

The 2012 U. S. Hickory Open™



The Society of Hickory Golfers
Championship Series



Welcome to the 2012 U.S. Hickory Open™



Welcome to the 2012 edition of the U.S. Hickory Open at the French Lick Resort. On behalf of the Board of the SoHG and the tournament committee I would like to thank you for your participation in this major hickory event. We have made plans for competition and events that I trust will reward your loyalty with a memorable and enjoyable three days. We will once again pit your skills against the venerable Ross Course in an attempt to identify worthy champions in all divisions of play.

I believe that you will notice some softening of this championship course to bring it more in line with the nature of hickory golf. I think that these subtle changes and a little luck with the weather will provide a more pleasurable experience on the course.

If the weather does not cooperate this year, we will stress appropriate dress for the prevailing weather conditions. (See page 7.)

We have again arranged social functions at the West Baden atrium and the Pete Dye Mansion af-

ter your daily golf. These will provide opportunity to meet old comrades and share tall tales of the day's golfing exploits. The list of events and their locations are listed in this program.

I would especially like to recognize the members of the tournament committee whose hard work has made this event possible. Please give your commendations to David Brown, Chris Deinlein, Paul Deitz, Rich Grula, and Hamp Munsey. Additional thanks go to our kind sponsors whose logos appear in this program. Please support their efforts.

Finally, the purpose of this event is to foster good competition and good fellowship through hickory golf. If you experience difficulty during the course of the event please feel free to call upon me for assistance.

*Your friend in hickory golf,
David Ellis
Tournament Director
2012 U.S. Hickory Open*

FRENCH LICK RESORT

WEST BADEN & FRENCH LICK · INDIANA

Dear Participants and Guests:
We are very proud to host the 2012 Society of Hickory Golfers and the U.S. Hickory Open. Welcome to French Lick Resort!

French Lick's golf history is a rich one. The first course in French Lick was built in 1907, and in 1917, the Donald Ross Course at French Lick was opened. In 1924, the legendary Walter Hagen won the PGA Championship on the very course where you will be contesting your championship.

Golf at French Lick Resort has stood the test of time and is now recognized as one of America's

top golf destinations.

We hope you will enjoy your stay with us, enjoy our many amenities and, most importantly, that you will tell your friends about us, and someday return to visit us once again.

Best of luck in the competition! Have a great time in French Lick!

Best in Golf,

Dave

Dave Harner, PGA
Director of Golf Operations
French Lick Resort

Schedule of Events

Monday, July 23

8 a.m.-5 p.m. Practice round and registration at the Ross Course. Tee times individually arranged. Contact Pro Shop at 812-936-9300, ext. 7215.

5:30-8 p.m. Welcome reception at West Baden Hotel Atrium. Trade tables. Raffle tickets on sale.

6-7 p.m. Open bar, light hors d'oeuvres

Tuesday, July 24

9 a.m. 1st Round Shotgun Start, Ross Course.**

1:30-3:30 p.m. "Slot Machine" tournament at the Casino for tournament guests. Prizes to top five players.

6-9 p.m. Dinner at Pete Dye Mansion.****
Cash bar available. Raffle prizes awarded.

Wednesday, July 25

8:30 a.m. 2nd Round Shotgun Start, Ross Course.**

1-2:30 p.m. Awards luncheon at Ross Course clubhouse

For West Baden Hotel, casino or other resort information, the main number is 812-936-9300.

**Golf Course Shuttle and Practice Range

****Shuttle service to the Pete Dye Mansion will be available from the West Baden Springs Hotel. It is **STRONGLY** recommended that **ALL** participants and guests use this service as parking is quite limited.

The practice range is at the Valley Course located between the two hotels.

**Shuttle service will be available to the Ross Course and is recommended.

Professional staff French Lick Resort

Dave Harner, PGA Director of Golf
Andy Fortner,

PGA Head Golf Professional

Alex Whiteman,

PGA Assistant Golf Professional

John Parker, Superintendent

Brett Fleck, Assistant Superintendent



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The Course

Hilly, with ample bunkers and water, the Donald Ross Course will provide a true test for U.S. Hickory Open competitors

It's a par 70, just shy of 6,000 yards, or 5,050 for the ladies (or senior hickory players). The Ross tees are 6,500 and the tips take you back to 7,030. The course hosted the 1924 PGA and since has been a favorite for any number of Indiana championships. Course record of 62 is held by Denny Helper of Warsaw, Ind. who, in 1990, won the entirely modest and unassuming Indiana Assistants' Championship.

