



**THE  
NATIONAL  
HICKORY  
CHAMPIONSHIP®**

23rd Year  
June 11-12, 2020  
World Wide

**“NATIONAL HICKORY  
CHAMPIONSHIP”**

**“NHC” and  
“THE NATIONAL”**

**Copyright**

**2005**

Updated 2020

**Peter E. Georgiady**

(Founder)

**John Crow Miller**

(Rules Committee Chairman)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION .....	4
DEFINITIONS .....	5
LOCAL RULES .....	8
FOR THE MOUND COURSE	
1891 R&A RULES .....	8
SPECIAL MEDAL PLAY RULES.....	18
BOUNDARY & OTHER CONDITIONS .....	27
EQUIPMENT RULES .....	22
DRESS CODE .....	24
PAST CHAMPIONS .....	26
FOURSOMES COMPETITION .....	28
INDEX .....	31

## INTRODUCTION

*The rules in use for the National Hickory Championship were first applied in 2003 through the efforts of Dr. Trey Holland. They are as close as feasible to the first unified code of rules in use in Britain considering the environment in which the NHC is contested. Local rules and exceptions are included. Dr. Holland and John Crow Miller were responsible for a revision of these rules for use in the 10th NHC in 2007, with Win Padgett and Dr. Holland revising again in 2008. The Rules are reviewed each year by the Committee and founder for possible revisions.*

*Prior to 1891, each club in Britain devised and maintained its own rules. Many codes were very similar but it was not until the 1891 code was approved by The Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews that every golf club in Britain—and throughout the world (except the US, Canada, Mexico)—played according to the same code.*

*The first official set of rules for the National Hickory Championship, was put into use in the second tournament (1999). That set of rules, assembled by Pete Georgiady, was a composite of individual rulings that were in use at British clubs throughout the 19th century.*

**NATIONAL HICKORY  
CHAMPIONSHIP  
2018 EDITION**

The Definitions and Rules as reflected on Pages 5-8 have evolved through the conduct of The National Hickory Championship. The subsequent 11 pages comprise the 1891 R and A Rules with rulings by the USGA. As of 2003, we follow the 1891 R and A Rules of Golf with local exceptions and allowances. Match Play is governed by the 1891 R and A Rules.

In all situations, please follow the 1891 Rules shown here or, in case of doubt, observe the current Rules of Golf as enforced by the USGA and the R and A. Rules questions should be brought before the Championship Committee immediately.

**DEFINITIONS**

**Ball in water**—In any watery condition, the ball may be lifted, dropped a club length behind the water and played under penalty of one stroke. This includes any “casual water” through the green. A ball lifted from water may be cleaned. *[The 1883 Wimbledon Rules were the first to make the distinction between a water hazard and casual water in the fairway. However, the penalty was the same for both. Willie Park, Jr. said in 1891, “Water means any water on the course...”]*

**Immovable and movable obstructions** -- Objects at The Mound such as steps, stepping boards and stones, posts, rocks, bridges and other fixed items are considered parts of the course and, therefore, are immovable. The paved road on holes 1, 3, 6 and 9 is also in

every stroke. *[Instituted in 1839 by the Honorable Company and enumerated in 1891 R&A Rules]*

**Sheep and dung**—Sheep are considered an outside agency. There is no penalty should the ball strike a sheep and the stroke stands. The ball will then be played as it lies without penalty. A ball resting in or touching dung through the green may be moved one club length back, no penalty. It may be cleaned when moved. *[The 1776 Royal Burgesses Rule enforces a one-stroke penalty for a ball removed from cow dung (or human ordure). By 1889, Hawick Golf Club Rules were allowing a drop with no penalty.]*

**Teeing ground**—Each hole must be started at the appropriate teeing ground. The player must stand within the confines of the teeing ground. If the teeing ground is unplayable due to extreme moisture, the player may tee his ball within one club length from the perimeter of the teeing ground.

