

STRONG U. S. FINISH RETAINS WALKER CUP

by

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“AT about 3 o'clock this afternoon I thought the Walker Cup was half-way across the Atlantic.”

Charlie Coe was accepting the handsome international trophy for the United States team he captained, and he was pointing out what a very near thing it was that the British had not won.

The Walker Cup Match consists of four foursomes and eight singles, all at 36 holes. Last month at the Minikahda Club in Minneapolis the score was 8 to 3 in favor of the United States, with one match halved.

But the mere score tends to obscure other important facts, such as the wonderful effort made by the British, the brave winning finish of the Americans, and the effect which all this may have on the future of the competition.

The foursomes had resulted in a 2-1 advantage for the United States, with one matched halved (Walker Cup matches are not played to a conclusion if all square after 36 holes). Next day in the singles, at the 18-hole juncture, Great Britain led in three matches, America led in three matches, and the two other matches were even. It could not possibly have been tighter. In fact, lumping those eight matches together, the British had a net lead of one hole.

After 27 holes, there was an edge for America, which led in four matches, to three for the British, with one square. There still was nothing in it.

Still later, three games were even with the end in sight—one had six holes to go, one five holes and one two holes. America pulled through in all three. Had the British won these three matches, they would have won the Walker Cup, 6 to 5, assuming no change in the other games.

Series Apparently "Saved"

These facts are perhaps significant in the



USGA Executive Committeemen lined up on the tee at Minikahda, sporting the new emblem on their blazer pockets, are from left to right: Charles L. Peirson, John M. Winters, Jr., William C. Chapin, C. W. Benedict, William McWane.

history of the series. The Walker Cup competition has been going since 1922, and the Match last month was the 16th. The United States has won all but one. Voices had been heard in Britain questioning the worth-whileness of the event—all unofficial, to be sure, but a sentiment just the same. And a fairly natural sentiment. Not only had the United States dominated the winning column but our future prospects were strong, having as we do several times more courses, golfers and competitions than does British amateur golf.

But among the believers in British golf were the members of the Walker Cup Selection Committee of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews. Headed by Raymond Oppenheimer, this Committee has spent the last two years in searching out all likely prospects. They came up with a

comparatively young and "new" team. They had outstanding leadership in their non-playing Captain, Gerald Micklem, and fine support in the R & A Championship Committee, of which the Chairman is N. C. (Bob) Selway.

The British program paid handsome dividends at Minikahda and seems certain to do so in future. Already the British are preparing for 1959, when the Match will be played at Muirfield, Scotland.

So the Walker Cup series has, in a sense, apparently been "saved." The meaning of this is deeper than just the continuation of a competition. It signifies the ongoing of friendships and close working relationships which exist among British and American golfers and golf administrations, as well as the sense of affinity between the golfing publics of both nations. Sports can forge some strong bonds, and thus it is in golf.

The American Finish

The ability to deliver their best at the finish has seen American teams through to victory in the past, and so it was at Minikahda. Charlie Coe's side were magnificent.

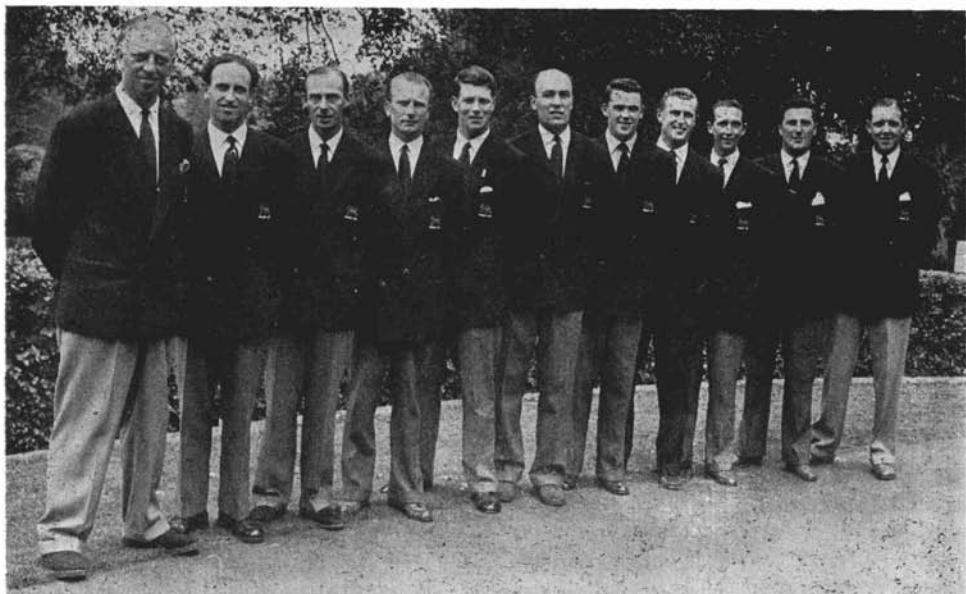
The pace was set by Billy Joe Patton.

