

The 2015 U.S. Hickory Open™

The
Society of Hickory Golfers
Championship Series



Miami Valley Golf Club
Dayton, Ohio

July 19-21, 2015

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Golfers!



Welcome to the 2015 U.S. Hickory Open™



It is with great pleasure that the tournament committee welcomes you to Dayton, Ohio, and the historic Miami Valley Golf Club for the 8th U.S. Hickory Open.

Dayton, as with many older industrial cities, is working hard to revitalize herself. Carillon Historic Park, Oregon Historic District, Dragons Baseball, and the surge of new restaurants and brew pubs are among the many indicators of the city's burgeoning liveliness.

Miami Valley Golf Club is considered an oasis in the middle of suburbia. Just past the gracious front gate, one is greeted by a stately Tudor-style clubhouse, lately renovated. The staff are among the most attentive and friendly you will ever find. Outside, time rolls back to Donald Ross's 1919 creation. Only the occasional hum of a mower or a glimpse of a golf cart brings you back to present day. Superintendent Jim Hesselbrock has been grooming MVGC for the past 35 years, and has it in immaculate condition. Lush tree-lined fairways provide generous landing areas that allow for a variety of shots into fast, undulating greens. A deft touch with the putter is a must at MVGC – Mr. Ross would be proud.

The 1931 Western Open, won by Ed Dudley over Walter Hagen, and the 1957 PGA Championship (the last held at match play won by Lionel Herbert over Dow Finsterwald 2-1) were hosted at Miami Valley GC. Exhibition matches played

at the historic club included such legends as Bobby Jones, Bryon Nelson, Sam Snead, Tommy Armour, and Babe Didrickson Zaharias. Miami Valley's history reaches into the life of fellow SoHG and Golf Collector Society member John Fischer III, whose father was low amateur in the 1931 Western Open.

Heartfelt thanks to the MVGC membership for their hospitality in making this a memorable visit. Club President Neil Hazel and others have graciously reached out to make the SoHG feel as very welcomed special guests.

I personally would like to thank Club Historian Dr. William Gayle, Club Manager Leesa Cassell, and Head PGA Professional Larry Herrmann for their enthusiastic guidance in planning this event. The USHO committee, listed below, was invaluable in giving their time and energy in planning what we hope is a pleasant, memorable event.

*Ed Ronco, Chairman
USHO 2015*

U.S. Hickory Open Committee –

Dave Brown	Bill Giesler
Jim Clawson	Hamp Munsey
James Eike	Bob Platt
William Ernst	Lloyd Slinglend
Tim Flynn	Gary Trapani

From Miami Valley Golf Club –

Miami Valley Golf Club welcomes all participants to our 1919 Donald Ross Golf Club and the proud traditions it holds for your arrival and competition. Miami Valley, a Dayton Premier Course, hosted the 1931 Western Open and 1957 PGA Championship. It was also the home course of Bob Kuntz, co-founder of the Golf Collector Society.

Competitors will find generous fairways, reasonable rough and kind approaches to the greens that will challenge the best putters with the difficulty of the subtle slopes. Donald Ross at his finest! Generous tee placements accommodate all levels of golfers and provide invitation to favorable fairway positions. Pause for a moment

of appreciation as you pass the 14th green where a carving depicts the talented Ross.

Our members, staff and professionals are looking forward to your arrival and eager to provide a memorable experience for all. We hope to meet you at the reception on Sunday, July 19.

Come and enjoy. Your non-playing guests and ladies might also enjoy some of the planned visits to Dayton-area highlighted sites.

*Neil Hazel
President, Miami Valley Golf Club*

The 2015 U.S. Hickory Open program is a copyright of the Society of Hickory of Golfers. Produced and designed by James Davis, Secretary of the Society of Hickory Golfers.

Tournament Schedule

Sunday, July 19

10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Registration and equipment check behind clubhouse near the pro shop. (Pairing sheet for Monday will be in your registration packet.)

10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Practice rounds, registration, club check.*

6:30 p.m.

Welcome reception / buffet dinner in the clubhouse dining room for players, guests, vendors. Club share and raffle tickets sold.

Monday, July 20 – First Round

7:30 a.m.

