

# The Caddie-Master's Role

The values a good caddie-master can create, and conversely the harm that a bad caddie-master can do, are not always appreciated. This is pointed up sharply by a letter the USGA received recently from an applicant for a position as caddie-master.

The letter was written by Paul F. Lux, of Dayton, Ohio, and it contained such an interesting analysis of the role of the caddie-master that it merits wider attention:

"Any club can be a desirable influence for good in the community by offering gainful employment to boys, by offering them contacts with good citizens, by guiding them to correct thinking in regard to the various -isms of our times.

"The kids of today are not different from us at their age. They want to feel themselves a part of their community and a wanted asset to its working force. The 'hot-rodders', the kid gangs, the pool-room slickers and the organized work-stoppers are what they are only because they have no opportunity to challenge a creative and gainful work.

"Every human being born must in some way find out what he can and cannot do. No child is born with a developed sense of his own abilities and inabilities.

"If a boy can put the fire of his being alive into creative work, he is an asset

to society. If not, he becomes a delinquent. This I know from my own youth. A well-hit drive is the same sensation producer as a 'hot-rod'. I know because I have driven both. A well-organized caddie force can channel much of this energy into creative work.

"A club whose caddies are subjected to unfair practices such as favoritism, regulars, kickbacks and so forth is likely to have poor service. A club where fairness, job distribution, recreation and thoughtful leadership prevail is a club which has good caddies when they are needed. Caddies who are treated fairly and intelligently are, after training, able to offer the club members a working companionship that is beneficial to both.

"A good caddie makes for a better game. A better game makes for better members. Better members make for a better club.

"The contrary is also true. To prove the point, I could cite the case of a club where I caddied for a part of one summer. The club lasted only a few years. Its demise was attributed to financial difficulties. I insist that the members were fed up at seldom having caddies or, when they did, at being robbed of balls, tees, cigarettes. Golf under these circumstances was not a pleasure. The members did not enjoy themselves and the club folded."

## Handicap System Revised

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relatively small section of the country. Associations adopting the USGA Golf Handicap System are urged to solicit the assistance of neighboring associations which have had experience with our rating methods. The rating of all courses in any locality, State or section of the country by a committee from the association having jurisdiction over that territory is strongly recommended so that all ratings will be definitely related to one another and will show how the playing difficulty of any one

course compares with that of each of the others.

There are other minor changes and additions for clarification and emphasis, but these need no mention here.

The Handicap Committee believes the revisions greatly improve an already excellent handicap system and that matches between players handicapped under the system should be more equitable and enjoyable than ever before. In spite of this expression of optimism, the Committee is not blind to the possibilities of future improvements. It will welcome suggestions and constructive criticism.