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U.S. HICKORY OPEN™

SEDFIELD CC

Sept. 16-18, 2018



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On behalf of the Society of Hickory Golfers, the 2018 U.S. Hickory Open Committee welcomes you to Sedgfield Country Club. General Manager Beverly Marler and Director of Golf Rocky Brooks lead a team of dedicated professionals who are ready to assist you in every way possible.

We are excited that the 11th annual USHO has returned to North Carolina. It will be contested on a course that was constructed under the watchful eye of Donald Ross and opened in 1926. Sedgfield is home to one of the oldest PGA tournaments, begun in 1938 as the Greater Greensboro Open and now titled the Wyndham Championship. The likes of Byron Nelson, Ben Hogan, and eight-time winner Sam Snead have walked these fairways and demonstrated their shot making abilities.

It is the only Ross-designed course on the regular PGA Tour. Laid out in the golden age of hickory golf, it requires a number of different shots with very few level lies. You will find the green complexes to be most challenging. The player who can master the Bermuda greens will, more than likely, be rewarded with a gold medal. As with any test of golf, good shots are rewarded.

We on the committee hope that you enjoy the competition and Sedgfield Country Club as much as the camaraderie of your fellow members of the Society of Hickory Golfers. If there is anything the Committee can do to further your enjoyment of the 2018 U.S. Hickory Open, please let us know. We thank you for participating and hope the golf gods smile upon you.



CHRIS DEINLEIN



HAMP MUNSEY

Chris Deinlein & Hamp Munsey, Co-Chairs

*2018 USHO Organizing Committee
Rob Ahlschwede, Jim Clawson
Ross Hays, Jeff Loh, Terry Pemberton*

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2019 U.S. Hickory Open – June 20-22, Belvedere Golf Club, Charlevoix, Mich.



Sedgefield Country Club

A McConnell Golf Property

Thank you for choosing Sedgefield Country Club for the 2018 U.S. Hickory Open. We hope you enjoy this historic Donald Ross classic, ranked 12th in the 2018 North Carolina Golf Panel rankings. We are excited to provide you with the finest of hospitality and golf course experiences.

Sedgefield Country Club opened in 1926 and is situated in an area developed in the 1920s by avid golfer A.W. McAlister. Sedgefield was co-venue for the PGA Tour's Greater Greensboro Open along with Starmount Forest from the tournament's inception in 1938 through 1960. The tournament was held at Sedgefield exclusively from 1961 through 1976, when it moved to Forest Oaks. The PGA Tour event was rejuvenated when it returned home to Sedgefield in 2008 and remains here today as the Wyndham Championship. The Wall of Champions behind the 9th green is worthy of a glimpse as it honors the tournament winners, including the legendary Sam Snead who won in Greensboro a record eight times.

The Atlantic Coast Conference was founded at Sedgefield Country Club on May 8, 1953, and a plaque located in the main clubhouse lobby commemorates this powerhouse conference. The ACC's roots remain strong at Sedgefield still today as we host the Women's Golf Championship each April.

Sedgefield Country Club is part of McConnell Golf's stable of 12 championship courses across the Carolinas and Tennessee designed by such renowned architects as Pete Dye, Arnold Palmer, Tom Fazio, Greg Norman, and Donald Ross. Our "pure golf for the true golfer" motto transcends agronomy, sport and service disciplines and is a principle that we live every day.

On behalf of McConnell Golf and Sedgefield Country Club, thank you again for spending time with us. We invite you to relax and enjoy yourself. If there is anything we can do to make your time more enjoyable, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Beverly Marler

Triad Regional Director, McConnell Golf



Schedule, 11th U.S. Hickory Open

Sunday, Sept. 16, 2018

- 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Check-in and Equipment Inspection at Welcome Tent
Practice Round
- 6:30 p.m. Reception Party & Trade Show in SCC Clubhouse

Monday, Sept. 17, 2018

- 9 a.m. 1st Round of Tournament with Assigned Tee Times
- 7 p.m. Dinner, Speaker, and Raffle in Club Ballroom

