A demanding opening hole with water guarding the entire left side. Although the tee shot looks extremely tight, there is more room than you think so make a confident swing. After a solid drive you have one of the most interesting 2nd shots on the course. A small, but deep pot bunker is actually short of the slim 54yard deep green. Once your shot hits the green it will always move right to left.

Number Two: Long and straight away. There is plenty of fairway all the way to the green with palm trees framing the hole. Zero bunkers remind many of a classic Scottish hole. The bump and run shot sets up well visually for your approach in.

Number Three: This completes the three difficult starting holes on the Jim McLean Signature. Favor the left side of the fairway which will leave you an uninterrupted view of the green for your approach. This is a double deck green, with the lower deck at the back. This is the largest green on the course. It also features the only bunker above a green. The back left bunker is similar to the one seen at the Olympic Club in San Francisco California.

Number Four: Another large green with two levels and some severe sloping from back to front. You can bounce your approach onto the green with a straight shot. A beautiful golden coconut tree guards the left side.

Number Five: A short but challenging par 5 and the first true birdie hole on the front nine. Playing into the prevailing wind this hole can still be reached in two shots. This green sits up and rolls well from front to back. There is a major left to right angle to this green which is also much smaller in size. Be aware of the huge chipping and pitching area to the front right of this green. P.S. Make sure to view the Lilli pads just off the first tee.

Number Six: The first of two forced carry par 3's. Your tee shot travels over water to a green nestled near the lake. It will take a courageous swing to attack the back pin locations. Although this target is very intimidating you will notice a huge bail out area right for the more cautious golfer.

Number Seven: A spectacular par 4 with beautiful water and rock views. The hole requires a well placed tee shot between the bunkers and lake. Then you face a treacherous short iron over the water to a very narrow green. Choose the correct distance for your approach shot and swing confidently.

Number Eight: Tee boxes go back over 100 yards so this hole can be played at very different lengths. Usually this hole plays downwind. Your second shot is hit between the two maple trees that frame your approach. This green has a substantial false front and moves from right to left. Again, you can bounce the ball onto this green and watch it roll to the stick.

Number Nine: A great par 4 requiring a straight tee shot and an accurate 2nd. Some of the short hitters will play around the lake for their 2nd shot which provides fairway. However, most golfers will play directly over the small lake guarding this green. Rocks on the bank make this shot look even more difficult. Ignore the visuals and trust your yardage.

Number Ten: The second par 5 on the Jim McLean Signature usually plays down the prevailing wind. You need to know that water guards the left side of this green also around the back as well. Because this green slopes front to back balls can easily roll over the green. Make certain to remember this as you plan shots to the pin. A very nasty and deep pot bunker is located at the back right corner of this green. Avoid this boy.

Number Eleven: A very demanding par 3 that can play over 250 yards from the tips. Two little eye ball bunkers guard the front entrance, though an accurate shot can squeeze between them. A huge undulating green with extensive chipping areas awaits. Hit your tee shot solid.

Number Twelve: A risk/reward short par 4 with numerous options off the tee. A large pot bunker is dead center of the fairway so play left or right, short or long, but not in that bunker. This is our "twisted tongue" green meaning that the front part of the green slopes left to right while the back half slopes the opposite (right to left).

Number Thirteen: You now enter McLean's very dangerous, but beautiful, Bermuda Triangle! Make sure to slow down as you pass the back tee (the professional tee). You can think about driving off this tee, but don't do it. From this tee you have probably the most treacherous par 4 in America. Even from the up tees this hole is brutal because it requires length and extreme accuracy all the way to the hole. Yes, you can bounce the ball onto the green, but it's tight with the lake to the right.

Number Fourteen: The signature island green has been totally remodeled. A new back tee plays at 186 yards making the TPC 17th hole at Jacksonville look like a cake walk. You are now in the center of the Bermuda Triangle and there is no bailout. None. Hit a good shot or say goodbye to that golf ball. P.S. Notice the back tee for # 15 is behind this green.

Number Fifteen: From the back tee this hole is brutal, but from the regular tees it is just beautiful and demanding. There is a large fairway, but this hole is all about the 2nd shot. You hit up the hill to a narrow and winding green. *Note: Jim copied an old Donald Ross green from Agawam C.C. for this green complex. A huge false front with very difficult pin locations. Once you cross the street you have made it through Jim's Bermuda Triangle.

Number Sixteen: Just when you thought you had it made, you now face a short but very interesting par 4. This dogleg left requires a well placed drive that does not go too far because the lake cuts back. Make sure to remember this! Your second shot is hit to a fantastic green complex that has the most slope of any on the course. If the pin is not located at the back right corner, make sure to at least look at that possible pin.

Number Seventeen: There is more room to the right on this tee shot, but the further you go right the longer the 2nd shot. This green sits up on a hill and has a small front deck. The top level slopes severely right to left. A large pot bunker guards the front left section of the green.

Number Eighteen: The finishing hole is a solid left to right dogleg with a green that moves the same way. This green was moved back 30 yards and all the way to the water. It is almost the opposite of the 1st green. Lots of slope the other way. Your tee shot can be played short and safe of the left hand fairway bunker, or you can slot your tee shot between the bunkers. The more aggressive drive leaves a much easier 2nd. The view from this green back to the clubhouse and over to #17 is beautiful.