Coffee, donuts, warm-ups, practice.

8:30 a.m.

Tee times starting off No. 1 & 10.*

6:30 p.m.

Cocktails in the clubhouse.

7 p.m.

USHO dinner at the clubhouse for players/guests. Raffle drawing.

Tuesday, July 21 – Final Round

8 a.m.

Coffee, donuts, warm-ups, practice.

8:45 a.m.

Group picture on putting green.

9 a.m.

Shotgun start – See the pairing sheet for your partner and starting hole.

1:30 p.m.

Luncheon and awards immediately following play at clubhouse.

Spouse and Guest Activities

MVGC has graciously offered the enjoyment of the club pool for all SoHG guests/non-players during our stay in Dayton.

Monday, July 20

9:45 a.m.-2 p.m.

Trip to Carillon Park Museum, lunch at “The Green”, and time for shopping. Details in your registration packet.

***Sunday-Monday – Food and beverage may be purchased in the grill before, during, and after your round.**

Professional Staff
Miami Valley Golf Club
3311 Salem Ave.
Dayton, OH 45406
937-274-1133

Larry Herrmann – Head Golf Professional
Marcus Lehman – Assistant Golf Professional
Jim Hesselbrock – Golf Course Superintendent
Leesa Cassell – Director of Operations
Steve Taylor – Executive Chef
Mike Placke – Hospitality Manager

USHO 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

2012 Donald Ross Course French Lick, Ind.

OPEN

1 Tony Smarelli** 149
2 Ben Hollerbach 149

RESERVE

1 Brad Frieberg 136
2 David English 140

SENIOR OPEN

1 Max Hollon 158
2 Terry Howarth 160

SENIOR RESERVE

1 John Greene 131
2 Bob Georgiade 136

2013 Bay Course at Seaview Resort, Galloway, N.J.

OPEN

1 Jeremy Moe 141
2 Craig Stroup 152

RESERVE

1 Bill Geisler 131
2 Scott McAllister 145

SENIOR OPEN

1 Michael Shift 154
2 Dave Brown 163

SENIOR RESERVE

1 Bob Platt 137
2 Bob Georgiade 140

2014 Country Club of Ashville, Ashville, N.C.

OPEN

1 Jeremy Moe 137
2 Rick Woeckener 150*

RESERVE

1 Russell Eaves 130
2 Andy Moye 144*

SENIOR OPEN

1 Tony Smarelli 145
2 Jeffrey Blomstedt 155*

SENIOR RESERVE

1 Paul Dietz 127
2 Terry Pemberton 131

SUPER SENIOR

1 Hamp Munsey 166*
2 Ed Woeckener 166

SUPER SENIOR RESERVE

1 Hugh Menzies 124
2 Mike Korstange 128

LADIES

1 Barb Kopec 179
2 Karen Vagley 197

*card playoff
** one-hole playoff

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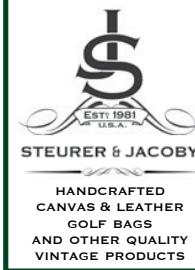
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The Course

‘Don’t go over the greens!’



Golf professional Larry Herrmann has been in the Columbus area for 20 years, but is just getting started at Miami Valley Golf Club. He likes what he sees of his newest charge.

“Being a Donald Ross course, it plays true to the era in which it was built,” he says. “The trees, of course, have grown up, but the greens are all old style, tilted from back to front and very fast.”

Club founders Walter and Georgeanna Kidder, who wanted a first-rate club, wanted Donald Ross to build their course. Initially reluctant to visit, Ross bowed to the Kidder’s persistence, was warmed by their hospitality and friendliness, and sketched out the course on a blackboard. The drawings were transferred to paper and are seen today in the Clubhouse foyer.

Ross was on hand when the course opened for play in 1919. One of the oldest courses in Ohio, it has hosted the 1931 Western Open and

the 1957 PGA Championship.

A carved wooden statue of Ross stands by the 14th green / 15th tee.