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2018

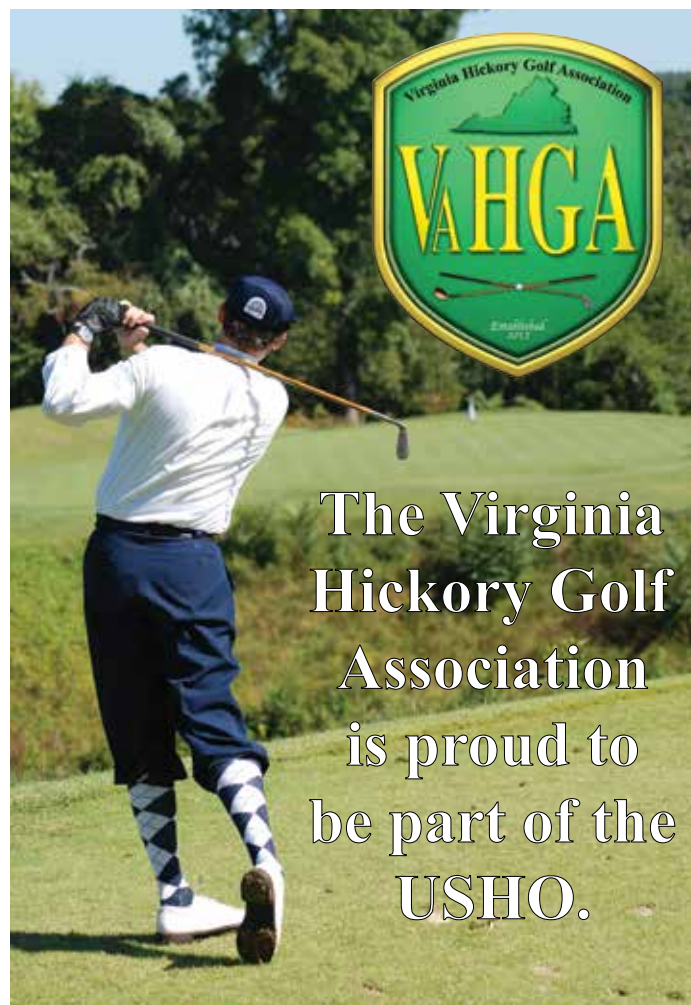
- 8:30 a.m. Group Photo on Front Lawn
- 9 a.m. 2nd Round of Tournament, Shotgun Start
- 1:30 p.m. Awards Luncheon in Club Ballroom
Invitation to 2019 USHO
Closing Comments



Florida Hickory Golfers



Good Luck U.S. Hickory Open Players



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The Society thanks these regional groups that generously offered raffle donations or supportive advertisements in this program. Thank you!

Groups are listed with their "Captain."

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A big thanks as well to all the volunteers on the 2018 USHO Organizing Committee.



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Photo – Rick Fisher

Sedgefield will test hickory mettle

By **Jim Davis**

(Adapted from an article in the Spring 2018 Wee Nip)

Sedgefield Country Club, host of the 2018 U.S. Hickory Open, is in Greensboro, N.C., a little southwest of the city center. Donald Ross, perhaps the designer emeritus of the SoHG, designed the course which opened for play in 1926. Architect Kris Spence did some restoration work in 2007 to revitalize that Ross pedigree. It is currently the only Ross-designed course hosting a regular event on the PGA Tour.

Since 1938, Sedgefield Country Club has hosted a professional touring event. Originally called the Greater Greensboro Open, then the Greater Greensboro Chrysler Classic, it has been the Wyndham Championship since 2007.

From 1938 to 1960, the championship alternated with the Starmount Forest Country Club, also in Greensboro.

From 1960-1976, it was at Sedgefield only. Forest Oaks hosted the event from 1976-2007, after which time it returned to Sedgefield where it continues to thrive.

Sam Snead is indelibly linked with the tournament, having won it eight times. Two of those victories came in playoffs and he lost two other playoffs, one to Earl Stewart and one to Doug Ford (that playoff lasted 19 holes).

George Archer won in 1972. He had already packed his clubs away when Arnold Palmer tripped up over the last three holes to drop a two-shot lead. Archer beat Tommy Aaron in that playoff.

In 2013 Jordan Speith and Patrick Reed tied for the tournament with Reed besting Speith on the strength of a near-miraculous

recovery shot from trees that finished just seven feet from the flag on the 10th hole, the first playoff hole.

World Golf Hall of Famer Curtis Strange often came to the tournament while a student in the 1970s at Wake Forest University.

