

United States Golf Association

Office of the Secretary, 110 East 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.

TO THE MEMBER CLUBS OF THE UNITED STATES GOLF ASSOCIATION:

At the annual meeting of the Association held at Pittsburgh on January 8, 1927, recommendations of the Executive Committee proposing amendments to the Constitution of the Association dealing with the form of membership and the dues, were unanimously adopted. In addition, the suggestions concerning the method of carrying on the work of the Green Section were adopted. The action taken, briefly stated, was this:

Hereafter the Association will be comprised of active members only, at annual dues of \$30 per year. Membership in the Association will carry with it, without further charge, the Green Section service including THE BULLETIN. The U. S. G. A. Green Section, which has functioned until now as a separate corporation, will be dissolved and the work of the Green Section will be managed by a committee of the Association to be known as the Green Section Committee. Mr. Wynant D. Vanderpool has consented to serve as Chairman of this Committee and he will be assisted by such committeemen in various sections of the United States as he may designate. There will be no change in the personnel of the technical staff at Washington; likewise such men as Mr. H. Kendall Read, Dr. Walter S. Harban, Mr. H. Y. Barrow and many others who have worked so faithfully for the Green Section in the past will continue to do so in the future.

The total expenditures for the Green Section work in 1926 were \$20,001.93. This amount seems small when compared with the great sum of money spent annually in this country for maintenance and construction of golf courses. There are virtually four thousand active clubs in this country today, and placing the average cost of upkeep at the conservative figure of \$5,000 would mean a total expenditure of \$20,000,000 per year for maintenance alone. That there still is great waste in the expenditure of this money is beyond question, and that a large part of this waste can be prevented by a thorough knowledge of the principles governing golf course construction and the care and preservation of turf grasses is also beyond question. This educational and preventive work is only one branch of the activities of the Green Section, and small as its yearly budget has been, the Green Section in the few years since its inception has secured much reliable scientific information, has distributed this information in the most effective way, and the files of the Association contain many letters giving concrete instances of where reliance on the Green Section has saved clubs many thousands of dollars.

While the Green Section service is one of the material things which the Association offers to its members, we believe that the Association merits the support of golf clubs generally for the other things which it does for the good of the game, that is to say, its watchfulness that the highest standard of amateurism is maintained, its formulation and interpretation of the rules, its control of the implements of the game, and its administration of the National Championship competitions. These matters may seem of remote significance to the average golfer, whereas in fact they are not remote but bear directly on the very fundamentals of the game. It is only by carefully safeguarding the fundamentals that the game will continue to grow in the strength and vigor which it enjoys today.

Fixing the dues of \$30 per year the Executive Committee was guided by a desire to put the membership within the reach of all clubs. If the Green Section work is to be broadened and extended as the Committee believes it desirable, it will be necessary to increase the members of the Association accordingly. You are therefore urged to use your best efforts to bring in new member clubs to the end that the enrollment of the Association and the service rendered by it may be truly national in character.

WILLIAM C. FOWNES, JR.,
President, United States Golf Association.

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Office of the Secretary, 110 East 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GREEN SECTION WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION:

At the annual meeting of the Association held at Pittsburgh, January 8, 1927, the Green Section, which has functioned heretofore as a separate corporation was dissolved, and the work of the Green Section has been taken over directly by the Association, Mr. W. D. Vanderpool becoming chairman of the Green Section Committee.

There will be no change in the personnel of the Technical Staff at Washington; likewise such men as Mr. H. Kendall Read, Dr. Walter S. Harban, Mr. H. Y. Barrow, and many others, who have worked so faithfully for the Green Section in the past, will continue to do so in the future.

The Association has abolished the allied memberships and its membership now consists of active members only, at annual dues of \$30.00, which will include the Green Section service and THE BULLETIN. In fixing the dues at \$30.00 for the membership and the entire service, the Executive Committee was guided by a desire to put the membership within the reach of all. We are enclosing herewith an application form and hope that your Club will see fit to send in its application, not only that you may continue to receive all the benefits of the Green Section, but also that you may in this way assist in promoting and conserving the best interests and true spirit of the game.

H. H. RAMSAY,
Secretary.