



## Member Profile

# Roger Andrews

Jenks, Okla.

The first hickory club he swung was a mashie when he was six years old. Roger Andrews was taught the game by his father, an avid golfer and electrical engineer. While attending Charles C. Mason High School in Tulsa, Okla, Roger won the city junior tournament, came in second twice for the city high school title, and lost only one match in all three years of playing on the team. He also played for his college team at Oklahoma Christian University. Roger got interested in hickory golf in 2008 and quickly entered the field for the Arkansas State Golf Association Hickory Open Championship, which he promptly won. He counts himself fortunate that Breck Speed and Tad Moore – “great gentlemen” – were among the first two people he met in hickory golf. Roger, who practices general dentistry, lives in Jenks, a suburb of Tulsa, with his wife, Alexandra, and their two children.

### How often do you play hickories?

About half of the time.

### What's in your play set?

Driver, spoon, baffy, cleek, mid iron, jigger, deep faced mashie, mashie, spade mashie, mashie niblick, two niblicks.

### Favorite club?

Not even close, the spade mashie. The face is becoming so worn from practice that there are no usable grooves left.

### What ball do you play?

Wilson Staff Zip.

### Favorite course for hickories?

So far, it would have to be Mid Pines.

### Favorite hickory tournament?

Way more difficult question: U.S. Hickory Open, Mid Pines Open, Wisconsin's Kummel Cup, Arkansas Hickory Open, Iowa Hickory Classic, Southern Hickory 4-ball. Perhaps just whatever tournament I am playing at the time!

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

Most people would, for good reason, say Bobby Jones, but I am intrigued with how well that Walter Hagen was able to play with the swing that he developed; his ability to just get the ball into the hole somehow!



Roger Andrews is shown with, from left: his wife, Alexandra; his mother, Judy Morris; son, Ryan, and daughter, Vania.

### Best thing about hickory golf?

Meeting new people who enjoy playing golf as the great ones of old did. More than likely, each of us would have never otherwise met if it weren't for hickory golf.

### One thing you'd like to see the SoHG do or do better?

If at all possible, encourage more tournaments, especially around May. As far as I know, there aren't too many and some of us (me) go crazy just thinking about the next time we can all get together and play.

### Ideas to promote SoHG, hickory golf?

Well, if people aren't too embarrassed, have a national "Play your hickory clubs at your local course" day. Each and every time that I go out and play, someone asks about the clubs and eventually they kind of sheepishly ask if they can try to hit one. Ninety percent of the feedback is "wow, how fun."

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

"How to Hit a Golf Ball Straight," by Ike Handy (Cameron and Company, 1967). Handy was born in 1888 (the same year as both of my grandfathers), and basically taught himself to play after being so hopelessly confused by being told conflicting things by different teachers of the day. He came across a way of swinging the club, or as I say "thinking of swinging," basically by accident, and went from never breaking 100 to winning the Texas State Amateur Stroke Play tournament in 1947. In the tournament's match play, he twice placed second. Just incredible for a self-taught person, who was not a professional with hours upon hours to practice. My father owned this book and it is one of the first books that I read when I got interested in golf. I still pick it up for review whenever the ball starts going off line. If only Mr. Handy had written something so easy to perform when it came to putting!