

## THE NATIONAL HICKORY CHAMPIONSHIP

was established in 1998 to bring together golfers who enjoy playing golf as it was before the turn of the century. Nineteenth century equipment and rules make the NHC the sternest test of hickory golf anywhere. Open to all, the NHC draws the most ardent and accomplished wood shaft golfers from across North America. Competitive, yet fun, it is America's hickory championship—the ultimate test of hickory golf.

The three 2019 champions pose with their trophies following the competition. Left to right: Reserve Division (Net) Champion Matt Lomison, Winston-Salem NC, Gillian Alexander, Carmichaels, PA and 2019 and 2018 winner, NHC Champion Seth Lomison, Pfafftown, NC,



**T**he 2018 National Hickory Championship is conducted over the historic Mound Golf Course of the City of Miamisburg, Ohio. Contestants play 36 holes over two days. Clubs must be original 19th century or approved replicas (available for rent if you don't have your own set) and all players use the same modern-made, line cut gutta percha-type balls available through the Championship and Brown-McIntyre Golf. Tee shots are struck from sand tees. Golf bags are not permitted. Players carry clubs under their arm in the manner of the 19th century. There is a simple dress code. Although period costumes are not required, many golfers dress appropriately and prizes are presented to the 'best dressed.' The NHC is like no other hickory golf tournament in America, Britain or anywhere else in the world. It is authentic, competitive, historic, truly unique and, above all, fun!

## 2020 NATIONAL HICKORY CHAMPIONSHIP

*The most authentic and challenging hickory golf competition in the world*

**Twenty-third Year  
June 11-13, 2020**

*at the historic*  
**Mound Golf Course  
Miamisburg, Ohio**

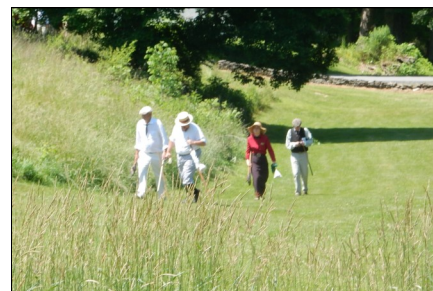
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*Garrett Beaver, Export, PA, played in his second NHC in 2017. He is one of several junior interns that have come from the ranks of the First Tee program. In return for special, no-fee entries, the junior interns assist in the running of the championship, learning about golf history and tournament operations.*





*A threesome on the first tee: Bern Bernacki, Pittsburgh, PA; James Kaiser, Louisville, KY; Marsalis Davis, Liberty, NC.*

**N**ew in 2020 will be a 9-hole medal competition using feather balls, the golf ball in use prior to 1860. The ‘feathery’ was a cowhide cover stuffed with feathers, hence the name. The course will be shortened for this event and there will be special requirements for attire, equipment and rules. This International Feathery Challenge may be a regular fixture in the future.

**T**he Championship offers competition in four divisions. The **Open Division** is a 36-hole scratch competition playing for the title of America’s National Hickory Champion under 19th century equipment and rules. The **Men’s Reserve** and **Women’s Divisions** also use 19th century equipment and are scored on a handicap basis for 36 holes. The **Sporting Division**, open to men and women, features two nine-hole rounds for seniors and those not wishing to play the full 18 holes. Additionally, the Mike and Elmore Foursomes Competition is staged on the practice day (Thursday) prior to the Championship rounds. Two-player teams play the historic format of alternate stroke for fun, prizes and an appreciation of how golf was played in the early 19th century. Practice time is also available on Thursday afternoon. Rule books are provided containing the 1891 unified code, the first general set of golf rules (with local Mound course provisions added). A welcome reception on Thursday and the Championship Dinner on Friday provide for socializing. Complimentary lunch is served in the clubhouse on the three competition days.

**Dressed for success on the links: (L to R) John Crow Miller, Dallas, TX; Lat Syperstat, Ensinatas, CA; Dave Gamet, Kansas City, MO**



*Feather ball and a 19th century lofting iron*

