NEWCOMERS SUCCEED IN SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

By P. J. BOATWRIGHT, JR. USGA Assistant Director

The rapid turnover of personnel in USGA competitions, an indication of the broad range of quantity and quality of American amateur golf, carried through the Senior Championship this year.

Seven men who advanced to the quarter-final round of the 1960 Senior Amateur Championship were on hand at the Southern Hills Country Club, Tulsa, Okla., where the 1961 Championship was staged early in October. Only one of the seven, Richard H. Guelich, Hamburg, N. Y., was able to equal his 1960 performance.

Dexter H. Daniels, 56, of Winter Haven, Fla., won the Senior Amateur Championship on his first attempt. He defeated Col. William K. Lanman, Jr., also 56, of Golf, Ill., in the final match by 2 and 1. Col. Lanman was a first-round loser last year.

Michael Cestone, Montclair, N. J., the defending champion, lost in the first round to Herman M. Freydberg, New York City. With the exception of Guelich, who advanced to the semi-final round, the others who reached the round of eight in 1960 either failed to qualify at Southern Hills or were beaten in the first or second rounds.

The finalists, after five days of play under serene weather conditions, were confronted with a wind that blew in gusts up to 35 miles per hour.

Daniels, although out in 42, was 2 up. He maintained that lead through the 16th and ended the match by halving the 17th.

Joseph Morrill, Jr., Great Barrington, Mass., was the medalist at the site of the Championship with a 74, three over par.

Four qualifiers from the Chicago Qualifying Round reached the quarter-final round. They were Lanman; George Dawson, Glyn Ellyn, Ill.; Ted B. Payseur, Glenview, Ill.; and John W. Roberts, Chicago.

The others in the quarter-final round were Daniels; Guelich; Merrill L. Carlsmith, Hilo, Hawaii; and C. C. Taylor of Durban, Natal, South Africa. Taylor was one of two foreign players who qualified for the Championship. Francis Francis, Nassau, Bahamas, lost in the second round to Payseur.

In addition to the Championship Flight of 32, there were four consolation flights of 16 and a consolation stroke play event for all first round losers in which 27 competed. Archie J. Gonzales, Covington, La., won the latter by scoring 81.

The final-round results of the consolation flights were: First Flight—Eugene Bellville, Kansas City, Mo., defeated Sydney Goldstone, White Plains, N. Y., 20 holes; Second Flight—Robert M. Moore, Houston, Texas, defeated Col. C. D. McAllister, Orlando, Fla., 6 and 5; Third Flight—Eli P. Wheat, Jr., Overland Park, Kans., defeated George D. Wiggins, Albuquerque, N. M., 6 and 5; Fourth Flight—George E. Montague, Atlanta, Ga., defeated Walter Myers, Bradenton, Fla., 4 and 3.

The Association is grateful to Harold Lewis, Club President, and W. F. Catlett, General Chairman, and to all the other members of the Southern Hills Country Club for the hospitality extended to the competitors and officials.