Various state championships have been hosted by the club, and in the mid-1990s the club hosted Nike Tour events, one of which was the first professional event played by a young Sergio Garcia, who returned to win the Wyndham Championship in 2015.

Sedgefield pros have made a statement, too. In 1937 club pro Tony Manero won the U.S. Open at Baltusrol on that club's famous Upper Course.

Originally designed to be a 36-hole country club, work on Sedgefield's second 18 was halted by the Great Depression and never finished. The current driving range was to have been part of that course.

The club's second 18-hole course, the Pete Dye-designed Cardinal Golf and Country Club, was opened in 1975.

Sedgefield was developed by Southern Land Co. as one of the first planned golf course communities in the U.S. All these lands were originally the hunting preserve of John Cobb, senior vice president of the American Tobacco Co.

The club is owned by McConnell Golf, currently the largest owner of private clubs in the Carolina region. Its Footprints on the Green efforts support causes such as the Make-A-Wish Foundation and its McConnell Scholars programs benefit talented young golfers.

Sedgefield's stately 48,000-square-foot Tudor clubhouse was built in 1925 and completely renovated from 1992-1993. It still proudly features the original main lobby.

More important, to golfers anyway, is that in 2007 Sedgefield's course reopened following a 10-month, \$3 million restoration project, carried out by course architect Kris Spence of Greensboro. Spence is a keen student of Ross and was eager to return the course to its "Ross Roots."

Sedgefield's current professional, Kenneth "Rocky" Brooks, counsels hickory hopefuls to keep the ball below the pins. The course is going to test your mettle as a hickory golfer. Period.

"Do not, whatever else you do, go over the greens," he says. "Always keep it short. The course plays well for the old school bump and run shots."

Brooks said he is looking forward to the U.S. Hickory Open, though he, himself, is not a hickory player. "I tried it once, with Chris {Deinlein, one of the 2018 USHO organizers, and a member at Sedgefield} and that was my first and last time."

Brooks thinks the current modern hickory golf record for the course might be the 76 turned in by North Carolina native and SoHG member Craig Stroup. And he was playing the back tees, from over 7,000 yards.

"Play to the center of the greens," Stroup counsels, echoing Brooks' advice. "Err short on approaches into the greens because long is dead in most cases."

Stroup, in case you are wondering, is among the contenders for the 2018 hickory title in full field that was quickly "sold-out" with

nearly three dozen on a waiting list.

Stroup should have some tough competition from the likes of Dennis Joy III of Charlevoix, Mich., four-time U.S. Hickory champion Jeremy Moe of Boca Raton, Fla., and Jeremy Wright of Louisville, Ky.

Brooks said that the course setup for the USHO must take into account the hilly natural terrain of the course.

"We are in the Piedmont, and the course is built over some really rolling terrain," he said. "There are a few places where putting a tee forward is not going to make a difference."

The Championship Division tees will likely come in around 6,100 yards.

The greens are quick. Would you expect otherwise? Brooks estimates that they'll be about 11 to 11.5 on the Stimp. "We might ask our superintendent to slow them a bit, but he doesn't like to do that," he said.

So, best advice for U.S. Hickory hopefuls is to work on your short game. "Work on chips, pitches from around the green, and especially your lag putting," Brooks said. "These are

Ross greens with lots of undulations."

The greens are Champion Bermuda hybrid with 419 Bermuda on the fairways. Par is 70, at least for the PGA guys who play it at just over 7,000 yards; par 71 for the members, 74 for women. Regardless of how par is set, Brooks said that really doesn't mean anything.

"Par is irrelevant," he said. "The guy who comes in with the lowest score is the champ." 🍷

"Do not, whatever else you do, go over the greens. Always keep it short. The course plays well for the old school bump and run shots."

KENNETH 'ROCKY' BROOKS
Sedgefield CC Head Professional

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Jim Wilhelm
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U.S. HICKORY OPEN™ **PATRONS FUND**

By Ross Hays

The U.S. Hickory Open Championship Committee and the Society of Hickory Golfers are proud to introduce the USHO Patrons Fund.