**Turns on putting green**—The turn to play shall always be observed by the player whose ball rests furthest from the hole. When a player’s ball rests within one folded scorecard length from the hole he may play again to finish the hole. Only when another ball lies between a ball and the hole on the putting green may the intermediate ball be lifted and its position marked with a coin or marker and replaced immediately after that stroke has been played. At no other time may a ball be touched on the putting green (unless a ball is embedded). If a putted ball strikes another ball, there is no penalty. The ball at rest that was moved is returned to its original position. The putted ball is played as it lies. *[Stymies were never played in stroke competition. Lifting a ball on the green when lying in another’s line to the hole has been in force since 1838, when instituted by The Honorable*

free relief given for any of these conditions; play the best you can. The clubhouse, the deck to the left of the clubhouse and all tent poles, stakes and ropes behind 9 green are also considered immovable obstructions. The player has the option of playing the ball as it lies or dropping the ball at the nearest point, not nearer the hole, where there is no longer either interference with the swing or intervention on a direct line between the player’s ball and the hole.

Moveable obstructions such as benches or furniture not fixed in place may be moved, and the ball played as it lies. Chairs, tables, etc. around 9 green are movable obstructions. *[Moveable obstructions, other than laundry baskets full of clothes, were not defined until 1908. The 1851 St. Andrews Rules made the distinction between an artificial, immovable obstruction and a loose impediment.]*

**Lifting ball**—A ball shall not be lifted during the course of play from tee to hole except in these circumstances: 1) to identify a ball that can not be identified as it lay, 2) to remove it from unplayable lie or water hazard in accordance with the rules, 3) to remove a ball lying in dung, or 4) to remove a ball on the putting green, but only when your ball is in the line of another whose turn it is to putt.

**Loose impediments**—Loose impediments, stones, bits of sand and dirt, leaves, twigs and general debris can be moved without penalty through the green. If their removal causes the ball to move, one penalty stroke shall be added, including on the putting green. *[The removal of impediments has been observed since the 1809 Honorable Company Rules. The allowance for the condition of the ball moving on the green as loose impediments are removed was not implemented until 1900.]*

*Company. Prior to the lifting rule it was common to hit an opponent’s ball with one’s own putted ball, as in croquet, to move it further from the hole.]*

**Unplayable lie**—See 1891 R&A Rules and Special Medal Play Rule 8 (page 18).

**Embedded ball**—Please see 1891 R&A Rules 13, page 11.

**1891 R&A Rules  
(with USGA Rulings)**

The following rules pre-date the formation of the USGA and were in effect in the United States in 1891. With the exception of the addition of certain “Rulings of the USGA” (the equivalent of today’s Decisions on the Rules of Golf), no further amendments were made until 1898. Several 1891 R&A Rules irrelevant to the NHC have been omitted to save space and local rule adaptations have been added.

**Rule 3 TEERING GROUND**— The teeing ground shall be indicated by two marks placed in a line at right angles to the course, and the player shall not tee in front of, nor to either side of these marks, nor more than two club lengths behind them.

***Ruling of the USGA:***

*In Match Play, the ball may be recalled by the opposite side (no stroke being counted for the misplay). The option of recalling a ball is in all cases forfeited unless exercised at once and before another stroke has been played.*

*In Medal Play, the ball must be recalled (no stroke being counted for the misplay).*

**Rule 5 COMMENCEMENT-** The game commences by each side playing a ball from the first teeing ground. In case of failure to agree, it shall be determined by lot or toss which side shall have the option of commencing.

**Rule 7 HONOR-** The side winning a hole shall commence on the next hole and may recall the opponent's stroke should he play out of order. This privilege is called the honor. In starting for a new match, the winner of the long match in the previous round is entitled to the honor.

**Note -** This unusual and infrequent occurrence will only apply in NHC match play competition.

**Rule 8 TIES-** In Medal Play, where two or more competitors are tied, the winner shall be determined by another round on the course.

**Note-** At the end of 36 holes, a sudden victory format will commence on hole 7 and continue on subsequent holes until one player has taken fewer strokes on a hole than the other player. If more than two players are involved, a player taking more strokes on a hole than the others will be eliminated after that hole. When handicaps are used in 'net' competitions, extra hole playoffs will use this table for determining stroke allowance.

<b>Hole (Mound)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Handicap</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>

**Rule 13 BALL STUCK-** A ball stuck fast in wet ground or sand may be taken out and replaced loosely in the hole, it has made (without cleaning ball). A pitch mark from a struck ball may be repaired but the ball may not be cleaned.

**Note -** Provisions for "Lift, Clean and Place," or similar actions could be made by the Championship Committee in the event of inclement conditions.

