



HISTORY OF LAMBTON

Since its founding in 1902 by a group of Toronto gentlemen, Lambton Golf and Country Club has evolved through a remarkable journey. Led by Mr. A.W. Austin, President of the Dominion Bank and a group of his friends from the Spadina Golf Club, 150 acres of land was purchased in what was then known as Lambton Mills. The original Clubhouse was constructed over the winter of 1902-03 and was ready for the Club's official opening on June 13, 1903. Today, Lambton Golf and Country Club occupies 171 acres of rolling terrain defined by the Humber River and Black Creek.

Lambton's first Golf Captain, the great George S. Lyon oversaw the completion of the championship 18-hole course with assistance from American golf course architect Tom Bendelow. The nine-hole Valley course, completed in 1904, may well have been the first course designed for lady golfers. It is also noteworthy that tennis has been played at the Club almost continuously since 1904.

Lyon, who was born in 1859, remained Lambton's Captain for 23 years. He was an eight-time Canadian Amateur Champion (1898, 1900, 1903, 1905-06-07, 1912 and 1914), won the golf Gold Medal at the 1904 Olympics at Glen Echo Golf Club in St. Louis at the age of 46 and finished runner-up at the 1910 Canadian Open, held at Lambton. He was inducted into the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame in 1971.

Over the last Century, a number of noted golf course architects contributed some of their genius to the old course design including: A.W. Tillinghast, Harry Colt, Donald Ross, Stanley Thompson, Robbie Robinson and Graham Cooke. The most significant changes happened following Hurricane Hazel which hit land October 12, 1954. Hazel devastated much of the course with the lowest areas covered by as much as 25 feet of water. In the 1960's, a new Clubhouse was built to include curling. In 2001, a brand new Clubhouse was completed in time for the Club to celebrate its 100th anniversary.

Over the years, Lambton has hosted numerous provincial and national championships including: the Canadian Ladies' Amateur Championship, the Canadian PGA Championship, the very first Canadian Seniors Golf Association Championship, the Canadian Women's Senior Golf Association Championship, the Ontario Amateur and others. Most recently Alena Sharp won the 2004 Canadian PGA Women's Championship and the Club also hosted the Four Nations Team Championship as Canada defeated squads from Australia, New Zealand and Japan.

Lambton has hosted four Canadian Opens

- 1907 won by Percy Barrett
- 1910 won by Daniel Kenny
- 1925 won by Leo Diegel
- 1941 won by Sam Snead

Lambton has hosted four Canadian Amateurs

- 1907 won by George S. Lyon
- 1910 won by Fritz Martin
- 1919 won by W. McLuckie
- 1932 won by Gordon B. Taylor