Bent grass greens, heavily grassed walls on sand bunkers. Lots of mature trees and water on several holes. Elevation changes come often and often unwanted. Flat lies are few. A few years ago, the resort collaborated with the Donald Ross Society to restore the course to the architect's intentions – 35 bunkers were brought back, with flat bottoms and deep faces. Greens were expanded to original square or rectangular shapes.



1924 PGA. This photo from the 1924 PGA at French Lick shows little change in the clubhouse and its open veranda. And, as we do now, the participants gathered for a photo. Note how the inimitable Sir Walter managed to "bookend" the photo. That's him on either end. This photo is courtesy of the French Lick Resorts. The other photo of Hagen on the cover is courtesy of the PGA of America.



To ease any pain that might arise, there is a full bar.

The Ross course is ranked by Golfweek as one of the two best That You Can Play (a happily optimistic assumption) in Indiana.

The famous who have tested the course include Walter Hagen, Gene Sarazen, Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Patty Berg, local boy Larry Bird, and Fuzzy Zoeller.

Past Champions

2008 MIMOSA HILLS CC MORGANTON, N.C.

OPEN

1	Jay Harris	151
2	Randy Jensen	157

RESERVE

1	Paul Dietz	136
2	Joe Guerard	145

SENIOR DIVISION

1	Ed Woeckener	139
2	Tad Moore	142

2009 MIMOSA HILLS CC MORGANTON, N.C.

OPEN

1	Roger Andrews	150
2	Scott McAllister	154*

RESERVE

1	Jim Clawson	144
2	Rich Schmidt	146*

SENIOR OPEN

1	Tad Moore	155
2	Barry Markowitz	175

SENIOR RESERVE

1	Wayne Aaron	148*
2	Tom Ochs	148*

2010 MIMOSA HILLS CC MORGANTON, N.C.

OPEN

1	Rick Woeckener	143
2	Scott McAllister	154*

RESERVE

1	Rusty Wells	143
2	Jay Harris	145*

SENIOR OPEN

1	Glenn E. Davis	161
2	John Hopper	165

SENIOR RESERVE

1	Mike Just	138
2	Tom Ochs	140

2011 DONALD ROSS COURSE FRENCH LICK, IND.

OPEN

1	Alan Grieve	150
2	Rick Woeckener	155

RESERVE

1	Doug Floyd	144
2	Brian Schuman	145

SENIOR OPEN

1	Mike Just	167
2	Max Hollon	169

SENIOR RESERVE

1	John Greene	132
2	Paul Dietz	134

*card playoff

Join the Society of Hickory Golfers...



The Society of Hickory Golfers (SoHG) brings together like-minded players in friendly competitions, and the enjoyment of the fine traditions of the 'royal and ancient game'. A \$35 annual membership fee (there is an additional one-time \$35 initiation fee for new members) helps promote the sport, and includes:

- access to the SoHG handicap system
- subscription to our "A Wee Nip" publication, and the monthly SoHG newsletter
- qualification for play in the U.S. Hickory Open
- website access, with equipment guidelines, playing tips and more...

Join today by visiting hickorygolfers.com, and clicking on the "join" tab. New members receive a SoHG leather bag tag.