It is our belief that, as our sport has developed and grown, it is important to showcase our most important event, the U.S. Hickory Open Championship. This tournament should stand alone, atop all others, in terms of each participant's golfing experience, and in the perception of the golfing public, hickory or modern, that this event is our standard – the singular event designed to identify the country's champion hickory golfer of the year.

Tournament entry fees and raffles alone cannot provide the funds necessary to take our Championship to the next level. Media, advertising, signage, function enhancement, venue availability, and tournament general expenses, are all areas that should benefit from additional funding through the Patron's Fund. The growth of our hickory game also will benefit from the spotlight shining on the Society's premier event.

Two passionate Society members have agreed to seed the Patron's Fund by matching the first \$10,000 of contributions from Society members. If you, too, are passionate about growing our game, and enhancing our premier event, we hope you will con-

New fund to benefit nation's premier hickory championship

sider making a contribution to the fund.

Any amount is appreciated; however, contributions of \$100 or more will receive a Steurer & Jacoby leather bag tag. Contributions over \$300 will receive a long sleeve USHO logoed shirt.

You may make your contribution payable by check to the Society of Hickory Golfers, earmarked Patron's Fund; or click Patron's Fund Paypal on the website. Checks should be mailed to Wally Bills, 624 Detroit Ave, Royal Oak, MI, 48073. Wally is the treasurer of the SoHG.

Our goal is to build a sustainable fund that will be available for all future USHO Championships. Funds will be used only to enhance the USHO tournaments, and no event should use more than half the funds collected each year, in an effort to sustain funding for future events.

Thank you for considering this method of helping us to grow our game. We hope to see you soon at the USHO Championship, or one of our other Society events.

Ross Hays, of Tampa, Fla., has been a member of the Society of Hickory Golfers since 2010. He is a member of the Belvedere Golf Club and a regular at many hickory golf events throughout the year. He is a member of the 2018 USHO Committee.

Team Von going for a double victory at 2018 USHO

By Jim Davis

Golf has a rich history of father/son competitors, beginning with that most famous duo, Old and Young Tom Morris. Also at the beginnings of modern golf were Willie Park Sr. and Jr.

Other notable father/son duos include Percy and Peter Allis, Al and Brent Geiberger, Jack and Gary Nicklaus, Claude and Butch Harmon, Craig and Kevin Stadler, Jay and Bill Haas, Gary and Wayne Player, and Joe Kirkwood Sr. and Jr.

Jim and Andrew von Lossow know the historic names and have been on-course partners and competitors since Andrew took up the game practically before teething. They'll be competing for the 2018 U.S. Hickory Open title at Sedgfield, Andrew in the Open Division and Jim in the Senior Division. It will be Jim's third consecutive USHO and the first for Andrew.

While he is very proud of being in the field with his son, Jim is not so sure he agrees with Jack Nicklaus, who in 1997 at Congressional, said he wouldn't mind coming in second, as long as it was to his son, Gary.

Though both von Lossows are in it to win it, Jim says "It's very exciting to be able to share these events together, meet wonderful people and enjoy the after-golf events. It makes me proud that he can enjoy hickory golf as much as I do."

Andrew is in perfect rhythm with his dad on this one.

"It is very cool to have my Dad in the field," he says. "He introduced me to modern golf and now hickory golf. I have enjoyed playing in tournaments with him and if he is nearby on another fairway I can give him a wave."

No more than a friendly wave, though. Both are skilled golfers who know the importance of focusing on the job at hand. "If I talk to him on the course during the tournament, we don't talk about how we are playing, too much can change in the course of the round and we know there is plenty of time to talk about our game afterwards," Andrew says.

Jim von Lossow, 66, is a PGA professional who has been playing for 60 years. A native of Seattle, Jim played for the local Garfield HS and for Citrus JC in Azusa, Calif. He was always drawn to the history of the game and its equipment.

"My great-grandfather, James Crawford Smith, immigrated to Port Townsend in 1892 from Coleraine, Ireland. He served as the town's Presbyterian minister and also taught them the game of golf."

Von Lossow, who with his white hair and clean cut beard has the appearance of a kindly minister himself, has been a golf pro since age 22, working his way up at a private country club where he eventually became assistant pro and, in 1976, a full member of the PGA of America. He has been a Life Member of the PGA for more than 42 years.