**Rule 14 TOUCHING A HAZARD-** When a ball lies in or touches a hazard, the club shall not touch the ground, nor shall anything be touched or moved before the player strikes at the ball, except that the player may place his feet firmly on the ground for the purpose of addressing the ball, under penalty of loss of hole. But if in the backward or in the downward swing any grass, bent, whin or other growing substance, or the side of a bunker or wall, paling or other immovable obstacle, be touched, no penalty shall be incurred.

**Rule 15 HAZARD -** A "hazard" shall be any bunker of whatever nature, water, sand, loose earth, mole hills, paths, roads of railways, whins, bushes, rushes, rabbit scrapes, fences, ditches, or anything which is not the ordinary green of the course, except sand blown onto the grass by wind or sprinkled on the grass for the preservation of the links, or snow or ice or bare patches on the course.

**Ruling of the USGA:**

**Rule 9 ORDER OF PLAY-** After the balls are struck from the tee, the ball furthest from the hole shall be played first. (see Medal Play Rule 9, which details the order of play on the putting green for both Match and Medal Play)

**Rule 10 TOUCHING BALL-** Unless with the opponent's consent, a ball struck from the tee shall not be changed, touched, nor moved before the hole is played out, under penalty of one stroke, except as otherwise provided in the Rules. [Exceptions noted for "Lifting Ball" in Definitions and in Medal Play Rule 9]

**Rule 11 LOOSE IMPEDEMENTS—THROUGH THE GREEN-** In playing through the green, all loose impediments within one club length of a ball, which is not lying in or touching a hazard, may be removed; but loose impediments which are more than one club length from the ball shall not be removed under penalty of one stroke. (Putting green, see R & A Rule 31)

**Rule 12 IMPROVING SWING OR STANCE-** Before striking at the ball, the player shall not move, bend nor break anything fixed or growing near the ball, except in the act of placing his feet on the ground for the purpose of addressing the ball, and in soling his club to address the ball, under penalty of loss of hole, except as provided in R&A Rule 18.

**Ruling of the USGA:**

*In Medal Play the penalty for unfairly taking a stance or improving the area of intended swing or stance is one stroke.*

*Long grass or casual water on the fair green are not hazards. Woods are hazards. The fair green shall be considered any part of a course except the hazards and putting greens.*

**Note -** Woods, mole hills, paths, fences, bushes, ditches and rabbit scrapes are not considered hazards at the Mound. Refer to the Hazards in The Local Rules.

**Rule 16 TOUCHING THE GROUND-** A player, or a player's caddie, shall neither press down nor remove any irregularities of surface near the ball, except at the teeing ground, under penalty of loss of hole.

**Ruling of the USGA:**

*In Medal Play, the penalty for a breach of this rule is disqualification.*

*"Near the ball" shall be considered within a club length of the ball.*

**Note -** In the NHC, the penalty for breach of Rule 16 is two strokes.

**Rule 17 OBSTRUCTIONS-** If any vessel, wheelbarrow, tool, roller, grasscutter, box or other similar obstruction has been placed upon the course, such obstruction may be removed. A ball lying on or touching such obstruction, or on clothes or nets, or on ground under repair or temporarily covered up or opened, may be lifted and dropped at the nearest point of the course; but a ball lifted in a hazard shall be dropped in a haz-

ard. A ball lying in a golf hole or flag hole may be lifted and dropped not more than a club length behind such hole.

**Note** - Relief may be taken for a ball lying on a wrong putting green or in a wrong hole by seeking the nearest point of relief off the wrong putting green and no closer to the proper hole being played.

**Rule 18 COVERED BALL**- When a ball is completely covered, with fog, bent, whins, etc., only so much thereof shall be set aside as that the player may have a view of the ball before he plays, whether in a line with the hole or otherwise.

**Rule 19 DROPPING A BALL**- When a ball is to be dropped, the player shall drop it. He shall front the hole, stand erect behind the hazard, keep the spot from which the ball was lifted, or in the case of running water the spot at which it entered, in a line between him and the hole and drop the ball behind him from his head, standing as far behind the hazard as he may please.

