



## 125<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AT NHCC

This year marks the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of New Haven Country Club, one of only twenty Connecticut golf clubs tracing its history back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century. New Haven is one of the twelve charter members of the Connecticut League of Golf Clubs, the predecessor to the Connecticut State Golf Association, which was founded by Mr. Robert D. Pryde. Mr. Pryde was a cabinet maker from Scotland and played an integral role in bringing golf to New Haven. While working his craft in 1894 at the homes of New Haven's founders, Professor Theodore Woolsey of Yale, and Mr. Henry Hotchkiss, the three eventually teamed up and in 1895 built the New Haven Golf Club, then located near present day Albertus Magnus College. After Professor Woolsey grew frustrated by the number of Yale students playing the course, he and others would go on to formally establish the New Haven Country Club on March 24, 1898. Mr. Pryde, who was also an apprentice and golf club maker at Scotsraig Golf Club in Scotland before coming to America, would also build New Haven's first golf course, and work at the club for many years. Mr. Willie Park, Jr., the two-time Open Champion and member of the World Golf Hall of Fame, redesigned the course in 1922 and, 101 years later, the course's layout remains true to Mr. Park's original design. Mr. Park designed 170 courses around the world, including Sunningdale, Maidstone, and Olympia Fields (North), and New Haven retains in its archives Mr. Park's original routing map, one of only a few known to exist.

New Haven has a rich and storied history. Its membership has included the "first golfing president" and Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, Mr. William Howard Taft, the "founder of American football," Mr. Walter Camp, and a former PGA Professional, Mr. Brett Stegmaier, along with countless other notable business and community leaders in their respective fields. Its historic clubhouse, designed by New York City architect, Mr. Grosvenor Atterbury, of McKim, Mead & White, was modeled after Scottish clubhouses of the era. Although fully modernized, the clubhouse retains its historic charm, including its iconic men's locker room, pro shop and front porch overlooking the 9<sup>th</sup> hole. New Haven has hosted 6 Connecticut Open Championships, 14 Connecticut Amateur Championships, the New England Amateur and numerous CSGA qualifiers. The golf course's large, fast, and undulating greens are the envy of other Connecticut golf clubs and remain the course's best and most durable defense against today's long hitters. In 2015, a modern short game practice area was added and dedicated in honor of former member Frederick Morgan "Buzz" Taylor Jr. whose love for the game led to his serving as a volunteer with the United States Golf Association (USGA) for 14 years and serving as President of the USGA in 1998-99.



Possessed with a keen appreciation and respect for its past, New Haven has always been forward-thinking, and takes pride in being one of the first country clubs in the entire nation to host, in 1903, a Women's Club Championship, a tradition that has continued up through the present. Today, New Haven has an inclusive and richly diverse membership, and it embraces diversity within all facets of its operations, including in its governance and management and professional teams and the members who support both, all the while maintaining the highest golfing traditions. One of the most beloved and immutable traditions at New Haven is that members come and play at their leisure – there are no tee times. The Board of Governors has embarked on an ambitious long-term plan to add additional amenities, including pickleball courts and a state-of-the-art, multi-purpose indoor exercise and practice facility with dining facility, so that members can enjoy the club year-round. The club recently expanded its outdoor patio and installed two new paddle ball courts. Finally, the Board of Governors has recently announced, in conjunction with Mr. Brian Schneider of Renaissance Golf Design, plans to make New Haven Country Club's course the single most authentic and well-preserved Willie Park, Jr. course in the United States.

These are exciting times for members of the New Haven Country Club. During its 125<sup>th</sup> year, New Haven will continue to incorporate and improve upon its long history and traditions while embracing the challenges and reaping the rewards associated with providing its members with a world-class country club experience for the next 125 years. New Haven will be formally celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on May 26, 2023, during which it will be honoring its second golf professional, Mr. Robert "Bobby" Andrew, who was originally from Monkton, Scotland.

Additional information may be found at: <https://www.newhavenccl.com/welcome> or by contacting:

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