

September 5, 2023

Dearest Competitor:

I'm delighted to welcome you to the distinguished assembly of hickory golfers competing in the inaugural Gloria Minoprio Challenge on September 16th in Port Townsend.

Please remember the basic rules...**all contestants may use only one club (an original hickory-shafted cleek, or driving iron, of 25-degrees of loft or less--clubs will be checked upon arrival, no replicas allowed for this event), you must wear trousers, no measuring devices of any kind are permitted, or golf bags, and you must have fun, that is required to win. Any USGA-approved golf ball is allowed. There will be no handicapping for this 9-hole tournament, it is straight stroke play to decide the winners.** 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers will win a custom metal golfbag tag commemorating the event, plus bragging rights for one year.

Port Townsend is a bit dry, so you may expect a lot of roll; be advised! God help those who get into the bunkers, we have no advice for you. **All balls must be putted out; there are no gimmies.**

There are special tee markers for every tee box. All players will play from one set of tees regardless of age, gender, intellect, or disability. Of special note...**Hole two** is a short par three hole of 125 yards, but there is significant foliage visually obscuring part of the green and path to it. I recommend bringing some balls you may not fear being separated from for this tee shot, or, bump one up left of the green (free from obstruction) and take your chances from there. Another option is to tee it high and let it fly, just be respectful of the homes on the other side of the green, please. The hole is short.

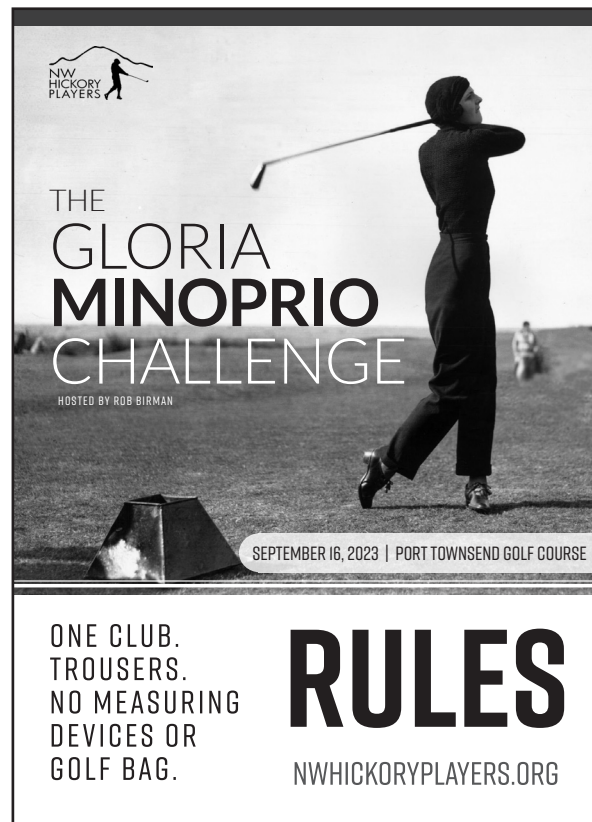
Tree Roots. If your ball comes to rest next to a tree root, you may take relief as with the immovable obstruction rule. You do not get relief if you are simply standing on a tree root.

Out of Bounds and Lost Balls: NWHP local rule is in effect: If you believe a ball may be lost or out of bounds, you should hit a provisional ball. If you do not hit a provisional ball, and you are unable to find your ball within three minutes of commencing your search, the ball is deemed lost. Rather than going back to the tee (or the last location from where you hit your ball), you may establish a reference point in the fairway within two club lengths of the edge of the rough nearest where your ball is deemed to be lost or out of bounds. You may then drop a ball anywhere in the area between that reference point and where your ball is deemed to be lost or out of bounds, no closer to the hole. Add two penalty strokes to your score.

If you run out of balls, it is very likely you can find others in the bushes. I lost two gutties last week and one mesh ball this week already. I wish I was joking. That's \$70 worth of McIntyre golf balls! The first three holes provide the greatest chances to lose a ball, FYI.

Players are asked to use the official scorecard which you will receive at check-in. Please turn in your score at the end of your round. Players may go around for a second-nine after the prizes are awarded. See the pro shop for this option. You can play any style of golf on your second nine you feel comfortable admitting to. There will be no prizes for holes 10-18. Port Townsend has different tee boxes for every hole, so mix it up! There is a driving range with fairly soft modern golf balls on site, and a chipping green. The putting green has not been maintained this year, so we're all S.O.L. in terms of putting practice. Gloria called to say, "tough noogies."

