Hickory Dodo Club

Dodo: an extinct heavy flightless bird (*Raphus cucullatus* syn. *Didus ineptus* of the family Raphidae) of the island of Mauritius that was larger than a turkey and was related to the pigeon.

A dodo was also a commonly-used term in the 1920s and 1930s to describe a hole-in-one. It was thought that making a hole-in-one was as rare as sighting a dodo. The term gradually faded from common usage and became extinct much like its namesake.

The following are members of the exclusive Hickory Dodo Club of the Northwest Hickory Players.

Larry Buckingham - 2016 Galen Peterson - 2015 Martin Pool - 2014 Rob Ahlschwede - 2004

February 10, 2016. Legion Memorial GC, Everett, WA – Larry Buckingham

Larry Buckingham, age 70, of Seattle, Washington scored his first hole-in-one on February, 10, 2016 at the Chandler Egan designed Legion Memorial Golf Course (est. 1937) in Everett, Washington. And he did it with a hickory club!







Larry is new to hickory golf and this was only his fifth round playing with hickories. He used a cleek on the downhill 158 yard 16th hole.

We're not sure of the maker of the club as there is so much lead tape on the back of the club that the name has been obscured. It is safe to say that Larry will not be removing any tape or modifying this club in any way in the near future, even if the club maker must remain in anonymity.

"Just call me Mr. Dodo," he said.

Earlier this year, Larry shot his age for the first time (using modern clubs) by finishing birdie, par, birdie for a one under 70 at the Bellevue Municipal Golf Course. I'd say Larry is off to a fine start in 2016!

January 17, 2015. Stardust Golf Course, Sun City West, AZ – Galen Peterson

Galen Peterson of Port Townsend, Washington scored his first hickory dodo on January 17th, 2015 at the Stardust Golf Course in Sun City West, Arizona.

Galen had just finished playing a hole where he had hit a bad approach to the green and the ball landed in a bush. To add insult to injury, as he was hunting for his ball, a bee took exception to his presence and stung him. Galen says that must have woken him up.

The next hole was 163 yards with water all the way on the right side and a bunker on the left side of the green. He used a Ben Sayers 25 degree mid-iron and hit a slight fade that hit about 10 to 15 feet from the pin and bounced a couple of times and rolled into the cup!

That surely took the sting out of the sting!





April 6, 2014. Terra Lago Golf Course, Indio, CA – Martin Pool

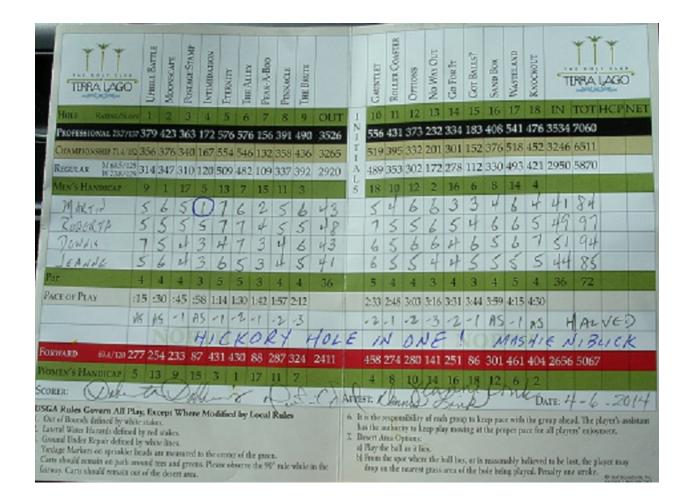
Martin Pool of Kenmore, Washington made his first hickory hole-in-one on April 6, 2014 at the Terra Lago Golf Course in Indio, California. Martin used a Tom Stewart mashie niblick on the uphill 120 yard 4th





Martin has made four hole-in-ones (one unofficial – but that's another story and oh what a story it is) in his lifetime, all with modern clubs. This was his first hickory dodo. He first began playing hickories some twenty years ago, but only sporadically. Martin is a co-founder of the Northwest Hickory Players and has been much more active in hickory golf in the past year.

A remarkable thing happened on the very next par 3 that day. Playing the downhill 7th hole (playing about 130 yards that day), Martin nearly holed out again for consecutive hole-in-ones. Using the same Stewart mashie niblick, the ball landed in the front part of the green, tracked toward the hole, and lipped out! It finished two feet away for an easy birdie. "That was nuts," he eloquently stated. His playing companions began calling the club "The Magic Niblick."



November, 2004. Grove Park Golf Course, Asheville, NC – Rob Ahlschwede

As told by the inimitable "Kilty" himself:

November, 2004, and I am travelling to the very first MidPines Hickory Open. On the way we stopped in Asheville, North Carolina. We wanted to see some of the highlights, and for me, it was a chance to play the 1926 Donald Ross course at the Grove Park Inn. Fall golf in the Carolina hills. Fall color, cool and a bit foggy at the start of the round. Good opportunity to get the stiffness of the road out of the body, and get in a practice round before the tournament.

The 17th is a slightly downhill 150 yard, teed from the front yard of an old, vacant stone house on the property. Steep drop off to the left, hotel with lots of windows to the right.

So, my 150 yard club then was a Spalding Kro-Flite woman's 2 iron, cut down shaft--hey! That's the way it came, eh! And it went 150 with the trajectory I liked. So, good swing, it looks good, still looks good, that could be close... lands on the green, 8 feet short, two bounces and in. It went in!!! That was a hole in one! Damn! My only hole in one, and it's with hickory on a Donald Ross course. Cool....



