



## Member Profile

# Karl Nagy

Simpsonville, S.C., USA

Though he now enjoys the relatively milder climate of South Carolina, Karl Nagy was reared in the western suburbs of Detroit, Mich.

"I grew up playing all sports, but golf was the one I continued to play competitively after high school and college," he says.

Devotion to the game and much practice led to Karl's becoming a reasonably accomplished player. He participated in many of the amateur tournaments throughout Michigan.

In 2005, Karl and his wife, Courtney, relocated south to South Carolina, following his acceptance of an opportunity with BMW Manufacturing.

Though the new climate afforded year-round opportunities for golf, Karl discovered his new job was taking more time and the game was losing its appeal.

"My passion to play golf was dwindling, it just wasn't fun anymore," he says. "I even began to make up excuses not to play."

Things changed in 2010 when he read an article about rekindling the passion for the game through hickory golf.

"It made perfect sense," he says. "I had become consumed with the results of my golf, neglecting the joy of simply hitting the ball around the course."

It was quick work to purchase a set of hickories from Louisville Golf.

"Golf, hickory golf, has been a passion again ever since," he says.

### How often do you play hickories?

*Since 2014, I play hickories 100% of the time.*

### What's in your play set?

*I'm a fan of both original and reproduction clubs, but due to an increasing stockpile of old, broken shafts, my bag is a mix from Mike and Tad. {Mike Just of Louisville Golf, and Tad Moore of Tad Moore Golf.}*

Spoon – Tad Moore 3 Star Pall Mall 14 degrees

Bulldog – Tad Moore 3 Star Pall Mall 20 degrees

Mid Iron – Tad Moore Star OA 22 degrees

Jigger – Tad Moore Star OA 26 degrees

Jigger – Louisville Golf E Just 30 degrees

Deep Face Mashie – Tad Moore Star OA 32 degrees

Mashie – Tad Moore Star OA 37 degrees

Spade Mashie – Tad Moore Star OA 42 degrees

Mashie Niblick – Tad Moore Star OA 48 degrees

Niblick – Tad Moore Star OA 55 degrees

Niblick – Louisville Golf E Just Stewart Maiden 56 degrees

Putter – It depends on the day. I treat my putters as I do a bottle of scotch, enjoy them for a few rounds, then onward to another one.

### Favorite club(s)?

*My set of George Nicoll Macdonald Smith Rustless irons, masterfully restored by Josef Lauber of Swiss Hickory Golf.*

### What ball do you play?

*My ball of choice is the McIntyre Ouimet. You can't beat the feel of the square mesh.*

### Favorite course for hickories?

*Mid Pines Inn and Golf Club, Southern Pines, N.C., USA.*



**Karl Nagy found hickory golf renewed his passion for the royal and ancient game.**

### Favorite hickory tournament?

*It is tough to pick just one, every hickory event is a unique experience. My top three are Mid Pines Hickory Open (stroke play), Southern Hickory Four Ball (best ball) and World Hickory Match Play Championship (match play).*

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

*I've always been a fan of golf history. The early period from 1860-1920 is a favorite. The stories of Tom Morris, Willie Park, James Braid, Harry Vardon, Willie Anderson, Walter Hagen and Francis Ouimet have always fascinated me.*

### Best thing about hickory golf?

*Most surely, it's the people. The passion and respect everyone shares for the game is infectious. As I tell others, golf is a journey, where importance is placed on the final result, while hickory golf is consumed by the journey, with less care for the outcome.*

### Ideas to promote hickory golf?

*The idea of National Hickory Golf Day was brilliant. The best way to grow our game is through experiencing it, nothing can replace the feel of hitting the clubs and balls. I do my best to persuade everyone I can to give it a try.*

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

*I am currently reading two books. The first is How to Play Golf, by Harry Vardon (1912). This is Vardon's sequel to his popular first instruction book The Complete Golfer. The second is George Nicoll of Leven, by Roger Hill and Peter Georgiady (2003), a comprehensive book about Scottish club maker George Nicoll, including many wonderful photos of the Fife Golf Iron Works and the clubs they produced.*