"Playing the game was what I craved and I'd spend every spare minute on the range, putting green, or course," he says. "This enabled me to become a good player and, in 1979, by finishing



VON LOSSOW MEN, Andrew, left, and his father, Jim, will compete in the 2018 USHO. Both are near-scratch players who love hickory golf.

13th in the PGA Q School (Pinehurst, N.C.), I became a Tour Member, spending one year on the tour."

He played the Australasian tour in 1976 and won the 1986 Pacific Northwest PGA, considered a major in the region. He had more than 30 wins as the low professional at pro-ams.

"It was a fantastic experience learning the ropes, playing great courses, the travels, the people, and the many ups and downs of tour life," von Lossow says.

When his winnings for the year fell short of what was necessary to remain on the Tour, von Lossow returned to his club job. "Still, those experiences on the Tour are very dear," he says.

Von Lossow and his wife, Susan, have two children, Andrew, 30, and Hannah, 28. The couple have lived in the same house in Seattle for the past 30 years. For the last 25 years, von Lossow, a master club maker and club repairman of no small reputation, has operated Von's Golf, a club fitting studio.

Andrew von Lossow, 30, recently moved to Spokane, Wash. from Summerlin, Nev. where he was caddying at the Summit Club, a property of the Discovery Land Company. When the season closed, he wanted to step away from caddying and is starting up his own business, the Glen Cove Trading Company. He will be the Miura Golf dealer for Eastern Washington.

In their bags

Jim von Lossow

Spalding Bobby Jones driver
Alex Duncan spoon
MacGregor mid iron
MacGregor approach iron
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MacGregor Bakspin Pitcher
Simmons Hardware flanged sand wedge
Mills mallet putter

Andrew von Lossow

Whippet spoon
MacGregor Popular driving iron
MacGregor Dayton Popular mid iron
Tom Morris Autograph mid iron
Tom Morris Autograph mashie niblick
Tom Morris Autograph jigger
Kendry&Bishop Edinburgh deep face mashie
George Nicoll Indicator Zenith niblick
George Nicoll Whippet putter

"I have been able to hit a ball since I was 2 years old," says Andrew, a tall, strapping individual who, at 6-foot-3 has a few inches on his 5-foot-7 father. "I wanted to emulate my Dad from a young age. I loved watching that ball take flight. He taught me until I was 14 or so then had me see a teaching pro friend of his in the Seattle area."

Andrew played golf for Nathan Hale HS in Seattle and six months for Southwest Oregon CC where their home course course just hap-

pened to be – yes, that one – Bandon Dunes. "Being on the ocean and learning how to play on fescue and wind has been something that has molded my game forever," he says.

Their team won their conference that year and Andrew won the individual championship.

His first hickory experience also came on a notable track, Chambers Bay in 2013. "To play the game in one of the original forms on a links-style course was very captivating," he says.

"I enjoy the genuine love of the game our fellow hickory players share," Andrew says. "The great people you meet and the continued learning of the game with clubs and golf course design always fascinates me. It makes for great conversation. There is a story for every club and every course from the game."

Though a very good golfer in his own right, Andrew highly values his father's knowledge, both of the swing, and of the psychological side of the game.

"I always learn from my Dad about course management and the mental approach," he says. "He is always good for advice if I need it for the swing as well."

That advice is well sought as the elder von Lossow is still a top player who routinely wins or is very much in contention at top hickory events. He placed third in the Senior Division in the 2016 USHO at Lawsonia Links in Wisconsin; and was first in the Senior Division at last year's USHO in Del Monte.

It's an obvious question, of course, but one must ask who of the two is the better golfer.

"I'd say we are always battling each other for the low score; however, with his length off the tee he can make mince-meat out of the long holes," says Jim, whos tournament SoHG handicap is 7.3. "His average hickory drive is 280+, while mine is 220."

"I might be able to shoot a lower score at times, but my Dad is the consistent one," replies Andrew, himself a near scratch golfer. "He doesn't miss many fairways... even his poor tee shots land in the fairway! He hits many greens and is good for a two-putt or less. You just know he will always be right there for par or better."

"I *am* an accurate driver of the ball," Jim admits, "and my iron game is solid. I have all my yardages covered. Pitching is only average as is my sand game, but I'm working on it. I have a new

Mills mallet and it has me putting the ball much better than I have in years."

