

THE NATIONAL HICKORY CHAMPIONSHIP

was established in 1998 to bring together golfers who enjoy playing golf in historic conditions, the way it was played before the turn of the century. Playing according to 19th century rules and using authentic 19th century equipment makes the NHC the sternest test of hickory golf contested anywhere. Open to all, the NHC draws the most ardent and accomplished wood shaft golfers from across America and Canada (average tenure of 2023 players was 9.2 NHC years). Competitive, yet fun, it is America's hickory championship—the ultimate test of hickory golf.



Displayed on a table are some of the trophies players can win. The three large permanent awards bear the names of the Reserve, Women's and Open Division winners. The three division winners also take smaller traveling trophies with them to display at home or office for a year.

THE 2024 NATIONAL HICKORY CHAMPIONSHIP will be conducted over the venerable Mound Golf Course, Miamisburg, Ohio. Contestants in the Championship play 36 holes in two days. In the Open, Reserve, Sporting and Ladies Divisions clubs must be original 19th century or approved replicas and all players use modern-made, low-compression gutta percha-type balls with line cut covers available through the Championship. Tee shots are struck from sand tees. No golf bags are allowed so 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 here, in Britain or anywhere else in the world; it is authentic, competitive, historic, truly unique and, above all, fun!

2024 NATIONAL HICKORY CHAMPIONSHIP

The most authentic and challenging hickory golf competition in the world

*Twenty-seventh Year
June 6-8, 2024*

*Historic
Mound Golf
Course*

Miamisburg, Ohio

*NHC Tournament Office
2451 Savannah Drive
Lebanon, OH 45036
(336) 707-8376*

*nhc-golf@earthlink.net
www.hickorychampionship.org*



The Miamisburg Mound from a 19th century print

The Championship offers competition in five 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 traverse the hills twice in the same day. The **36-hole Vintage Division is for players using 1920s hickories**. First event on the program is the 9-hole International Feathery Challenge played with pre-1850-style feather-filled golf balls. The Elmore Just Foursomes Competition is also 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 time for socializing.



Clockwise: Ms. Katy Goidel (Signal Mountain, Tennessee) became Women's Champion for the 11th time; Championship Director Pete presents Jim Sherrill (Chickamauga, Georgia) with an NHC jacket in recognition of Jim playing in his 20th NHC; on the Mound clubhouse patio Billy Wardwell (Turners Falls, Massachusetts), Chris Gilgun (Uxbridge, Mass.) and Mike Kinney (Carol Stream, Illinois) converse after their feathery rounds; the eleven feathery golfers pose for the traditional group photo before teeing off; a feathery—a feather filled golf ball — that saw a bit too much action.