In the No. 1 singles he was 5 down after 18 holes to Reid Jack, the British Amateur Champion. Billy Joe wiped out the deficit in the next nine holes, which he played in 32, three under par, and gained his ultimate advantage of 1 up on the 35th. No wonder his British friends refer to him as "that old scoundrel." Billy Joe is an inspirational golfer who often can evoke his best game when it counts most.

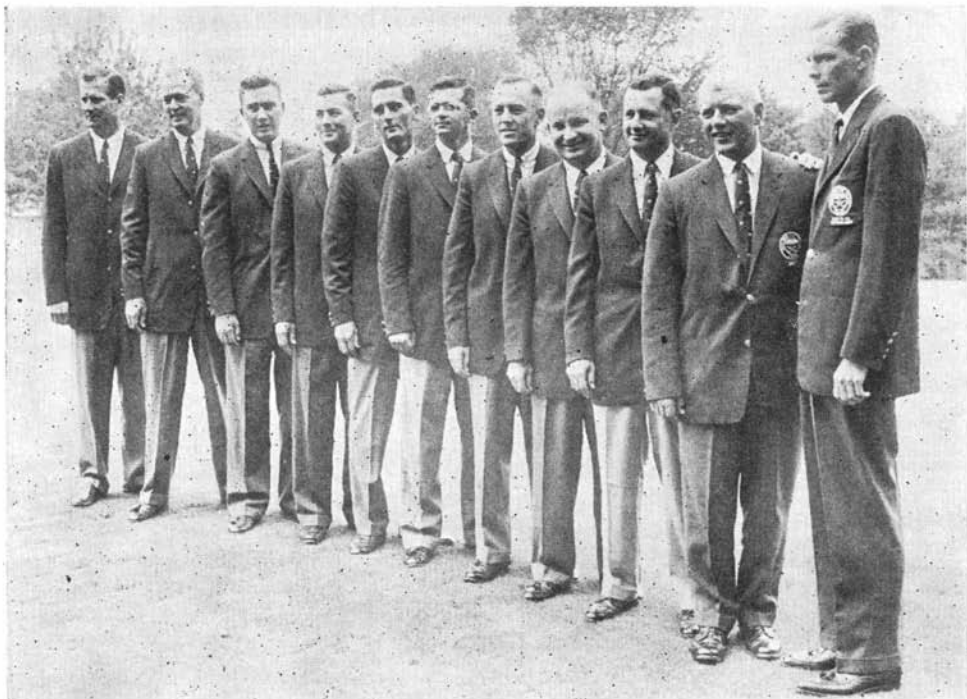
There was another great American finish in the No. 2 singles. Joe Carr, British Amateur Champion of 1953, and Bill Campbell, our Walker Cup Captain of 1955, were even after 18; Carr was 2 up after 27. Campbell won five of the next seven holes for a 3-and-2 victory. He was three under par for the last five.

Rex Baxter, one of our finest young players, met Alan Thirlwell in the third singles. They were even at 18. Baxter went out in 31 in the afternoon, and that was that.