www.hickorygolfers.com



COMPETITORS – 2012 U.S. HICKORY OPEN

CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION

Roger Andrews <i>Jenks, Okla.</i>	David English <i>Newburgh, Ind.</i>	Bob Platt <i>Lynchburg, Va.</i>
Walter Bills <i>Royal Oak, Mich.</i>	Josh Fischer <i>Louisville, Ky.</i>	Rick Rechter <i>Hopkinsville, Ky.</i>
Robert Birman <i>Prospect, Ky.</i>	Brad Frieberg <i>Hot Springs, Ark.</i>	Robert Robbins <i>Southern Pines, N.C.</i>
Pete Boylan <i>Atlanta, Ga.</i>	Dave Gamet <i>St. Joseph, Mo.</i>	Joe Schimmelpfennig <i>Newport Beach, Calif.</i>
David Brown <i>Omaha, Neb.</i>	Alan Grieve <i>Brisbane, QLD, Australia</i>	Brian Schuman <i>Mellville, N.Y.</i>
Hugh Cameron <i>Corunna, Ont., Canada</i>	Bill Haney <i>Louisville, Ky.</i>	John Short <i>S. Pasadena, Calif.</i>
Robert Caston <i>Granger, Ind.</i>	Mike Heller <i>Madison, Wis.</i>	Tony Smarrelli <i>Pinehurst, N.C.</i>
Bert Coghill <i>Orland Park, Ill.</i>	Joe Hollerbach <i>Southlake, Texas</i>	Breck Speed <i>Hot Springs, Ark.</i>
Neal Cowne <i>Ft. Smith, Ark.</i>	Ben Hollerbach <i>Chamblee, Ga.</i>	William "Tanner" Stewart <i>Zanesville, Ohio</i>
Chris Deinlein <i>Greensboro, N.C.</i>	Thomas Mehigan <i>McLean, Va.</i>	Chris Williams <i>Alpharetta, Ga.</i>
Matthew Dodds <i>Williston, Vt.</i>	Andy Moye <i>Mauzy, N.C.</i>	Chris Witcher <i>Atlanta, Ga.</i>
Tod Durst <i>Wilmington, N.C.</i>	George Phinney <i>Ripton, Vt.</i>	
David Ellis <i>Zanesville, Ohio</i>	Skip Platt <i>Keswick, Va.</i>	

MAJOR SPONSORS



COMPETITORS – 2012 U.S. HICKORY OPEN

SENIOR DIVISION

Wayne Aaron <i>San Antonio, Texas</i>	James Max Hollon <i>Evansville, Ind.</i>	Michael Myrick <i>El Paso, Texas</i>
Bern Bernacki <i>Pittsburgh, Pa.</i>	Terry Howarth <i>Washington, Pa.</i>	Terry Pemberton <i>Keswick, Va.</i>
Richard Bullock <i>Clearwater, Fla.</i>	Deal Hudson <i>Fairfax, Va.</i>	Bill Reed <i>Des Moines, Ia.</i>
Paul Dietz <i>Sarnia, Ont., Canada</i>	Mike Just <i>Louisville, Ky.</i>	Frank Rosenzweig <i>Pittsburgh, Pa.</i>
David Dunigan <i>Lincoln, Neb.</i>	Ian Marshall <i>Toronto, Ont., Canada</i>	Bill Scheben <i>Crestview Hills, Ky.</i>
Russell Fisher <i>Des Moines, Iowa</i>	Gary McNutt <i>Presto, Pa.</i>	Gregory Smith <i>De Forest, Wis.</i>
Bob Georgiade <i>Durham, N.C.</i>	Hugh Menzies <i>Pinehurst, N.C.</i>	Tim Stroshine <i>Monclova, Ohio</i>
John Greene <i>Morganton, N.C.</i>	Charles Mitchell <i>Lexington, Ky.</i>	
Mike Henderson <i>Chesapeake, Ohio</i>	Hampton Munsey <i>Greensboro, N.C.</i>	

Weather Note:

If the weather does not cooperate, we will stress appropriate dress for the prevailing conditions. If temperatures are predicted to be greater than 85 degrees then we will dispense with the traditional shirt and tie in favor of knickers and a golf shirt. If the temperatures are predicted to exceed 90 degrees then shorts and a golf shirt may be worn. We believe these measures will enhance your comfort and safety.

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SOUTHERN
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Charlevoix, Michigan
June 21-23

**HEART OF
AMERICA
HICKORY
CHAMPIONSHIP**
Omaha, Nebraska
July 13-15



**U.S. HICKORY OPEN
FRENCH LICK RESORT**
French Lick, Indiana
July 23-25



MOUNTAIN VALLEY HICKORY OPEN
Little Rock, Arkansas
September 28-30



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