



Member Profile

Doug Marshall

London, Ont., Canada

Born in Niagara Falls, Doug Marshall is a familiar face at hickory events around the United States and Canada. The oldest of five boys, Doug played just about every sport available in high school. Later, at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, he played four years of basketball and golf and was elected to the university's Sports Hall of Fame in 1987. Doug majored in business and history and has a second degree in physical education.

After graduation he served for 33 years as a teacher/coach, department head and athletic director, retiring in 1993.

Doug and his wife, Marg, have two children and five grandchildren. "I now enjoy watching their activities, sports and otherwise," he says.

"With summers off, I got serious about getting my golf handicap down to 4-5 and playing up to 20 tournaments per summer. About 1990, my brother, Ian, told me about the GHSC (Golf Historical Society of Canada) hickory hacker events. I tried it and loved it. One of the first real tournaments I played was Pete's (Geordiady) inaugural event at Oakhurst (the National Hickory Championship). I played there for 10 years before sanity and the hills got to me. Loved it though!"

How often do you play hickories?

I now play about 10-12 hickory games a month in season depending on the number of events I enter. Most of my golf, however, is with modern clubs.

What's in your play set?

It's always in flux. Here's what's current:

Driver – Spalding, 1920 model
Spoon – MacGregor fancy face, 15 degrees
Baffy – MacGregor fancy face, 20 degrees
Bulldog – not sure, 25 degrees
Mid Iron – Cochrane, Walter Hagen
Mashie – Stewart smooth face
Spade Mashie – Cochrane, Walter Hagen
Mashie Niblick – “ “ “
Niblick – “ “ “
Pitching Niblick – Stewart, Tom Morris
Sand Iron – Tad Moore, OA
Putter – Schenectady, a Jerry Travers version

Favorite club?

A Stewart Tom Morris mashie niblick.

What ball do you play?

Mostly Pro V1 and any other soft ball.

Favorite course for hickories?

Any traditional layout.

Favorite hickory tournament?

Niagara, of course!!

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

I read extensively about past players, events, and especially



Doug Marshall ready for play at Oakhurst.

about the development of the equipment including the ball.

Best thing about hickory golf?

The people. Competitive, but left their egos somewhere back in the past. A high class group!

Ideas to promote SoHG, hickory golf?

The SOHG does a great job as a clearing house for events, guidelines, equipment help, and is beginning to provide more clarity on month-to-month happenings. It is a small world, hickory golf, but it is worldwide. Let's hear about the rest of those folks.

Most recent book on golf that you read?

I am usually reading two or three at a time. Looking back, my favourite is "Tommy's Honor." Before you go to Scotland, you must read this book.

Note: Doug has long been an organizer and driving force behind the annual C.B. Macdonald Challenge and the Eastern Canadian Hickory Championship held at the Niagara Golf Course in Niagara-on-the-Lake in Ontario, Canada. He contributes occasional articles to both the Wee Nip and the Bulletin of the Golf Collectors Society.