

THE NATIONAL HICKORY CHAMPIONSHIP

was established in 1998 to bring together golfers who enjoy playing golf in historic conditions, the way it was played before the turn of the century. Playing according to 19th century rules and using authentic 19th century equipment makes the NHC the sternest test of hickory golf contested anywhere. Open to all, the NHC draws the most ardent and accomplished wood shaft golfers from across America and Canada (average tenure in 2022 was 9.5 years). Competitive, yet fun, it is America's hickory championship—the ultimate test of hickory golf.

Three-peat: 2022 National Hickory Champion Seth Lomison, Nashville, Tennessee holds the NHC trophy following his victory at Foxburg. He is only the fourth champion in the 25 year history of the event to win three or more titles. Lomison began his NHC tenure with his first appearance in 2011 as a 12-year-old NHC intern from the First Tee of the Triad (North Carolina).



The 2023 National Hickory Championship will be conducted over the venerable Mound Golf Course, Miamisburg, Ohio. Contestants in the Championship play 36 holes in two days. In the Open, Reserve, Sporting and Ladies Divisions clubs must be original 19th century or approved replicas and all players use modern-made, low-compression gutta percha-type balls with line cut covers available through the Championship. Tee shots are struck from sand tees. No golf bags are allowed so players carry clubs under their arm in the manner of the 19th century. There is a simple dress code. Although period costumes are not required, many golfers dress appropriately and prizes are presented to the “best dressed.” The NHC is like no other hickory golf tournament here, in Britain or anywhere else in the world; it is authentic, competitive, historic, truly unique and, above all, fun! In 2023 an additional Vintage Division will again be available for players choosing to use early 20th century style clubs.

2023 NATIONAL HICKORY CHAMPIONSHIP

The most authentic and challenging hickory golf competition in the world

*Twenty-sixth Year
June 8-10, 2023*

*Historic
Mound Golf
Course
Miamisburg, Ohio*

*NHC Tournament Office
2451 Savannah Drive
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Even those not playing could dress the part on NHC Championship weekend. Jeanine Reh (Upper Derby, PA) and Tammy Lomison (Pfaftown, NC), herself a former NHC Women's Champion added color to the gallery.





The Championship offers competition in five divisions. The **Open Division** is a 36-hole scratch competition playing for the title of America's National Hickory Champion under 19th century equipment and rules. The **Men's Reserve** and **Women's Divisions** also use 19th century equipment and are scored on a handicap basis for 36 holes. The **Sporting Division**, open to men and women, features two nine-hole rounds for seniors and those not wishing to climb the hills twice in the same day. **This year marks the return of the 36-hole Vintage Division for players using 1920s hickories.** First event is the 9-hole International Feathery Challenge played with feather balls. The Elmore Just Foursomes Competition is also staged on the practice day (Thursday) prior to the Championship rounds. Two-player teams play the historic format of alternate stroke for fun, prizes and an appreciation of how golf was played in the early 19th century. Practice time is also available on Thursday afternoon. Rule books are provided containing the 1891 unified code, the first general set of golf rules (with local Mound course provisions added). A welcome reception on Thursday and the Championship Dinner on Friday provide for socializing.



The fifteen golfers who participated in the 2nd International Feathery Challenge on Thursday morning. The "IFC" is played with featheries, leather golf balls stuffed with chicken feathers, the ball used in golf from the mid 18th to the mid-nineteenth centuries. Average hole length is about 150 yards.

Left: Eddie Breeden, (Upland, California) displays his tattoo of the outline of Scotland featuring the City of Dundee tartan; Jason Kronenberger (Dayton, Ohio) 2021 NHC Champion shows his winning form; The welcome sign was donated by the local Yuengling distributor. For almost 20 years Yuengling Amber Lager has been the NHC players' favorite; the best car to arrive at the NHC was this Lamborghini of Glen Scheirer (Alexandria, VA). **Right:** A threesome containing three past champions — Bill Geisler (Winter Springs, Fla), Mike Stevens (Tampa, Fla) and Billy Wardwell (Turners Falls, Mass.)

