

2012 NATIONAL HICKORY CHAMPIONSHIP

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

*Fifteenth Year
June 7-9, 2012*

*Historic
Oakhurst Links
White Sulphur Springs,
West Virginia*

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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. Competitive, yet fun, it is America's hickory championship—the ultimate test of hickory golf.



Rob "Kilty" Ahlschwede (Olympia, WA) was presented with the prestigious Dundee Prize in 2011, the Championship Director's annual award for outstanding contributions to hickory golf. —————>

← Peter Herrington (St. Louis, MO), Ron Taylor (Wheatland, PA) and Fred Smeltzer (Camdenton, MO) pose on the first tee before starting. Fred was crowned Reserve Division Champion in 2011.



The 2012 National Hickory Championship will be conducted over historic Oakhurst Links, first used in the early 1880s. Contestants in the Championship play 36 holes in two days. Clubs must be original 19th century or approved replicas (available at Oakhurst, no charge, if you don't have your own set) and all players use the same modern-made, low-compression gutta percha-type balls supplied by 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 1880s. 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!



The 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** and **Women's Reserve 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 climb the hills twice in the same day. Additionally, the Elmore Just 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 Oakhurst provisions added). A cocktail reception on Thursday and the Championship Dinner on Friday provide for socializing.



Clockwise from top left: 2011 NHC Champion Bobby Sly (Kingston, Ontario), holds the Kameika Cup, which the Champion keeps for a year; A long head wood, ready to hit a guttie ball from an earthen teeing ground; Seth Lomison (Winston-Salem, NC) plays a shot from the heavy rough; Chris Deinlein and Hamp Munsey (Greensboro, NC) ladle jambalaya from the kettle at the Thursday cocktail reception; Scholarship winning junior golfers from the First Tee of the Triad —Cecilia Haggas, Seth Lomison and Kendall Dunn; Duane Baylor (Ralston, NE) swings in the fairway; Eddie and Darcie Breeden (Upland, CA) — Eddie was the Best Dressed Man in 20112; Terry Thompson (NYC) understands about playing from the long grass, when you can just as easily play from the short grass.

