



YEARBOOK 2015

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William Hester's caddie boys showed Sweden how to swing



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PICTURES FROM FLOMMENS GOLFKLUBB'S COLLECTION

1. Benny Kristoffersson in 1948. He returned home to be pro at Flommen. 2. Knut Ekberg in 1949. He played with Åke (below) in the Canada Cup in 1963, when Flommen represented Sweden. 3. Hans-Erik Christersson in 1952. He was also called "The man with the perfect swing". 4. Åke Bergkvist in 1948. He has played 15 times for Sweden in the World Cup.

Eight boys from Flommens golfklubb set out as professionals when golf started to grow in Sweden.

They were all trained by William Hester from Hoylake, professional at nearby Falsterbo Golfklubb.

Flommens Golfklubb was formed in 1935, when Swedish golfers were mainly businessmen, professors or officers. But the Flommen members were engine drivers, plumbers or fishermen. They had all learnt golf as caddies at Falsterbo.

New clubs looking for professionals asked Hester for advice

and he recommended his boys for the jobs. The first Swedish golf professional was Karl-Erik Montén in 1925. Hester offered to find him a job as assistant in Hoylake, but Montén got fed up trying to teach old ladies hit a ball.

Then followed Frans Olsson, Bertil Ahlström, Eric Hester (William's son), Hans-Erik Christersson, Åke Bergkvist, Knut Ekberg and Benny Kristoffersson. Most of them served their clubs for decades, or longer. Out of 13 Swedish players in the 1963 Penfold Cup, six were former Flommen caddies.



Golf historians have new website



The Swedish Society of Golf Historians has launched a new website. Most of it is in Swedish, but there are also pages in English. So you are most welcome to visit us at www.golfhistoriska.se

Finland vs. Sweden – a win for golf

Sweden won the seventh Nordic Hickory Match versus Finland, but the players agreed that golf was the real winner. The score was 12 up for Sweden on holes up after a match stretching over 144 holes. It was played in Keimola golfklubb, Helsinki.

Persimmon and blades swung again

Hasse Bergdahl, curator of the Swedish Golf Museum, invites Swedish players to come out and play with "classical" clubs. His ambition is to start a Championship when enough players have found steel shafted Mac Gregors, Wilsons or Slazengers.

SGS drew level with Bro-Bålsta GK

The team of the Swedish Golf Historians won the 12th hickory match against Bro-Bålsta GK for the Anders Janson Memorial, named after our first secretary. Both teams now have six wins.

New hickory champion holed in one



Johan Moberg, left, claimed his first Swedish Hickory Championship. Jörgen Isberg was second. To groove his already stylish swing Jörgen stepped into the "Vardon" golf machine, featured in the Swedish golf film "Den ofrivillige golfaren" ("The involuntary golfer").

Johan Moberg, professional at Norrköpings Golfklubb and one of six professionals in the field, won the 2014 Swedish Hickory Championship. He left the other players behind with a hole in one on the 31st hole and an eagle on the 32nd. The competition was held in hot summer weather at Bro-Bålsta Golfklubb, near Stockholm.

Defending champion Eva Adermark, Västerås, won a five-hole play-off over home player Frida Rydberg. Tomas Tedvik, Sönnertorps Golfklubb, won the seniors' competition.

JONAS FACK



The 2015 Championship will be played on 1–2 August over the links course of Flommens GK.

The matchplay Championship, played at Ljunghusens Golfklubb, was won by Jonas Fack, Helsingborg. This year's competition is at Motala Golfklubb near lake Vättern on 27–28 June.

The top players in both

Championships are awarded medals, made by Alexander Kirkwood & Son in Edinburgh. On the other side of the medal is a golfing scene from the Great Foursome in 1849. This die has been in use since 1882.

Lake balls saved golf in Sweden

Anders Engström of Rya GK, Helsingborg, has been rewarded by the Swedish Golf Historians for setting up the club's 80th anniversary exhibition last year.

It told a story from the 1940s, when supply of golf balls was cut off by war. One of the members, Karl-Axel Bunke, organized fishing for balls in the ponds on the course. He also developed an industrial process for painting the balls, which were sold to players around Sweden. This was all documented, setting an example for other clubs.



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The Swedish Society of Golf Historians. Please visit our website: www.golfhistoriska.se. There you will find Sveriges Hickorykalender (under "Kalender") with information about hickory golf tournaments in Sweden. President: Georg Kittel, georg.kittel@home.se. Hon Secretary: Hans Grandin, info@golfhistoriska.se. Editor of the yearbook: Pehr Thermaenius, pehr.thermaenius@gmail.com.