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Manassas, VA 20112

4th Hole Old Hickory Golf Course

By

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What Club Would You Hit?



Today's golf hole photographic illustrations are of the 4th Hole Old Hickory Golf Course located in Woodbridge, VA - it's the closest golf course to my house. I've had the honor of playing this golf course multiple times over the years.

Old Hickory Golf Course is designed by Tim Freeland, who was the chief golf course designer for Gary Player Golf Course Design Company. He did the work on Raspberry Falls Golf Course in Leesburg, VA. The owners were so pleased with that golf course, they asked him to design Old Hickory Golf Course in Woodbridge, VA.

As a par 72, 7,077-yard championship layout, Old Hickory uses the natural landscape and gently rolling terrain with many holes surrounded by pine, oak, maple, and hickory trees. Old Hickory utilized Beaver Creek with about nine holes to the north and nine to the south of the creek. According to Freeland, for about half the holes, they didn't have to move any earth at all; the holes just set down into their site naturally."



The 4th hole, a beautiful par-4, is in the middle of the front nine that displays Tim Freeland's golf course design philosophy at its best. Not a long hole, only 396 yards from the tips. It's a slight dogleg right as it goes downhill from tee to green. Trees guard the right side of the fairway, and Freeland's signature molding along with a few traps keeps you honest on the left. Your second shot is to a two-tiered green on the peninsula.

When I was younger, I often hit a three-wood for position, which leaves me with a short- to mid-iron into the green. Depending on the pin location, be careful; I've hit the hill that splits the green into two tiers, shooting my golf ball into the water. Not a good feeling when you hit the middle of the green.



These columns, digital paintings, and photographs were adapted from a chapter in my book, "Golf a la Cart Version 2," now available on Amazon or by contacting me. The illustrations are also available as a print at my Etsy Store. To purchase a print, go to the Gallery Section of pbsstudios.com

I hope you like my weekly series of columns about golf holes I have played and photographed. The series includes original photographs or digital paintings in the series based on photographed golf holes.

Give me a like and leave a comment. Let me know what you think about the series.



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