PLAYING MVGC

A few tips from Larry Herrmann

- No. 9 is a signature hole for the views. Looking straight down the 395-yard fairway is a fine view of the clubhouse.
- I like hole No. 12, which runs along a road. The left is out of bounds, but the green sits up high. It’s almost like a blind shot, but the green is one of the flattest on the course. The challenge is to get your approach high enough to sit on the green. There is ample room to the right, but not to the left.
- All the tees, greens, and fairways are bent grass, with a little poa annua here and there.



VIEW DOWN THE 9TH
at Miami Valley Golf Club,
above, takes in the handsome
clubhouse.

Right, the 395-yard (white
tees) 18th hole and fairway.

**‘MVGC plays true
to the Donald
Ross era.’**



5TH HOLE at Miami Valley Golf Club is the only one with water, a feature that was added well after the course was built. “It adds a little more character,” says MVGC pro Larry Herrmann.

- Almost all holes feature bunkers on the left and right, so it is very much like the 1920’s bump-and-run game. Only one hole has water, the par 3 No. 5, and that was put in later just to add some character.

- Don’t go over the greens. (Herrmann was laughing as he said this.) I’ve been playing here for 34 years, in pro ams and other competitions, and you definitely want to keep the ball below the hole. The greens are maybe a 10 on the stimp, but they run and roll smoothly.

- If you are over a green you better have a soft touch coming back. People at golf clinics often ask what shot to work on when playing Miami Valley. I always say you want to be able to stop a ball if you are over. The soft touch is best.

DONALD ROSS carving near the 14th tee has visitors from Michigan – Gary Trapani, left, Ed Ronco, and Lloyd Slinglend.

Miami Valley Golf Club

Black	6795 yards	129 / 72.4
Blue	6405	126 / 70.3
White	5865	118 / 68.1
Green	5340	113 / 65.8



Dayton-area highlights / activities

Dayton is home to plenty of aviation history and much of it is on display at several area museums. The Wright Brothers perfected their journey into powered flight over Huffman Prairie just outside Dayton, all the while operating their bicycle shop at 1127 W Third St.

The large Air Force museum at Wright-Patterson AFB is one of the largest of its kind, worth a visit if you have never been before.

Check the Dayton Convention & Visitors Bureau website for a list of area attractions and things to do, as well as restaurants and shopping. If you are into craft beer, the Fifth Street Brewery is one of the best in town.

www.daytoncvb.com
800-221-8235

National Museum of the U.S. Air Force
www.nationalmuseum.af.mil
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937-255-3286



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Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
937-425-0008

Carillon Historical Park
1000 Carillon Blvd.
937-293-2841



The oldest association of hickory players in the Pacific Northwest salutes SoHG and the competitors at the 2015 U.S. Hickory Open at Miami Valley Golf Club.



NWHP proudly hosts events year-round including the biannual Ryder Cup-style Pacific Hickory Cup (above and left) in partnership with the Pacific Hickory Golf Association (CA) as well as the Pacific Northwest Hickory Championship in Seattle, this year contested in September on two period courses, Jefferson Park (1915) and West Seattle Golf Course (1940). Please join us!

