

# News Release

Issued by Compro PR on behalf of the LinkedGolfers 2017 World Hickory Festival Oct 1st-7th

## Hickory Champs forecast to attract Record Entry

This year's LinkedGolfers World Hickory Festival played with pre-1936 hickory shafted clubs moves back to East Lothian where **Sandy Lyle** will defend his 2016 title over the bespoke hickory links of Kilspindie against a record field of 120 amateur and professional competitors from 20 countries. According to Festival CEO Ewan Glen, 85 entries have been received to date, so there are only a declining number of player spots remaining.

The Hickory Festival, now in its thirteenth year, will be played over Luffness, Kilspindie, Craigiellaw and Musselburgh Links, arguably the oldest golf course in the world where Mary Queen of Scots is reputed to have played in 1567, and has hosted no less than six Opens in the late nineteenth century.

The LinkedGolfers World Hickory Open is scheduled to be played over two days at Kilspindie (Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>), particularly suited to hickory golf, while a two day International Triangular Ryder Cup-format competition with teams from Europe, Scandinavia and The Americas, will be played over the unique Musselburgh Old Links (Oct 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>) bringing the 2017 Hickory Festival to a close.

Past winners of the Hickory Open have come from a range of courses throughout the world, and play off a variety of handicaps. For example previous winners have included 1987 Masters Champion Sandy Lyle, European tour player Andrew Marshall from Bamburgh GC in Norfolk, Paulo Quirici from Lugano Golf Club in Switzerland and Richard Valentine from Loretto School. Richard is the grandson of the famous Jessie Valentine.

Further information on [info@worldhickoryopen.com](mailto:info@worldhickoryopen.com) or Ewan Glen on 07796168381 / 01334840860 or Michael Westmacott on 01620844024. **Pictures from the event in October will be available from [neilhannahphoto@gmail.com](mailto:neilhannahphoto@gmail.com)**

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