***Ruling of the USGA:***

*In Match Play, if the ball has not been dropped in strict accordance with the rule, the opponent has the option of having the ball dropped again.*

*In Medal Play, if the ball has not been dropped in strict accordance with the rule, the other competitor must call for the ball to be dropped again, and the player must comply or be disqualified.*

**Rule 22 MOVING BALL DEFLECTED** - Whatever happens by accident to a ball in motion, such as its being deflected or stopped by any agency outside of the match, or by the forecaddie, is a "rub of the green," and the ball shall be played from where it lies. Should a ball lodge in anything moving, such ball, or if it cannot be recovered, another ball shall be dropped as nearly as possible at the spot where the object was when the ball lodged in it. But if a ball at rest be displaced by any agency outside the match, the player shall drop it, or another ball, as nearly as possible at the spot where it lay. On the putting green the ball may be replaced by hand. (see Medal Play Rule 10)

**Rule 23 BALL AT REST MOVED BY ANOTHER**- If the player's ball strikes, or be accidentally moved by, an opponent or an opponent's caddie or clubs, the opponent loses the hole.

***Ruling of the USGA:***

*In Medal Play, if the player's ball strikes a fellow competitor or his caddie or clubs, it is a "rub of the green" and the ball shall be played from where it lies. If a player's ball at rest be accidentally or intentionally moved by a fellow competitor or his caddie, the ball must be replaced. In either case there is no penalty.*

**Rule 24 BALL AT REST MOVED BY A PLAYER**- If the player's ball strikes or be stopped by himself or his partner or either of their caddies or clubs, or if, while in the act of playing, the player shall strike the ball twice, his side shall lose the hole.

***Ruling of the USGA:***

**Note** - No Mound hazard will be marked. For a water hazards, the line of short mown grass to longer grass will be deemed to be the margin of the hazard. Penalty for the second occurrence of an improperly dropped ball is one stroke (not disqualification)

**Rule 20 PROXIMATE BALLS**- When balls in play lie within six inches of each other, measured from their nearest points, the ball nearer the hole shall be lifted until the other is played, and shall then be replaced as nearly as possible in its original position. Should the ball further from the hole be accidentally moved in so doing, it shall be replaced. Should the lie of the lifted ball be altered by the opponent in playing, it may be replaced in a lie near to, and as nearly as possible similar to, that from which it was lifted. (The 'stymie rule')

**Note**- See "Turns on putting green" in Definitions.

**Rule 21 BALL IN WATER**- If a ball be lost in water, the player may drop a ball under penalty of one stroke.

***Ruling of the USGA:***

*When a ball lies in casual water on the putting green, it may be lifted without penalty and replaced by hand to one side but not nearer the hole.*

**Note** - Casual water will not be observed without a declaration from the Championship Committee at the start of the round.

*In Medal Play, the penalty is loss of one stroke (see Special Medal Play Rule 6)*

**Rule 25 TOUCHING BALL**- If the player, when not making a stroke, or his partner, or either of their caddies, touch their side's ball, except at the tee, so as to move it, or by touching anything cause it to move, the penalty is one stroke.

***Ruling of the USGA:***

*Except at the tee, if the ball moves while a player is addressing it, the player loses one stroke. Except at the tee, if the ball be struck while moving, the penalty is one stroke, i.e., one stroke for the moving and one stroke for the play. Except at the tee, if struck at while moving and missed, one stroke shall be counted for the moving and another for the miss.*

**Rule 27 PLAYING WRONG BALL**- A player's side loses a stroke if he plays the opponent's ball, unless: (1) the opponent then plays the player's ball, whereby the penalty is cancelled, and the hole must be played out with the balls exchanged; or (2) the mistake occurs through wrong information given by the opponent, in which case the mistake, if discovered before the opponent has played, must be rectified by placing a ball as nearly as possible where the opponent's ball lay.

If it be discovered before either side has struck off at the tee that one side has played out the previous hole with the ball of a party not engaged in the match, that side shall lose the hole. (see Medal Play Rule 27)

***Ruling of the USGA:***

*Penalty for breach of this Rule:*

*1st. Playing the opponent's ball with the exceptions (1) and (2) noted in Rule 27:*

*In Match Play, loss of one stroke. The ball must be replaced.*

*In Medal Play, no penalty. The ball must be replaced.*

*2nd. Playing out with the ball of a party not engaged in the match: In Match Play, if discovered before the next tee stroke, loss of hole. In Medal Play, the player must go back and play his own ball, or not finding it, return as nearly as possible to the spot where it was last struck, tee another ball and lose a stroke (see Medal Play Rule 5) or else be disqualified.*

**Note** - A player has the opportunity to tee the ball in a place other than the teeing ground following a breach of this rule.