We tee off at 10:30 a.m. Let's have FUN! Pairings will be sent a few days prior to the event.



NW HICKORY PLAYERS

THE
GLORIA
MINOPRIO
CHALLENGE

HOSTED BY ROB BIRMAN

SEPTEMBER 16, 2023 | PORT TOWNSEND GOLF COURSE

ONE CLUB.
TROUSERS.
NO MEASURING
DEVICES OR
GOLF BAG.

RULES

NWHICKORYPLAYERS.ORG

Robert C. Birman

PLAYER'S ATTIRE PROVIDES MINOR SENSATION
GOLF
West Representatives Fail in Ladies' Championship

Attired from head to foot in black, and wearing trousers, socks and masculine walking shoes, Miss Gloria Minoprio provided a sensation Westward Ho yesterday when she played in the English Ladies Close Golf Championship. Miss Minoprio was beaten five and three by Miss Nancy Halsted, but she had attracted the largest gallery and set competitors and spectators chattering about her costume. In the club, her costume was discussed with animation. The chairman of the L.G.U. said, "I much regret there should be this departure from the usual golfing costume in the championship." Miss Minoprio herself was unconcerned when she finished her match. "Most certainly trousers are the ideal wear for golf," she said. "I think they are much more convenient and respectable than skirts, especially when one is playing in a wind." Miss Minoprio's garb distracted attention more than the championship itself, but there were many interesting matches, in 3 of which Miss Wanda Morgan, the winner two years ago, was beaten four and three by Miss Dorothy Pearson, who has been runner-up both in the British and English championships. Mrs Herbert Guedalla, who beat Mrs. Goodman by seven and five, the only surviving past holder among the last players. All of the West of England representatives went out in the second round. Miss Joy Winn (Aldeburgh) beat Mies Watson-Williams (Bristol and Clifton, 8 and 6); Miss N. Robertson (Pitdown) beat Ms. F. Hosegood (Minehead and West Somerset), by one hole; Miss B. Soper (St. Enodoc) beat Miss N. Nicholetts (Bath) 3 and 2; and Mrs. S. V. Hicks (Roehampton) beat Mrs. A. S. Blight (Minehead and West Somerset) 3. 1.

-- *Western Daily Press - Wednesday 04 October 1933*

TROUSERED PLAYER

Something of a sensation was caused by the appearance of Miss Gloria Minoprio (Littlestone), the one-club player when she arrived on the first tee against Miss Nancy Halsted. Miss Minoprio made an almost secretive appearance, and the onlookers beheld a pretty young girl golfer, attired in black trousers a black Jersey and black hat, wearing white kid gloves, in which she played throughout. From the start, Miss Minoprio was out golfed by Miss Halsted who wielded her full complement of clubs to good purpose, winning by 5 and 3, the only halved holes of the 18 being the thirteenth and fourteenth.

-- *Daily Herald - Wednesday 04 October 1933*

NOT FROM THE B.B.C.
COLONEL BOGEY, AUTOCRAT OF GOLF
The Caddies' Sweetheart

WHEN Gloria appeared in pants
Photographers swarmed round like ants
And started straight to "shoot,"
While women golfers stood in rows,
Each with an elevated nose,
Too ladylike to hoot.

When Gloria came on the tee
Her caddie chortled loud with glee—
A single club she had!

But Colonel Bogey had a fit.
He snorted loud, his lip he bit—
The girl was plainly mad!

When Gloria had gone away
The ladies chairman had her say:
She spoke of her regret
That such a thing had come to pass!
The Colonel spluttered in his glass—
He hasn't finished yet!

By gad, sir! I don't mind admitting I was stymied! And for Colonel Bogey to be stymied is, I assure you, unprecedented. It was only after adjourning to the nineteenth hole and putting down a couple of quick ones that I was able to collect my scattered thoughts, together with a few expressions which I should hesitate to use in the hearing of those who have not served with the Gurkhas.

Even now my blood pressure is not normal, but I am ready to face the crisis created by Miss Gloria Minoprio, who took part in the English Women's Golf Championship clad in a black polo jersey, closely fitting black hat, black creased trousers, black pointed shoes and cream gauntlet gloves.

The wearer of this outfit has been described in the Press as "strikingly beautiful," but who wants beauty in a bunker? Personally, a good-looking wench puts me off my game—but I will say for women golfers, as a class, that this very rarely happens!