William Hyndman, III, made it four in a row for the United States by 7 and 6 over Dr. Frank Deighton. The other American points were scored by Dr. Frank M. Taylor, Jr., who had a very close match with Douglas Sewell, and Pvt. Mason



The British Team, left to right: Gerald H. Micklem, Captain; Douglas Sewell, Philip F. Scrutton, Reid Jack, Alan Bussell, Dr. Frank W. G. Deighton, Alec Shepperson, Michael Bonallack, Joseph B. Carr, Alan Thirlwell, Guy B. Wolstenholme.



The winning US line-up. Left to right: William C. Campbell, William Hyndman, III, Rex Baxter, Jr., William J. Patton, Lt. Hillman Robbins, Jr., E. Mason Rudolph, Dr. Frank M. Taylor, Jr., Charles R. Kocsis, Arnold Blum, Joe E. Campbell, Charles R. Coe, Captain.

Rudolph, who defeated Philip Scrutton after being even with five holes to go.

Britain's point-winners in singles were their youngest player, 20-year-old Alan Bussell, and Guy Wolstenholme, whose victims were Joe Campbell and Lt. Hillman Robbins, Jr., respectively.

Bud Taylor probably expressed the experience of all the players when he said "I never worked so hard in a golf match." This is how the Walker Cup affects all the fine men who are privileged to represent their countries. It is for a cause higher than self.

Minikahda and Tot Heffelfinger

The competition had the benefit of wonderful preparations by Minikahda, whose committees did a superlative job under the General Chairmanship of Totton P. Heffelfinger, former USGA President. There was great public interest, some 6,000 witnessing the day of singles matches.

In an international team match the Rules of Golf permit use of both the small British

ball and the larger American ball. The British used the American ball, with occasional and rare exceptions.

For the first time in history the American side did not include a single former winner of either the United States or the British Amateur Championship. The British side included two winners of the British title—Reid Jack and Joe Carr.

Charles Kocsis was a member of the USGA Team 19 years after his first selection. He played on the Teams of both 1938 and 1949.

Two of the participants are busy professional men—Dr. Frank Deighton is a physician in Glasgow, and Dr. Frank Taylor is a dentist. Alec Shepperson, 21-year-old Briton, was recently graduated from Oxford and is studying law. The American side claimed two members from military services—Mason Rudolph from the Army and Hillman Robbins from the Air Force. It was a Match played in the best spirit of amateurism.

1957 INTERNATIONAL MATCH FOR THE WALKER CUP

Held at the Minikahda Club, Minneapolis, Minn.

August 30 and 31, 1957

FOURSOMES

GREAT BRITAIN	Points	UNITED STATES	Points
Joseph B. Carr and F. W. G. Deighton	0	Rex Baxter, Jr. and William J. Patton (2 and 1) ..	1
Alan Bussell and Philip F. Scrutton	0	William C. Campbell and Frank M. Taylor, Jr. (4 and 3)	1
Reid Jack and Douglas Sewell (1 up)	1	Arnold S. Blum and Charles R. Kocsis	0
A. E. Shepperson and Guy B. Wolstenholme (halved)	0	Hillman Robbins, Jr. and E. Mason Rudolph (halved)	0
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Total Foursomes	1	Total Foursomes	2

SINGLES

Reid Jack	0	William J. Patton (1 up)	1
Joseph B. Carr	0	William C. Campbell (3 and 2)	1
Alan Thirlwell	0	Rex Baxter, Jr. (4 and 3)	1
F. W. G. Deighton	0	William Hyndman, III (7 and 6)	1
Alan Bussell (2 and 1)	1	Joe E. Campbell	0
Douglas Sewell	0	Frank M. Taylor, Jr. (1 up)	1
Philip F. Scrutton	0	E. Mason Rudolph (3 and 2)	1
Guy B. Wolstenholme (2 and 1)	1	Hillman Robbins, Jr.	0
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Total Singles	2	Total Singles	6

Grand Total, Great Britain

Grand Total, United States

Non-playing Captain: Gerald H. Micklem

Non-playing Captain: Charles R. Coe

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