He'll need that touch on the inscrutable Ross greens at Sedgefield. It is a good bet the 2018 USHO players paid close attention to their TV screens during coverage of the 2018 Wyndham Championship this past August.

The younger von Lossow says he relies on good driving, but, as is the case with many of us, is often victimized by wayward tee shots. "I have missed enough fairways to rely on my scrambling," he says. "Growing up in Seattle, I had to learn from a young age to get creative and get out of trouble from the low hanging trees."

Course management techniques learned from his dad help, too.

"For years I have tried the shot to be a hero and that makes my score escalate quickly," he says. "I'm much more likely now to accept a bogey and just move on."

Jim is a co-founder of the Northwest Hickory Players (<http://nwhickoryplayers.org>), organized in 2014 and now one of the strongest regional playing groups in the country.

"We have been growing every year," Jim says. We have many fine courses here with long histories. We play regardless of weather and enjoy club swapping meets. Rob Ahlschwede has been instrumental in organizing and operating our play days. We hold four major events each year – Gearhart, Northwest Hickory Championship, Spokane Hickory Classic, and COW (California/Oregon/Washington) Cup Matches – as well as many one-day outings.

see **VON**, 16



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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
<i>Senior Reserve</i>	
1 John Greene	132
2 Paul Dietz	134

2012 Donald Ross Course French Lick, Ind.

Open

1 Tony Smarrelli** ~	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 McAlister	145

Senior Open

1 Michael Shiff	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 Smarrelli	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

2015 Miami Valley CC Dayton, Ohio

Open

1 Jeremy Moe	143
2 Cliff Martin ~	150

Reserve

1 Devin Harmala	138
2 Andy Just	139

Senior Open

1 Tony Smarrelli	147
2 Dave Brown	157

Senior Reserve

1 Robert Ubbing	140
2 Terry Pemberton	141*

Super Senior

1 Michael Shiff	152
2 Rusty Wells	162

Super Senior Reserve

1 Bill Reed	134
2 Wayne Aaron	137

Ladies Open

1 Francine Smarrelli	
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Ladies Reserve

1 Sally Shiff	
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2016 Links Course at Lawsonia, Green Lake, Wisc.

Open

1 Jeremy Moe	151*
2 Cliff Martin ~	151

Reserve

1 David Guerard	141
2 Jim Von Lossow	142

Senior Open

1 Tom Tracy	159
2 Mike Harding	161

Senior Reserve

1 Mark Larson	144
2 Ed Ronco	146

Super Senior

1 Michael Shiff	164*
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2 David Boyd	164
<i>Super Senior Reserve</i>	
1 Tad Moore	137
2 Dan Norstedt	146
<i>Ladies Open</i>	
1 Sally Shiff	

