



Member Profile

Claes Kvist

Viken, Sweden

Claes was born in Helsingborg, in the south part of Sweden, in 1944. "As a boy I was most interested in fotball (soccer) and different kinds of athletic sports," he says.

He and his life partner, Cecilia, have an 18-year-old daughter. Claes also has two children, a boy and a girl, from an earlier marriage. Cecilia, he notes, also enjoys hickory golf and has often contested in the Scottish Hickory Championship.

For many years Claes ran an accounting office for small companies, but for the past 20 years has managed a brokerage for mostly commercial properties in the southern part of Sweden. He also works with brokerages in Holland, Belgium and Germany.

Claes began playing with hickories in 2000, when the Swedish Hickory Championship was held at his home course, Helsingborg G.C. "At that time we were 22 participants and 2009 in Falsterbo we were about 175 people. Hickory play has been growing very fast, and still does, I think all over the world," he says.

As well as the SoHG, Claes is a long time member of the British Golf Collectors' Society and of the Golf Collectors Society.

Besides, Helsingborg GC, he is also a member of MOCGC, Musselburgh Old Course Golf Club.

How often do you play hickories?

I play quite often with my hickories. At least three to four times a week. The last five years I play 90 percent with my hickories.

What's in your play set?

I play with all Stewart clubs. Driving iron, mid-iron, mashie iron, mashie, spade mashie, mashie niblick, niblick and putter. The woods are a brassie (Newburry), baffy (Ben Sayers) and a bulldog.

Favorite club?

My favorite club is my mashie.

What ball do you play?

I mostly play with Titleist Pro VI or some other soft balls. I have bought some replicas from Chris McIntyre that I like very much.

Favorite course for hickories?

Some of the best courses I played with hickories are Rye in southern England, North Berwick in Scotland, Falsterbo in Sweden and Gullane No. 3 which is a marvelous course for hickory golf.

Favorite hickory tournament?

Some of the best tournaments I played are the Mid Pines Open in America; and the English, the Welsh and the Scottish Championships.



Claes and the Grail. In 2005, Claes was a member of the European Hickory Grail team that defeated the U.S. team at the Kilspindie Club in Scotland. He won his singles match. Above, he poses with the trophy outside his summer home in Sweden.

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

Bobby Jones is my favorite and also Vardon, Braid and Taylor were very good players.

Best thing about hickory golf?

The best thing about hickory is all the friendly people you meet all over the world.

Ideas to promote SoHG, hickory golf?

I try to enlist new members in Sweden for the SoHG.

Most recent book on golf that you read?

The recent book one is "Playing Hickory Golf" by Randy Jensen.

Note: Claes has played on three Hickory Grail teams, in 2005, 07 and 09. In 2007, the U.S. team won at the Brook Hollow Golf Club in Texas, but Claes won his singles match. In 2009, at Falsterbo in Sweden, he won both his singles match and his team match.