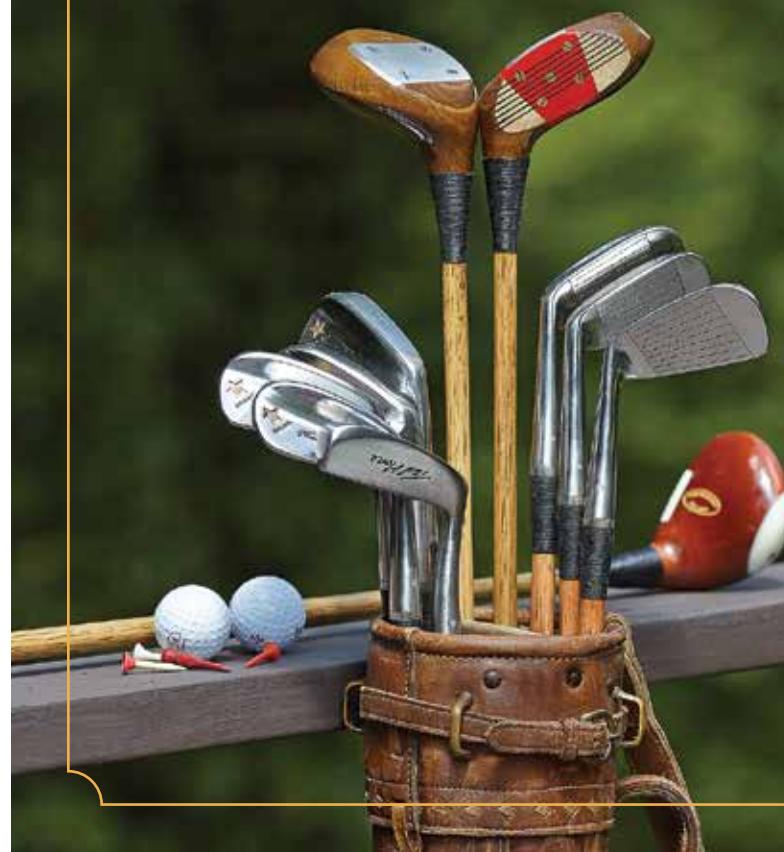
nwhickoryplayers.org

events / course listings / featured clubs / tournament results / book reviews / historical features



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COMPETITORS – 2015 U.S. HICKORY OPEN

CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION

Dick Atkinson <i>Orinda, Calif.</i>	Grayson Giboney <i>Des Moines, Wash.</i>	Cliff Martin <i>Los Angeles, Calif.</i>
Erik Beer <i>Concord, Calif.</i>	Tyler Guthrie <i>Collierville, Tenn.</i>	Jeremy Moe <i>Fort Smith, Ark.</i>
Walter Allen Bills <i>Royal Oak, Mich.</i>	Jack Hamilton <i>Dayton, Ohio</i>	Skip Platt <i>Keswick, Va.</i>
Joseph Bodnar <i>Dearborn, Mich.</i>	Devin Harmala <i>Evertt, Wash.</i>	Stephen Powell <i>Jacksonville, Fla.</i>
Matt Bowman <i>Edmond, Okla.</i>	Mark Hollingsworth <i>West End, N.C.</i>	Rick Rechter <i>Hopkinsville, Ky.</i>
Bert Coghill <i>Orland Park, Ill.</i>	Eric Johnson <i>Palmyra, Va.</i>	Randy Renaud <i>North Little Rock, Ark.</i>
William Ernst <i>Neenah, Wisc.</i>	Andy Just <i>Jeffersonville, Ind.</i> <i>Guests – Mike and Lynn Just</i>	Dan Schnittker <i>Manhattan, Kan.</i>
Tim Flynn <i>Lexington, Ky.</i>	Greg Kolkman <i>Ft. Wayne, Ind.</i>	John Short <i>S. Pasadena, Calif.</i>
Bill Geisler <i>Winter Springs, Fla.</i> <i>Spouse – Elizabeth</i>	Jason Kronenberger <i>Dayton, Ohio</i>	Jeffrey Smith <i>Greenwood, Ark.</i>
Brian Giboney <i>Des Moines, Wash.</i>		Rick Whitfield <i>Hobe Sound, Fla.</i> <i>Spouse – Lynda</i>

SUPER SENIORS

Wayne Aaron <i>San Antonio, Texas</i> <i>Spouse – Claudia</i>	Charles Mulligan <i>Haigler, Neb.</i>	Michael Shiff <i>Parkland, Fla.</i>
Gary S. Albers <i>Erlanger, Ky.</i>	Tom Ochs <i>Bloomington, Ill.</i>	Lloyd Slinglend <i>Trenton, Mich.</i>
John Greene <i>Morganton, N.C.</i>	William W. Reed <i>Des Moines, Iowa</i>	Ernie Stathes <i>Kettering, Ohio</i>
Chuck McCollum <i>Rocklin, Calif.</i>	Bill Scheben <i>Crestview Hills, Ky.</i> <i>Spouse – Betsy</i>	Rusty Wells <i>Pinehurst, N.C.</i>