**Rule 28 LOST BALL**- If a ball be lost, the player's side loses the hole. A ball shall be considered lost if it not be found within five minutes after search is begun. (see Medal Play Rule 5 and "Lost ball" in Definitions)

***Ruling of the USGA:***

*Penalty under this rule: In Match Play, loss of hole. Where both balls are lost at the same time, neither side wins the hole, which should be called halved, irrespective of the number of strokes that either side may have played. A player who has lost his ball may, before giving up the hole, ask the opponent to show his (the opponent's) ball.*

**Rule 27 PLAYING WRONG BALL**- A player's side loses a stroke if he plays the opponent's ball, unless: (1) the opponent then plays the player's ball, whereby the penalty is cancelled, and the hole must be played out with the balls exchanged; or (2) the mistake occurs through wrong information given by the opponent, in which case the mistake, if discovered before the opponent has played, must be rectified by placing a ball as nearly as possible where the opponent's ball lay.

If it be discovered before either side has struck off at the tee that one side has played out the previous hole with the ball of a party not engaged in the match, that side shall lose the hole. (see Medal Play Rule 27)

***Ruling of the USGA:***

*Penalty for breach of this Rule:*

*1st. Playing the opponent's ball with the exceptions (1) and (2) noted in Rule 27:*

*In Match Play, loss of one stroke. The ball must be replaced.*

*In Medal Play, no penalty. The ball must be replaced.*

*2nd. Playing out with the ball of a party not engaged in the match: In Match Play, if discovered before the next tee stroke, loss of hole. In Medal Play, the player must go back and play his own ball, or not finding it, return as nearly as possible to the spot where it was last struck, tee another ball and lose a stroke (see Medal Play Rule 5) or else be disqualified.*

**Note** - A player has the opportunity to tee the ball in a place other than the teeing ground following a breach of this rule.

**Rule 24 BALL AT REST MOVED BY A PLAYER**- If the player's ball strikes or be stopped by himself or his partner or either of their caddies or clubs, or if, while in the act of playing, the player shall strike the ball twice, his side shall lose the hole.

***Ruling of the USGA:***

*In Medal Play, the penalty is loss of one stroke (see Special Medal Play Rule 6)*

**Rule 25 TOUCHING BALL**- If the player, when not making a stroke, or his partner, or either of their caddies, touch their side's ball, except at *In Medal Play, loss of one stroke and distance. The player must return as nearly as possible to the spot where the last ball was struck, tee another ball and lose one stroke. But if the ball be found before he has struck the other ball, the first ball shall continue in play.*

**Note** - A player has the opportunity to tee the ball in a place other than the teeing ground following a breach of this rule. the tee, so as to move it, or by touching anything cause it to move, the penalty is one stroke.

***Ruling of the USGA:***

*Except at the tee, if the ball moves while a player is addressing it, the player loses one stroke. Except at the tee, if the ball be struck while moving, the penalty is one stroke, i.e., one stroke for the moving and one stroke for the play. Except at the tee, if struck at while moving and missed, one stroke shall be counted for the moving and another for the miss.*

**Rule 29 PLAY BALL WHERE IT LIES**- A ball must be played wherever it lies, or the hole given up, except as provided for in the rules.

***Ruling of the USGA:***

*Penalty: In Match Play, loss of hole.*

*In Medal Play, loss of two strokes, and the ball may be teed. The exceptions are provided for in R and A Rule 17 (obstructions) and Rule 21 (water hazards).*

**Rule 30 PUTTING GREEN**- The term "putting green" shall mean the ground within 20 yards of the hole, excepting hazards.

***Ruling of the USGA:***

*If a hazard be within the 20-yard limit of the hole, the ground inside of such hazard may not be considered as putting green, even though it be within a 20-yard radius of the hole.*

**Note** - Putting greens at The Mound are well defined and the 20-yard definition does not apply.

**Rule 31 LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS ON PUTTING GREEN**- All loose impediments may be removed from the putting green, except the opponent's ball, when at a greater distance from the player's than six inches (through the green—see R&A Rule 11).

***Ruling of the USGA:***

*See Special Medal Play Rule 9.*

**Rule 36 MOVING BALL**- A player shall not play until the opponent's ball shall have ceased to roll, under penalty of one

stroke. Should the player's ball knock in the opponent's ball, the latter shall be counted as holed out in the previous stroke. If, in playing, the player's ball displaces the opponent's ball, the opponent shall have the option of replacing it.

