



Press Release No. 9

Hickory Golf Masters SA

The Hickory Masters 2027 returns to Villa d'Este next September

Lugano, 10. September 2026

The only major tournament in hickory golf, the Hickory Masters, returns to Lake Como in autumn 2027. From 15 to 17 September 2027, the Circolo Golf Villa d'Este, which is over a hundred years old, will be entirely dedicated to the Hickory Masters 2027. The battle for the coveted Silver Rake Niblick will be decided over two rounds of stroke play. For the first time, the major tournament will be preceded by a Hickory Pro-Am.

The 2026 Hickory Masters marked the birth of a legend: the very first major tournament in the history of Hickory golf. The finest Hickory golfers of the third millennium – professionals and ambitious amateurs from 16 nations and four continents – competed in stroke play on 13–14 May using original golf clubs dating from before 1935, crowning Markus Brier (Austria) as the first Hickory Major champion in history. The feedback from both participants and the public was overwhelmingly enthusiastic.

The organisers at Hickory Golf Masters SA (HGM), the body behind the tournament, are therefore delighted to announce today that the Hickory Major will be held for the second time as early as next year. “The Circolo Golf Villa d'Este on Lake Como is the perfect venue for our tournament. Both the course layout and the historic clubhouse are well-suited to Hickory golf, which is why we have decided to hold the second edition of the Hickory Masters on this course as well,” says HGM co-founder Paolo Quirici. The tournament is moving from May to the autumn and will take place from 15 to 17 September 2027.



'Autumn is the most beautiful time of year in this region and, in our experience, the course is in top condition in September,' says Quirici, himself one of the finest hickory golfers of our time. When the leaves begin to turn colour, the light softens and the temperatures shift from summery heat to early-autumn warmth, it's not just a feast for the eyes. The risk of thunderstorms also decreases.

Pro-Am ahead of the major tournament

The path to the title – and thus to the coveted Silver Rake Niblick – will once again involve two rounds of stroke play in 2027 (16–17 September). The trophy is a 1:1 replica, crafted from sterling silver, of the first hybrid club, which in 1895 was decades ahead of its time. The Major title is awarded in an open competition. At the same time, gentlemen golfers will be competing for honours in the Professionals, Amateurs and Senior Amateurs categories.

A Pro-Am is now on the programme for the first official day of the tournament. "With the Pro-Am, we want to open up the event to Hickory golfers who feel at home in our community but do not feel confident enough to play two rounds of stroke play in such a major tournament, or who do not qualify for a place in the major tournament due to the handicap limit," says Quirici.

The field for the 2027 Hickory Masters is limited to 80 golfers. "Twenty starting places are reserved for professionals, who will also play in the ProAm," explains Quirici. The professionals will compete for prize money on all three days of the tournament (2026: 30,000 euros). The remaining 60 places will be allocated to amateurs. If there are more than 80 entries, the handicap limit of 18 will be lowered accordingly.

Those who do not want to miss the opportunity to take part can join the **waiting list for the Hickory Golf Masters 2027 and the Pro-Am here:**
<https://hgm.golf/hickory-masters-2027-waiting-list>



Unique because it's authentic

The Hickory Masters is unique because – unlike other hickory tournaments – it is played exclusively with original hickory golf clubs manufactured before 1935. Players also wear clothing from the early 1930s. Through this dress code, the hickory golfers pay tribute to the game and their fellow players. A hundred years ago, this was the norm in the sport – and it is still entirely justified today.

The fact that all this is still entirely justified in top-level golf in the third millennium was confirmed, amongst others, by the French Legends Tour professional and two-time Open de France winner Jean-François Remésy at the 2026 Hickory Masters: 'I love hickory golf. It's simply brilliant and a fantastic experience. It's incredibly fun playing with these clubs and the soft ball. The short game around the green is completely different, but it feels brilliant. I'm so happy to be here.'

www.hgm.golf

ABOUT HICKORY GOLF MASTERS SA

Hickory Golf Masters SA (HGM) is a Swiss company dedicated to preserving the earliest traditions of the game of golf. From materials to etiquette, HGM remains uncompromisingly committed to the authentic spirit of the game. Across all four areas of its work – the museum, tournaments, the club and the shop – HGM preserves the rules of the game, etiquette, equipment and the cultural heritage of hickory golf. At the same time, HGM is building a global community that shares this passion. "We are not only preserving history, but also carrying it forward."

HGM was co-founded by Paolo Quirici, Switzerland's most successful professional golfer and the 2013 Hickory Golf World Champion. His deep passion for Hickory Golf shapes HGM's vision. At his side is Sergey Sarkisants, also an enthusiast and the strategic mind behind the company's development. Together, they embody HGM's two core values: tradition and excellence.



HICKORY
GOLF MASTERS

For further details and information, please visit the Hickory Golf Masters SA website at <https://hgm.golf/press> or contact our press officer:

Mirjam Fassold
Press Officer

Phone Number: +41 79 430 70 85
E-Mail: media@hgm.golf

Hickory Golf Masters SA
Via Peri 11
CH-6900 Lugano

www.hgm.golf