

Women's Golf Branches Out

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Championship golf for women will be conducted on a much broader scale this year as a result of two innovations by the United States Golf Association. We sincerely hope that the new features will bring much pleasure to our contestants and will be good for the game.

Sectional Qualifying Rounds at 24 localities, from Boston to Los Angeles and from Minneapolis to New Orleans, have been instituted for the USGA Women's Amateur. One hundred twenty-eight players will compete entirely at match play in the Championship at the Merion Golf Club, Ardmore, Pa., September 12-17.

Cooperation Promised

The Women's Committee has considered this change for several years and last fall made a comprehensive survey of the views of sectional associations and players. The number of replies from both groups was most gratifying and showed a marked preference for Sectional Qualifying. Associations were unanimous in their willingness to cooperate.

The Sectional Qualifying will be at 36 holes stroke play. The first round will be played Tuesday, August 30, and the second Wednesday, August 31. Each entrant is to compete in the Section nearest her home unless she obtains permission from the USGA to transfer to another Section. Former USGA and British Champions, the 1948 Canadian Champion and the 1949 USGA Girls' Junior Champion will be exempt from Sectional Qualifying but must file regular entry applications, all of which must be received by 5 P.M. on August 12 at the USGA office. Entrants must be members of USGA Regular Member Clubs, if residents of the United States, and have handicaps not exceeding six strokes. The entry fee is \$7.

The second innovation is the new USGA Girls' Junior Championship, which will be played over the Bala course of the Philadelphia Country Club, August 15-20. Mrs. Edwin H. Vare, Jr., of Philadelphia, the former Miss Glenna Collett, has donated a perpetual Championship trophy.

Entries will be open to girl amateurs who will not have reached their 18th birthday by midnight of August 20, 1949, the day of the final. Residents of the United States must be members (or, through their families, enjoy the privileges) of USGA Regular Member Clubs. There is no handicap qualification. The entry fee is \$3, and entry applications must reach the USGA office by 5 P.M. on July 29.



There will be an 18-hole qualifying round Monday, August 15, to determine the 32 qualifiers for match play. The qualifiers will play 18-hole matches throughout. Players who do not qualify for the Championship will be drawn for other match-play flights, and there will be an 18-hole stroke-play competition Wednesday, August 17.

Accommodations will be available for girls, their female relatives and friends at Harcum Junior College, Bryn Mawr, Pa. Members of the USGA Women's Committee also will be quartered there. Mrs. Charles Dennehy of Lake Forest, Ill., is Chairman of the Girls' Junior Tournament Committee.