COMPETITORS – 2015 U.S. HICKORY OPEN

SENIORS

John Berggren <i>Kingwood, Texas</i>	David Ellis <i>Zanesville, Ohio</i>	Jim Rohr <i>Pinehurst, N.C.</i>
Jeffrey Blomstedt <i>Gill, Mass.</i>	Bob Georgiade <i>Durham, N.C.</i>	Ed Ronco <i>Wyandotte, Mich.</i> <i>Spouse – Anne</i>
Scott Bowles <i>Temple Terrace, Fla.</i> <i>Spouse – Leitha</i>	Joe Guerard <i>Winneconne, Wisc.</i>	Frank Rosenzweig <i>Pittsburgh, Pa.</i> <i>Spouse – Gail</i>
Douglas Brossman <i>Leesburg, Va.</i>	James Hannen <i>Spring Arbor, Mich.</i>	Bill Sewell <i>Huntsville, Ala.</i>
David Brown <i>Omaha, Neb.</i> <i>Spouse – Nancy</i>	Chris Hardy <i>Port Byron, Ill.</i>	Tony Smarrelli <i>Pinehurst, N.C.</i>
Hugh Cameron <i>Corunna, Ont., Canada</i>	Ken Holtz <i>Sun City West, Ariz.</i>	Tanner Stewart <i>Zanesville, Ohio</i>
Bob Caston <i>Chicago, Ill.</i>	Tom Irving <i>Cicero, Ind.</i> <i>Guest – Greg Kolkman</i>	Tim Stroshine <i>Monclova, Ohio</i>
James Clawson <i>Charlottesville, Va.</i> <i>Spouse – Susan</i>	Will Jacoby <i>Louisville, Ky.</i>	Gary Trapani <i>Lincoln Park, Mich.</i>
William Conant <i>Greenfield, Mass.</i>	Mark Larson <i>Rushford, Minn.</i>	Robert Ubbing <i>Southern Pines, N.C.</i>
James Davis <i>Grand Rapids, Mich.</i>	John Medve <i>Westlake, Ohio</i>	Jeffrey Whittington <i>Lancaster, Ohio</i>
Chris Deinlein <i>Greensboro, N.C.</i>	Charles Mitchell <i>Lexington, Ky.</i>	Ric Whittington <i>Pataska, Ohio</i>
Ray DeRoche <i>Neenah, Wisc.</i>	Dennis Olson <i>Long Grove, Iowa</i>	Bill Wardwell <i>Turner Falls, Mass.</i>
Dave Dickman <i>Dennis, Mass.</i>	Terry Pemberton <i>Keswick, Va.</i>	
Paul Dietz <i>Sarnia, Ont., Canada</i> <i>Spouse – Rita</i>	Larry Pinchback <i>Oakland, Mich.</i>	
	Bob Platt <i>Lynchburg, Va.</i>	

LADIES

Sally Shiff <i>Parkland, Fla.</i>
Francine Smarrelli <i>Pinehurst, N.C.</i>

Hickory's future is bright – R. Jensen

By Randy Jensen

I was excited to play in the first United States Hickory Open in 2008, the flagship event of the Society of Hickory Golfers, of which I was a founding member.

Mimosa Hills was a fabulous choice for this initial event: a classic Donald Ross course in excellent condition.

I couldn't quite dial my game in for the tournament, at least not good enough to beat Jay Harris, who played superbly to win.

The tournament was run very well with no major glitches, which is impressive



RANDY JENSEN
SoHG co-founder,
author, and hickory
champion.

considering that the National Hickory Championship, the best hickory event in the U.S. at the time, had already been contested for 10 straight years, starting in 1998. Both Jay and I had played in the initial NHC with Jay winning the post-1900 division and me winning the pre-1900 division with the low overall score.

I had hoped that a rotation of great, hickory-era courses would be developed for the USHO, with a different course being played each year. But it was decided to go back to Mimosa Hills again in 2009, which is understandable because the event ran so well from their side. Still, I would have preferred to see: Mimosa Hills, Baltusrol, Merion, Cypress Point....something like this; there are quite a few really great pre-1935 courses that we could play.

I like the fact that a pre-U.S. Open hickory event was held at Chambers Bay this year. It would be great to have an annual hickory outing on each U.S. Open venue a few weeks before it is played.



JENSEN in 2004 at Kilspindie in Scotland.