***Ruling of the USGA:***

***Penalty under this Rule:***

*In Match Play, loss of one stroke.*

*In Medal Play, loss of one stroke.*

***Should the player's ball knock in the opponent's ball:***

*In Match Play, the latter shall be counted as holed out in the previous stroke.*

*In Medal Play, the latter must be replaced.*

***Should the player's ball displace the opponent's ball:***

*In Medal Play, the latter shall have the option of replacing his ball or playing it as it lies, and must exercise such option at once before further play.*

*In Match Play, the latter shall have the option of replacing his ball or playing it as it lies, and must exercise such option at once before further play. A player having holed out his ball in the like or the odd may knock away the opponent's ball from the lip of the hole and claim the hole if he had holed in the like, or a half if he had holed in the odd.*

**Rule 38 BALL UNPLAYABLE**- If a ball splits into separate pieces, another ball may be put down where the largest portion lies; or if two pieces are apparently of equal size, it may be put where either piece lies, at the option of the player. If a ball

**Note** - In the NHC, a player may declare his ball unplayable in any situation and move it one club length no closer to the hole under penalty of two strokes. Note that the ball may be teed. If the "difficulty" be a bush or tree with very low branches, the outside perimeter of those branches will be considered the point from where the one club length is measured.

**Rule 9 LIFTING THE BALL**- All balls shall be holed out. When play is on the putting green, the flag shall be removed. The player whose ball is nearest the hole shall have the option of holing out first, or of lifting his ball if it be in such a position that it might, if left, give an advantage to a fellow competitor. Throughout the putting green, a player can have a fellow competitor's ball lifted if he finds that it interferes with his stroke.

**Etiquette:** A player should not putt at the hole when the flagstick is in it unless the flagstick is attended.

**Note** - Please follow the "Turns on the putting green" as outlined in the Definitions. This rule supersedes Match Play Rule 9.

**Rule 10 BALL AT REST MOVED**- If a ball at rest be moved by any agency outside the match and roll into the hole, the ball shall not be considered as holed out on the previous stroke, but shall be replaced as nearly as possible in the same position before it was displaced.

cracks, or become unplayable, the player may change it on intimating to his opponent his intention to do so.

**Rule 39 BALL MOVED AT ADDRESS**- A player who, while addressing his ball, intentionally or accidentally causes it to move shall be considered to have played a stroke (except at the tee).

## SPECIAL MEDAL PLAY RULES

**Rule 5 LOST BALL**- If a ball be lost, the player shall return as nearly as possible to the spot where the last ball was struck, tee another ball and lose a stroke. If the lost ball be found before he has struck the other ball, the found ball shall continue in play.

**Note:** As an NHC adaptation, if a ball may be lost under this rule, the player may play another ball provisionally by informing fellow competitors, and that ball must be played before going forward to search for the original ball. *[In the 19th century there was no provisional ball allowance]*

**Rule 6 BALL TOUCHED IN PLAY**- If the player's ball strikes himself, his clubs, or his caddie, or if in the act of playing, the player strikes the ball twice, the penalty shall be one stroke.

**Rule 8 UNPLAYABLE LIE**- A ball may, under penalty of two strokes, be lifted out of a difficulty of any description and be teed behind the same.

**Rule 11 WRONG BALL**- Should a player hole out with a ball other than his own, he shall be disqualified unless he can go back and resume play with the original ball, or, failing to find it, return as nearly as possible to the spot where it was last struck, tee another ball and lose a stroke.

## Equipment Guide—19th Cent. Divisions (Open & Reserve Divisions)

There is no limit to the number of clubs that can be carried.

**Antique Woods:** Long nose, semi-long nose or bulger style; splice head; should have marks and shape consistent with 19<sup>th</sup> century clubs/makers.

\*\*\* No short head or socket head allowed.

**Replica Woods:** As above. Approved wood clubs available from Oakhurst, Louisville Golf Co., Tad Moore or Barry Kerr.

**Antique Irons:** Must be smooth faced and attributable (by markings) to 19<sup>th</sup> century origin. Irons with no markings must be inspected and approved before the tournament, or at a prior GCS event.

