

2023 NATIONAL HICKORY CHAMPIONSHIP EQUIPMENT GUIDE

Equipment Guide—19th Cent. Divisions (Open, Reserve & Sporting Divisions)

There is no limit to the number of clubs that can be carried.

Antique Woods:

Long nose, semi-long nose or bulger style; splice head; should have marks and shape (significantly elongated—**minimum 3" wide at narrowest part of the club face**) consistent with 19th century clubs/makers. Please think twice about using a valuable antique wood driver.

***No short head splice or socket woods allowed.

Replica Woods:

As above. Approved long head wood clubs available from Louisville Golf Co., Tad Moore or Heritage (St. Andrews). Check with equip committee if in doubt.

Antique Irons:

Must be smooth faced and attributable (by markings) to 19th century origin. Irons with no markings must be inspected and approved before the tournament, or at prior GCS, SoHG or CHGA events.

Niblicks should be not greater than 2" high x 2.5" wide measured on the flat area of the face.

Replica Irons:

Tad Moore Morris smooth face. Others must be smooth faced and approved by the committee.

Antique Putters (wood):

Any wood-shaft era (pre-1935) wood-headed putter in the long nose, semi-long nose or transitional shape that is heel-shafted is allowed. This includes splice head and later 20th century socket head putters as long as they are made in the 'mallet,' long nose or semi-long nose shape of the old style and heel-shafted.

Replica Putters (wood):

Louisville Golf Company long nose wood head/wood shaft putters allowed. Others by committee approval, following inspection.

Antique Putters (metal):

Metal head (steel or gun metal, i.e. bronze) blade putter or putting cleek only allowed if proven to be of 19th century origin by maker name or cleek mark.

***No Otey Crisman putters or aluminum head putters (Mills and other similar types) permitted.

***No Schenectadies, wood or aluminum

Vintage Division

All clubs must have wood shafts and leather grips. Origin should be pre-1930. No replica clubs permitted (Tad Moore, Louisville Golf or Scottish origin). Aluminum putters and center-shaft putters permitted.

***No Otey Crisman putters permitted

If you are unsure about the legality of a club please consult the Championship office in advance of the NHC.

Common 19th cent. clubs categorically allowed: (must be smooth faced)

- ◇ Tom Stewart irons with NO registration legend under the pipe mark
- ◇ Stewart irons with serpent mark
- ◇ All B.G.I. irons or semi-long head spliced woods
- ◇ All Willie Park irons or semi-long head spliced woods (including Compressed Patent)
- ◇ Spalding made irons—from these model series
 - SPALDING (name only in block letters)
 - "The Spalding"
 - Clan
 - SMC Co.
 - "Spalding Special" (script or block letters)
 - Vardon
 - Morristown (w/ no baseball mark)
- ◇ Forgan with Prince of Wales plume mark
- ◇ Irons by Willie Wilson, Robert Wilson, Robert White, John Gray and F&A Carrick

***No Non-wood shaft clubs allowed.

***No Otey Crisman putters allowed.

***No Callaway Hickory Sticks allowed.

***No Rubber slip-on grips. Leather wrap only.

Clubs made in the period 1900-1905 that have the characteristics of 19th century clubs may be eligible to obtain a special exemption and be approved for NHC play upon application to the Championship Director/Equipment Committee. Photos required.

GOLF BAGS

Open Division:

NO GOLF BAGS ALLOWED IN COMPETITIVE PLAY

(allowed in practice or Foursomes)

Clubs to be carried under arm, without bag.

Reserve/Sporting/Women's Divisions:

**GOLF BAGS PERMITTED IN TOURNAMENT PLAY
ONLY with medical waiver from Championship Director**

(allowed in practice or Foursomes)

Clubs to be carried under arm, without bag.

Vintage Division

GOLF BAGS PERMITTED IN TOURNAMENT PLAY

(No riding carts permitted)

All equipment used in the NHC Tournament is subject to authentication and approval by the equipment/rules committee. If in doubt, contact the Championship Committee as far in advance of the tournament as possible for a ruling.

2023 NATIONAL HICKORY CHAMPIONSHIP DRESS CODE

GENTLEMEN:

OPEN, RESERVE & SPORTING DIVISIONS

Trousers— Long trousers or Knickerbocker trousers with knee socks (preferably solid color socks) only. Knickers are knee-length and fairly tight.

Prefer **No** plus-fours (i.e. baggy, 1920s-style knee-trousers please!) or plus-sixes.

Kilts - permitted. Don't forget the sporran!

Shirt—Long sleeve shirt (roll up sleeves if you get warm). **No** knit golf shirts.

Tie (required for men)—Bow tie, neck tie, ascot or cravat.

Accessories—Vest or waistcoat allowed; (modern) golf glove permitted.

Shoes—Any style/color golf shoe permitted. Soft spikes or molded soles, please.

Hat—Must be appropriate for period. Wide brimmed straw or felt hat, top hat, bowler or derby, flat cloth cap (Hogan cap) or short-billed games or cricket caps. **No** baseball-type caps or modern visors.

Note: Overly floppy plus-fours and argyle socks are not permitted in the Open Division and are discouraged from use in the Reserve Division. These are more commonly seen in the 1920s.

GENTLEMEN: VINTAGE DIVISION

As above with the exception that plus fours and plus sixes are permitted. Tie and long sleeve shirt are required.

INTERNATIONAL FEATHERY CHALLENGE

Long trousers only, no knickers or kilts.

See old photos of Tom Morris, Allan Robertson, the Parks and Dunns for ideas on mid 19th century attire. Don't be afraid to be creative.

Apparel outlined in this guide is required for the rounds of competitive golf. At all other times (Foursomes, practice, Thursday reception, Friday dinner, etc.) casual clothing is allowed and encouraged. The IFC has its own code but changing outfits for later play in the Foursomes is permitted.

LADIES:

WOMEN'S & SPORTING DIVISIONS

Skirt or dress—Approximately ankle length.

Blouse or shirt—Please try to use period style. **No** knit golf shirts.

Hat—Attempt to maintain a period appearance. **No** visors.

Accessories—Vest, jacket, sweater or scarf allowed. Shoes, gloves, ties permitted as outlined for gentlemen. Since many lady's outfits have small or no pockets a small sack, satchel, basket or handbag is permitted for balls and 'necessary' accoutrements.

LADIES: VINTAGE DIVISION

As above but shorter dresses/skirts accepted

Apparel Philosophy:

The National Hickory Championship is a golf tournament not a costume party. Apparel is not expected to be authentic 19th century but merely to replicate the general type of clothing worn by golfers of the period. Please exercise good judgment but also be as comfortable as possible. Summer temperatures can be quite warm. In many of the past years' events media outlets—newspapers, magazines, TV/film—have been present and appreciate the 19th century image of the NHC.

Prizes are presented for the best dressed man and woman at the NHC.

Friday is photo day and you may choose that day to look your best if you bring more than one outfit.