I am also pleased by the interest in hickory golf today. There is something inherently attractive about playing golf with vintage wood shaft clubs. We have seen the interest of Tour players like Sam Snead, Arnold Palmer, Al Geiberger, Ben Crenshaw, Nick Faldo, Lee Trevino, Sandy Lyle, Tom Watson, Pierre Fulke, Adam Mednick, Sergio Garcia, and Bubba Watson – just to name a few. There is a

whole new generation of hickory players who have become enamored with the game for various reasons.

It has been my experience that if you introduce hickory golf to 10 modern golfers, at least one of them will get excited about the possibilities and want to play on a regular basis. With an estimated 60 million golfers worldwide, there exists the potential for at least six million hickory golfers!

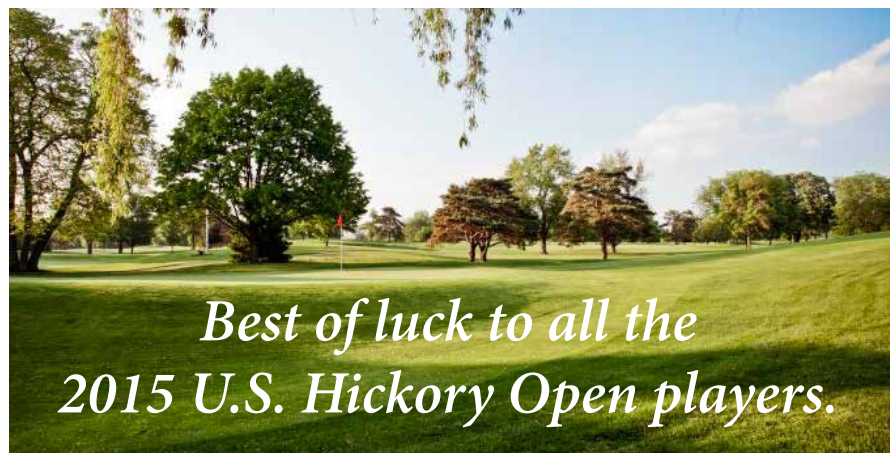
There are now hickory golf tournaments throughout the world. This would have seemed incredibly unlikely to the hickory golfer of 1990.

I think the future is very bright for hickory golf.

Editor – For his part, Jay Harris, Jensen's foe at the 2008 USHO, loved Mimosa Hills and would like to return.

"That was a great match," Harris said of the 2008 battle with Jensen.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



*Best of luck to all the
2015 U.S. Hickory Open players.*



Chris Deinlein

**Congratulations and thank you
to Miami Valley Golf Club
and the organizers
of the 2015 USHO.**

*From your friends in hickory golf,
Chris and Hamp.*



Hamp Munsey

**MICHIGAN
HICKORY TOUR**

The Michigan Hickory Tour and the Wyandotte Hickory Organization salute the players and organizers of the 2015 U.S. Hickory Open. Hit 'em far and sure.

Wyandotte Hickory Organization
Ed Ronco – ronco336@aol.com

Michigan Hickory Tour
Roger Hill – hillgolf@gmail.com

"We both wanted to become the only person to have won both an NHC title and a USHO title (2008). I'm pleased that I came out on top and am the only one to have titles from both."

Harris said that Mimosa was a great hickory golf venue and hopes the USHO might return there someday.

Meanwhile, he is winding down his tournament appearances in favor of more time in his workshop, restoring clubs for hickory play.

"If event directors will remember the right combination of golf course, pricing, and social events, then hickory golf outings will be in demand for many years," he says.



JAY HARRIS photographed at the Foxburg Hickory Championship.

Thank you raffle donors

All proceeds benefit the SoHG. Thanks so much gentlemen!

Mike Just
Kevin Combs
Will Jacoby
Skip Platt
Bob Platt
Tad Moore
Dave Brown
Tim Flynn
USHO Committee

A big thanks as well to volunteers from the **Va. Hickory Golf Assoc.** who helped sell the raffle tickets.

From your friends at the Golf Historical Society of Canada: Congratulations to the SoHG and Good Luck to all Competitors!

The GHSC is the proud host of the
C.B. Macdonald Challenge and
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