**Replica Irons:** As approved by the committee.

**Antique Putters (wood):** Any wood-shaft era (pre-1935) wood-headed putter in the long nose, semi-long nose or transitional shape that is heel-shafted. This includes splice head and later 20<sup>th</sup> century socket head putters as

long as they are made in the ‘mallet’ or semi-long nose shape of the old style.

\*\*\* No Schenectadies or other center-shaft putters.

**Replica Putters (wood):** Louisville Golf Company wood head/wood shaft putters allowed. Others by committee approval, following inspection.

**Antique Putters (metal):** Metal head (steel or gun metal, i.e. bronze) blade putter or putting cleek only allowed if proven to be of 19<sup>th</sup> century origin by maker name or cleek mark.

\*\*\* No Otey Crisman putters or aluminum head putters (Mills and other similar types) permitted.

**Some more common clubs categorically allowed:**  
(must be smooth faced)

- Tom Stewart irons with NO registration legend under the pipe mark, or with serpent mark
- All B.G.I. Irons or semi-long head woods
- Willie Park irons or semi-long head woods
- Spalding model irons—from the ‘SPALDING,’ ‘The

Spalding,’ ‘Clan,’ ‘Spalding Special,’ ‘SMCo,’ (with crescent moon mark), ‘Vardon’ and ‘Morristown’ (no baseball mark) series.

- Forgan woods and irons with Prince of Wales plume mark

## Equipment Guide—20th Cent. Divisions (Vintage Division)

There is no limit to the number of clubs that can be carried.

All clubs should be made with wood shafts and date from 1930 or earlier.

Historic clubs whose status is currently (2006 USGA Rules) not legal are allowed:

- Anti-shank irons in the Fairlie, Lowe and Smith patterns;
- Deep groove irons with corrugated, slotted and other similar face scoring;
- Concave faced irons;
- Other illegal clubs evaluated individually; consult the Championship Director.

The primary flange sole “sand irons” permitted are the

Hagen, wood shaft Iron Man, the Dynamiter and the Skoogee. (Check with the committee on other models) Mills and other aluminum clubs permitted.

\*\*\* No Non-wood shaft clubs allowed.

\*\*\* No Otey Crisman putters allowed.

\*\*\* No Callaway Hickory Sticks allowed.

## DRESS CODE

### GENTLEMEN: OPEN AND RESERVE DIVISIONS

**Trousers—** Long trousers or knickerbocker trousers with knee socks (preferably solid color) only. ‘Knickers’ are knee-length and fairly tight. No plus-fours (i.e. baggy, 1920s-style knee-trousers please!) or plus-sixes. Kilts permitted.

**Shirt—** Long sleeve shirt (roll up sleeves if warm). No knit golf shirts.

**Tie** (required for men)—Bow tie, neck tie, cravat or ascot.

**Accessories—** Jacket, vest, waistcoat or sweater allowed; golf glove (modern) permitted.

**Shoes—** Any style golf shoe permitted. Soft spikes, please.

**Hat**—Must be appropriate for period. Wide brimmed straw or felt hat, top hat, bowler or derby, flat cloth cap or British ‘games cap.’ **No** baseball-type caps or visors. Logos to be avoided if possible.

### GENTLEMEN: VINTAGE DIVISION

Same requirements above but allowing plus fours and plus sixes.

*Note: Floppy plus-fours, plus-sixes and argyle socks are not permitted in the Open Division and are discouraged from use in the Reserve Division. They permitted in the Vintage Division.*

### LADIES: RESERVE DIVISION

**Skirt or dress**—Approximately ankle length for Reserve Division; appropriate period dress for Vintage Division

**Blouse or shirt**—Please try to use period style. **No** knit golf shirts.

**Hat**—Try to maintain a period appearance. **No** visors.

**Shoes**—Any style golf shoe permitted. Soft spikes only, please.

**Accessories**—Vest, jacket, sweater or scarf allowed. Shoes, gloves, ties permitted as outlined for gentlemen. If a lady’s outfit has no pockets a small carrying satchel or bag is allowed for balls and accoutrements.

### LADIES: VINTAGE DIVISION

All items as outlined above however, skirts/dresses do not have to be ankle length, knee length is acceptable.

