



Member Profile

Chris McIntyre

San Diego, Calif.

Long-time hickory golfer Chris McIntyre says his first golf club “was a sawn down hickory spoon which I received from my Dad’s best golfing buddy.” The golfing partnership between Chris and his dad began when he was eight years old and would last for another 48 years. Chris was reared in Anaheim and in San Diego, Calif. He notched a 33-year career with Hewlett Packard. “Basically, I can fix most anything,” he says. “I’ve parlayed those skills into developing historic golf ball manufacturing for Play Hickory, my antique tournament rental business, and the way I share my passion to the rest of the golfing world.” He and his wife, Karen, have been married for 31 years. They have two children, Kristen (SDSU) and Daniel (UCLA), who have college degrees and are building their lives.

How often do you play hickories?

Hickory play once a week, 100 percent hickory for 10 years.

What’s in your play set?

1920’s hickory, which most people play – driver, retriever spoon, mashie, backspin mashie, mashie niblick, flanged niblick, putter.

Favorite club?

“Retriever” spoon – a rounded bottom trouble club; even works when you’re not in trouble.

What ball do you play?

The FLASH, or other variety by McIntyre Golf Co., no way modern dimples!

Favorite course for hickories?

Cannot deny, St Andrews was the best golf experience of my life.

Favorite hickory tournament?

Wish I could make it to more hickory events! Favorites of the past have been U.S. Hickory open, Southern 4-Ball, Mid Pines, Scottish Hickory.

Any particular player or aspect of golf history you especially enjoy?

The older the play the better. There is absolutely nothing better than using authentic clubs from 1880-90, using the gutta percha ball, wearing a jacket, and playing like it really was in that era.

Best thing about hickory golf?

Meeting the other players in the world who are interested in the history, collecting and playing of the old clubs. The list is long of the people I can call and talk to who would not be



Chris McIntyre, or an avatar of Harry Vardon? We modern players will claim the original McIntyre, please, and congratulate ourselves for knowing this true modern hickory virtuoso. Chris is shown holding one of his golf ball products.

in my life if it were not for hickory golf.

Ideas to promote SoHG, hickory golf?

I just added a “Join Now” link on my website to help promote SoHG.

Most recent book on golf that you read?

Just re-read the book “Golf in The Kingdom.” Though not exactly a history book, it exudes a “why we play” philosophy. Also, recently went to a “Golf in The Kingdom” movie premier and met Michael Murphy, producers, and other readers... pretty interesting.

Note: Chris’ website, playhickory.com, offers advice on playing with hickory golf clubs as well as the opportunity to look into rental clubs and purchase from his fine line of golf balls developed specifically for hickory play.