



## Member Profile

# Dave Dickman

Dennis, Mass., USA

Originally from Coldwater, Ohio, Dave Dickman is currently a year-round resident of Cape Cod, Mass. After graduating from Miami University, Dave spent eight years in the Air Force and 28 years working for Raytheon Company. Since retiring in 2013 he has been consulting, which offers significantly more flexibility for golf.

Dave's father, a member at Mercer County Elks in Celina, Ohio, introduced him to the game when he was 10.

"I've been playing steadily since I was 13," he says. "That's when my baseball coach suggested I'd never be able to hit a curveball."

Dave's interest in hickory began in the summer of 2012. The proprietor of the clubhouse grille in Dennis, Mass., had a bag of hickory sticks in the restaurant and let Dave hit them on the range.

"My first dozen swings were not really good, but then I hit a really good mashie and I was hooked," he says.

His first hickory round was in October 2012 with Skip Platt and the Virginia hickory group at the Augustine Golf Club in Stafford, Va. He subsequently brought good friends Doug Brossman (Leesburg, Va.) and Dan Chand (Dallas, Texas) into the game. Dave's handicap is 6 with steel and 10/11 with hickory.

Dave and his wife, Barbara, have two daughters and two granddaughters. Barbara is a 6th grade teacher and originally from Maryland. In addition to spending time with family and friends, Barb and Dave enjoy running, biking, and travel. "Barb tried golf for about three years, but alas, she didn't catch the bug," Dave says. "Darn!"

Still, Barbara enjoys her husband's interest in the game. "She even supports my traveling to tournaments – I try to limit them to two a year – and she is good at sewing and has converted three of my dress pants to knickers."

### How often do you play hickories?

*Pretty close to 50 percent of the time. I played about 30 hickory rounds last year. I don't alternate back and forth, rather, I play hickory or modern exclusively in the months leading up to tournaments or events.*

### What's in your play set?

*I started with reproductions from Mike (Just of Louisville Golf) and Tad (Moore) but have since migrated to a mixed bag. My personal preference is to play all authentic period clubs, but I think the reproductions are outstanding and will continue to have a prominent presence in the game.*

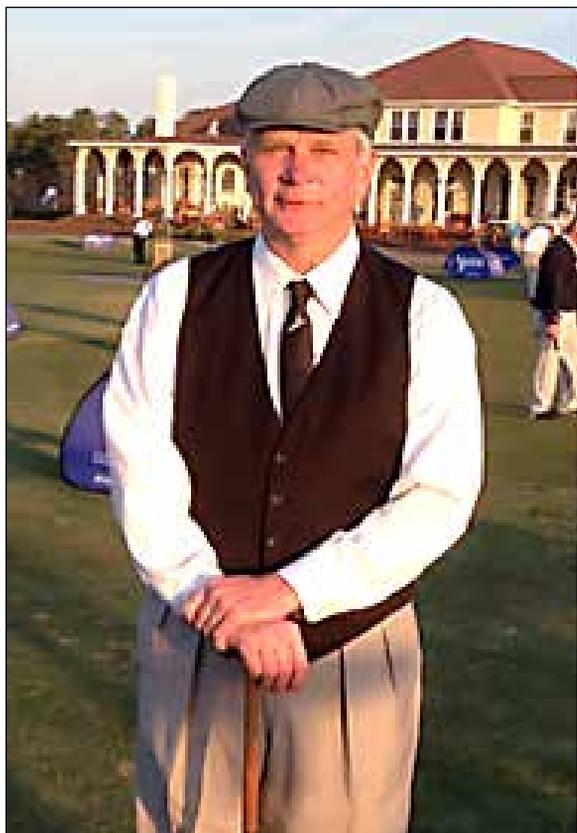
Jeanie Deans driver – 12 degrees  
Macgregor GoSum brassie – 14 degrees  
Tom Stewart irons – eight of them from driving iron (20 degrees) to a 50-degree niblick in 5-degree increments  
Forgan niblick, flanged sole – 55 degrees  
Spalding Chicopee putter

### Favorite club?

*Forgan niblick. I don't hit many greens with hickories so it has become my go to up-and-down club.*

### Favorite course for hickories?

*Whitinsville CC, Whitinsville, Mass. It's a 9-hole Ross course that remains as he designed it. Also, in Truro Mass, the Highland Links Golf Club – built in 1892 – a 9-hole muni with watered tees and greens only – overlooking the Atlantic. There are literally hundreds of old courses in Massachusetts that are fun hickory courses.*



**Dave Dickman takes a moment for the camera as he readies for a hickory round at the Pinehurst Resort in North Carolina.**

### What ball do you play?

*Bridgestone e6 at the moment. I like the McIntyre replica ball, too.*

### Favorite hickory tournament?

*Being a newbie I like them all and, I might add, I am not very good in tournaments. I really enjoy the foursomes at Pine Needles on the Friday before Mid Pines.*

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

*It's not hickory related, but I am a huge Jack Nicklaus fan. Since he admired Bobby Jones, I will take that as my connection to hickory. Additionally, I've always enjoyed old courses, but until I started playing hickory I didn't know why. The old courses were designed for a game that was played along the topography of the land. I'm learning to appreciate golf course design as a result of hickory golf.*

### Best thing about hickory golf?

*I agree with the predominant answer – it's the people. However, I play most of my hickory golf with friends who are playing modern equipment (I have to play my steel handicap from 6,200+ yards and I lose but I don't care). In addition to the people, the best thing about hickory is hitting that one pure iron, that "where did that come from" shot, and the feedback, which is absent from the modern game, etc.*

### Ideas to promote hickory golf?

*I agree with the old guard on this question – that regional playing groups are the best chance to grow the game. In that regard, hats off to my fellow Yankees, Bill Conant and Bill Wardwell, for taking the initiative to start a Bay State hickory group. The Vermont chapter is well established so maybe the two will merge one day.*

### Most recent book on golf that you read?

*The Caddie Who Played with Hickory, by John Coyne. Fun story that captures many truisms about playing with hickory.*