#### NHC Hickory Hall of Fame & NHC Past Champions

##### NHC Hickory Hall of Fame

**Rob ‘Kilty’ Ahlschwede**  
**Tom Johnson**  
**Mike Just**  
**Seth Lomison**  
**John Crow Miller**  
**Win Padgett**  
**Russ Ravert**  
**Jim Sherrill**  
**Bobby Sly**  
**Ross Snellings**  
**Mike Stevens**  
**Bob West**

##### Open Division

**2019—Seth Lomison**  
 2018—Seth Lomison  
 2017—Bill Geisler  
 2016—Billy Wardwell  
 2015—Bobby Sly  
 2014—Tom Johnson  
 2013—Andy Just  
 2012—Mike Stevens  
 2011—Bobby Sly

2010—Mike Stevens  
 2009—Bobby Sly  
 2008—Randy Jensen  
 2007—Randy Jensen  
 2006—Randy Jensen  
 2005—Mike Stevens  
 2004—Randy Jensen  
 2003—Randy Jensen  
 2002—Randy Jensen  
 2001—Fred Fruisen  
 2000—Randy Jensen  
 1999—Jay Harris  
 1998—Randy Jensen

##### Reserve Division

**2019—Matt Lomison**  
 2018—James Kaiser  
 2017—Greg Smith  
 2016—Bern Bernacki  
 2015—Stephen Busic  
 2014—Stephen Busic  
 2013—Rob McKnight  
 2012—Stephen Busic  
 2011—Fred Smeltzer  
 2010—Dave Chermak

2009—Stephen Busic  
 2008—Tom Hughes  
 2007—Bill Engelson  
 2006—Frank Boumphrey  
 2005—Matt Dodds  
 2004—Mike Haislip  
 2003—Mike Just  
 2002—Jim Sherrill

##### Sporting Division

**2017— Frank Rosenzweig**  
 2015—Rick Wolffe (Gross)  
     Frank Rosenzweig (net)  
 2014—Frank Rosenzweig (Gross)  
     John Roth (Net)  
 2013—Asher Fried (Gross)  
     Robt. D White (Net)  
 2012—John Roth (Gross)  
     Gordon Beggs (Net)  
 2011—Eric Wolke (M)  
     Terry Thompson (L)  
 2010—Eric Wolke (M)  
     Terry Thompson (L)  
 2009—John Miles (Gross)  
     Eric Wolke (Net)  
     Terry Thompson (L)

##### Vintage Division

2007—Jim Clawson  
 2006—Tad Moore  
 1998—Jay Harris

##### Women’s Division

**2019—Gillian Alexander**  
 2018—Gillian Alexander  
 2017—Gillian Alexander  
 2016—Sarah Helly  
 2015—Caty Goidel  
 2014—Gillian Alexander  
 2013—Tammy Lomison  
 2012—Caty Goidel  
 2011—Caty Goidel  
 2010—Sherry Smeltzer  
 2009—Caty Goidel  
 2008—Caty Goidel  
 2007—Caty Goidel  
 2006—Caty Goidel  
 2005—Caty Goidel (36)  
     Betty Reid (18)  
 2004—Lawren Just  
 2003—Vicki Gibboney  
 2002—Dianne Young  
 2001—Caty Goidel  
 2000—Caty Goidel  
 1999—Vicki Gibboney



Item and page number		
Ball in water 5, 13	Loose Impediments 6, 10, 17	
Ball Moved at Address 17	Lost Ball 6, 16, 18	
Ball at Rest Moved 14, 19	Movable Obstructions 6 Moving Ball 16, 17	
Ball Stuck 11	Moving Ball Deflected 13	
Ball Touched in Play 18	Obstructions 12	
Boundaries 20, 21	Order of Play 10	
Commencement (Start) 9	Play Ball Where It Lies 16	
Covered Ball 12	Provisional Ball 18	
Dress Code 24, 25	Proximate Balls 13	
Dropping Ball 12	Putting Green 7, 16	
Dung 7	Sheep and Dung 7	
Embedded Ball 7 (Ball Stuck 11)	Teeing Ground 7, 9	
Equipment 22, 23	Ties 10	
Hazard 11	Touching Ball 10, 14	
Honor 10	Touching the Ground 12	
Immoveable Obstructions 5	Unplayable Ball 17	
Improving Swing/Stance 11	Unplayable Lie 7, 19	
Lifting Ball 6, 18	Wrong Ball 7, 15, 19	
Local Conditions 22, 23		
Local Rules 8		