Although after the match the chairman of the Ladies' Golf Union expressed regret at Gloria's " departure from the usual golfing costume," I am told that there are cads who actually defend the girl!

They argue that there is no reason why a woman golfer should not wear trousers, seeing that, when they took to plus-fours, men helped themselves to what in grandmother's day were known as "combinations."

But not content with defying dress etiquette, this confounded girl had the impudence, sir, to go round with only one club! One club. Indeed! This may make her popular with caddies, but it won't win her the respect of golfers or ironmongers!

What would you think of a tennis champion who appeared with less than a dozen racquets? You'd think that he was no better than a darned cricketer!

One club! My minimum is eight!
And I'm not yet a fogey,
As any plus-four man can state
Who plays 'gainst Colonel Bogey!

And if of clubs an extra three
I need, or even more, sir.
Their weight has no effect on me—
Gad! what are caddies for, sir?

A man who ventured forth to play,
E'en though a post-war junker,
Armed with a single club I'd slay
And bury in a bunker!

Who is this Gloria, who is she?
Her impudence infernal
Of adjectives has beggared me—
Although I am a Colonel!

-- *John Bull - Saturday 14 October 1933*

WOMAN GOLFER WEARS TROUSERS
"More Respectable Than Skirts"
CROWD SURPRISED AT WESTWARD HO!
Sartorial Sensation In Championship

Meet Miss Gloria D. Minoprio, the woman golfer who provided a sartorial sensation in the English championship for women at Westward Ho! yesterday.

Incredulity, mingled with amazement, was shown on the faces of golfers of the old school when they saw Ms. Minoprio come on the course wearing beautifully creased black trousers, black knitted pullover, red leather jacket, and black woolen hat.

"She is wearing trousers," was the universal exclamation of the onlookers. She was.

"Most certainly trousers are ideal wear for golf," Miss Minoprio told me. "I think they are much more convenient and respectable than skirts."

Said Miss N. B. Lloyd Williams, chairman of the Ladies' Golf Union: "I much regret there should be this departure from the usual golfing costume at the championship."

Miss Minoprio was beaten five and three by Miss Nancy Halsted, but she had attracted the largest gallery, and set competitors and spectators chattering about her costume. But she was quite unconcerned at the buzz of surprise which greeted her, and immediately when the match was over she walked to her car and drove off without entering the clubhouse.

Her caddie had carried a spare club, together with six balls, cleaning sponge and peg tee with a red tassel." She was certainly not good enough with one club to overcome a steady player carrying a full set, but Miss Minoprio was cool and smiling on the 15th green, when, still with white gloves on, she congratulated her opponent. In the clubhouse her costume was discussed with animation.

SECOND ROUND FOUR AYESTCOUNTRY ENTRANTS SURVIVE All but four Westcountry entrants for the English women's close championship were eliminated in the second-round play on the Hoyal North Devon Club links. Nine from Devon... The second round provided thrills. One was the defeat by a substantial margin of Miss Wanda Morgan, who held the title two years ago, by Miss D. Pearson. The other was, of course, the appearance—for the first time in any women's championship match in North

Devon, or, it is believed, in the history of the championship—of a competitor in trousers—Miss Gloria Minoprio (Liddlestone).

The happiest caddie boy on the course was the one who carried for Miss Minoprio. Instead of the usual heavy bag and collection of clubs, he carried comparatively little.

-- *Western Morning News - Wednesday 04 October 1933*

GOLFER IN BLACK TROUSERS

From Our Special Correspondent WESTWARD HO! (Devon), Tuesday

The one-club golf girl, Miss Gloria Minoprio, played here today in the English Women's Golf Championship wearing— Close-fitting men's evening -dress trousers, creased; Black shoes and brown socks; A tight, long-sleeved polo jumper; A black beret relieved by a shining clasp.

Her face was powdered chalk white, and she wore cream leather gloves. Asked as to the attitude likely to be shown towards trousered competitors, Lloyd Williams, chairman of the championship committee, in a semi-official statement, said, "I much regret there should be this departure from the usual golfing costume at the championship." This opinion was endorsed at the annual meeting of championship competitors which followed the day's play. All through her game, Miss Minoprio used only one club, a heavy iron of the cleek type, and said she entered the championship to try to prove that only one is necessary. She was outgolfed by Miss Nancy Halsted (Banstead Downs) who wielded her full complement of clubs, and won by 5 and 3, they only halved holes in the fifteen being the thirteenth and fourteenth.