2017 Del Monte GC Monterey, Calif.

Open

1 Nico Bollini ~	153*
2 Cliff Martin	153

Reserve

1 Skip Platt	145*
2 John Lavendoski	145

Senior Open

1 Jim von Lossow	159
2 Mike Harding	160

Senior Reserve

1 Bob Georgiade	133
2 Steve Viskochil	136

Super Senior

1 Richard Bullock	168
2 John Berggren	170

Super Senior Reserve

1 Ray Tokareff	140
2 Buck Barrie	148

Ladies Open

1 Roberta Robbins	203
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Ladies Reserve

1 Sally Shiff	145
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Junior Division (18 holes)

1 Lachlan McCarthy	116
2 Ryan McCarthy	126
3 Max McCarthy	184

*playoff
**one-hole playoff
~ Low Amateur

2019

U.S. Hickory Open

June 20-22

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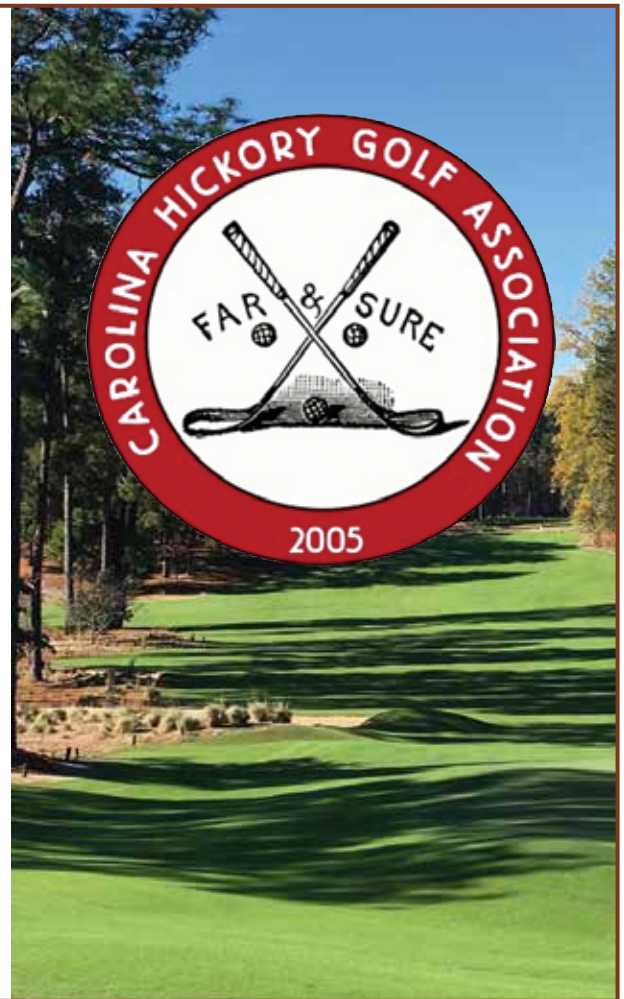
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The Founders, Board and participants of Northwest Hickory Players salute the field of contestants at the 11th U.S. Hickory Open at historic Sedgefield Country Club.

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Allan Robertson (1815-1859)

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The Michigan Hickory Tour and the Wyandotte Hickory Organization

salute the players and organizers of the 2018 U.S. Hickory Open.

Hit 'em far and sure.



Michigan Hickory Tour
Roger Hill – hillgolf@gmail.com



Wyandotte Hickory Organization
Ed Ronco –ronco336@aol.com

VON

CONTINUED FROM 13

His personal favorite is the Gearhart Hickory Open, played on the 1892 Gearhart Links along the Oregon coast.

"I love the setting, the course and all the people associated with it," he says. "I

have been lucky enough to win the event three times as Open Champion and truly look forward each year to returning."

Andrew loves golf in the northwest, comparing it to early hickory conditions of this country and the U.K.

"It makes for some very authentic conditions of the game of yesteryear," he says. "Very soft and slightly muddy in the winter – very satisfying when you pick the ball clean off a wet lie – and firm and fast in the spring and summer. It is a great hickory golf community, too, and that makes it special."

His favorite Northwest course for hickories is Indian Canyon in Spokane, designed by H. Chandler Egan in 1932. "I also like Gamble Sands in Brewster, Wash. for hickories because you can play every shot on the ground if you choose and really use the slopes. It plays firm and fast at all times."

The 2018 USHO is not in the Northwest, though, it is in the hot and steamy south. Neither father nor son has played Sedgefield, but both are aware of the storied history of the club and its long-time PGA tour event.

"We will play one practice round and try our best to understand the layout and its nuances," Jim says. "Chances are we will be in contention for the titles; however, in this game, nothing is certain. Both of us are looking forward to the opportunity to compete on a great championship course with a storied history."

Although he has played in Tad Moore's Southern 4-Ball the past two years, this will mark Andrew's first USHO. He says his plan is to learn to play Sedgefield the proper way. There is some hint of his father's course management tutelage when he tells you there is no need to get greedy.

"Knowing a little bit about Donald Ross golf course architecture and being on the correct spot of the green is essential," he says. "I have played one other Donald Ross course, Holston Hills in Knoxville, Tenn. Being below the hole was my number one goal in every scenario. I know Sedgefield has an incredible history with the PGA Tour and with its famous designer. I am really looking forward to this event."

So, what's the game? What's the side competition between father and son? Family pride? Bragging rights?

"We don't play for any high stakes as far as money but there is one thing we play for from time to time that is regarded more than money, and that's a nice cold post-round pint," Jim says. "It might be for low score or for low amount of putts in the round, or something like that."

No matter their finish at the 2018 USHO, one gets the feeling that this father and son will come away winners.

That, I will bet on. •



The von Lossow Family. Jim and Susan with children Andrew and Hannah.



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