

Bear Lakes Country Club *Constant Renewal is a Part of the Game*

*It's known as a "player's club,"
with over 200 single-digit
handicap golfers.*



WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA: According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, there is a subtle distinction between a golf course *architect* and a golf course *designer*. A golf course *architect* is responsible for artistry of the routing, while a golf course *designer* oversees construction and functionality.

"I like to say we deliver the best of both worlds," stated Mark Love, president of Love Golf Design. "Our dad introduced Davis [my brother] and me to golf. He even dabbled in architecture by designing a golf course in Korea when he was stationed there for the war.

"When Davis and I were younger, we created 'tiger tees' at Sea Island in Georgia. This was well before Tiger Woods entered the golf scene. It was our version of 'cross-country golf,' creating routings like teeing off from the 2nd hole to the 14th green. Many an avid golfer wishes to design a golf course. It's easy to be an armchair architect, but it's important to remember budgets, grading, drainage, irrigation, and permits are factors in actual design."

The Love Golf Design course at Bear Lakes Country Club will hold its grand opening before the end of the year. "It's what I call an American links design since it's not on the ocean. Using the word links carries many a meaning in golf," continued Mark. "At Bear Lakes, our course will feature bold shaping, native grasses, and, like any true links course, a lot of water views, but most of it is not in play. Rather than massive earth-moving, we prefer to find the natural flow of the land."

When Love Golf Design is finished with its work, Bear Lakes Country Club will have two distinguished courses crafted by two well-respected golf brands synonymous with the rich tradition of the sport.

"Ours will be both striking to look at, interesting to play, and yet a departure from the traditional parkland style sister course designed by Jack Nicklaus," concluded Mark. ■

For more information, please visit BearLakes.org.



Mark Love and Davis Love III at work.

*"Once our work is
complete, we will define
Florida links-style golf."*

—DAVIS LOVE III

*"Bear Lakes never lost
sight of the importance
of family and being
a club that emphasizes
activities for mom, dad,
and kids of all ages."*

—JACK NICKLAUS



"It's important to blend the finest of golf and non-golf services. I credit our overall standards for drawing a membership base that includes families residing at historically significant clubs, including Baltusrol, Winged Foot, and Oakmont." —CHRIS HULL, COO/GM AT BEAR LAKES