-- *Daily News (London) - Wednesday 04 October 1933*

CONCERNING GOLF

By HENRY LONGHURST

I TAKE this opportunity of extending my very sincere congratulations to Miss Dorothy Pearson, who won the English Ladies' Close Championship at Westward Ho! She had waited longer than most golfers of her undoubted ability for a recognition that was bound to come in the end. She had already been in the final of both this and the Ladies' Open Championship, each time without success, but had somewhat faded out of the picture during the last two years. It was not only the fact of her winning, but the manner in which she did it, that was so impressive. After beating Miss Wanda Morgan, whose chances had been regarded as particularly bright this year, in the first round, she became an established favorite for the tournament (which is in itself a somewhat embarrassing experience), and from that point remained unshaken to the end. The final was one of the best matches of its kind that has ever been seen. Certainly I can remember few which I have enjoyed more. It had every virtue that a final should have. First of all, it was played between two players who had proved themselves beyond doubt to be the best in their respective halves of the draw. The setting was right, the weather was right, and the gallery was large enough to do justice to the importance of the occasion but was at the same time composed for the most part of intelligent persons who had come to see the golf as opposed to the fun," a rare enough combination in these days. The match itself was a good one, and was in fact much closer than the margin of Miss Mary Johnson's defeat (5 up and 3 to play) would indicate. Better still, the first round took

exactly two hours and a quarter, in which time Miss Pearson required to hit her ball no more than seventy-five times. Now this was not what I feature usually termed a Press 75 it was a genuine 75. I saw and enjoyed every shot of it, and the only concession which is included in it is a putt of about 3 ft. on the 11th green. To hole out at Westward Ho! in 75 is in itself a creditable achievement, with which most scratch men would be more than satisfied but to do so in the final of a championship, against an opponent who gave no indication of being likely to let slip the least opportunity that was offered to her, was quite superlative. In fairness to Eric Martin Smith and John de Forest, to whose scores in the Amateur Championship Final of 1931 on this course Miss Pearson's round was favorably compared, it must be recalled that conditions were manifestly easier the other day and that forward tees make a great difference at Westward Ho! At the same time, had either of these gentlemen, under exactly similar conditions, been offered a 75 on the first tee before they started, I do not doubt what their answer would have been. This is a time when, if an errand boy falls from his bicycle, it is labelled by our lords and masters in Fleet Street as a sensation or a "bombshell," but neither of these hackneyed and hard-worked words could do adequate justice to the pandemonium that was caused on the first day by the appearance of **Miss Gloria Minoprio**, who will go down to posterity with an immortality that is denied to kings and bishops, generals and statesmen, as "the lady who played in trousers." Her announcement at great length, on the night preceding the first round, of the fact that she intended to play with only one club and of her various reasons for so doing caused excitement enough and ensured the presence at an early hour on the first tee not only of caddies, competitors, and spectators, but also of the entire late-rising golfing Press but the manner of her attire when she did arrive caused a consternation such as has never before been witnessed on a golf course. I am saved the trouble of describing the astonishing spectacle by the fact that a photograph of Miss Minoprio has by now appeared in every picture-paper in Europe. Let it suffice to say that it was remarkable indeed. The chairman of the Ladies' Golf Union came out with a gratuitous announcement to the effect that, "as a personal opinion she deplored any change from the traditional golfing attire," and at the general meeting which followed one lady threatened to challenge Miss Minoprio dressed in crinolines (petticoat) and a poke bonnet, or alternatively to play her using a full set of clubs, each in strict rotation. I think, however, that perhaps the best comment on the whole affair was a silent one. In the Press room at Westward Ho! there hung a picture that is well known to many golfers. It depicts the four semi-finalists in the Ladies' Championship of 1893, including the winner, Lady Margaret Scott. They are holding great thick-gripped clubs and are clad in weird blouses and huge voluminous skirts, while on their heads are perched little straw hats shaped like miniature pill-boxes. At the side of this picture was pasted the well-known photograph of Miss Minoprio striding along in her black trousers, bearing the legend 1933. Forty years on, at the conclusion of the proceedings the cause of all the discussion departed forthwith to practice at Porthcawl, where the Ladies' Open Championship is to be held next year. I do most devoutly trust that she will be still there when the time comes, for it is such little excitements as this that make the life of the golfing journalist worth while.

-- *The Tatler* - Wednesday 18 October 1933

