
THROUGH THE GREEN

Champions' Formulae

When Mason Rudolph stopped in Louisville, Ky., on his way home after winning the USGA Junior Amateur Championship, he revealed to Earl Ruby, sports editor of the Louisville COURIER-JOURNAL, his formula for becoming a Champion.

"You've got to be a good caddie," he said. "You have to be courteous. And born lucky.

"It's like this: If you are a good caddie, you watch the men you caddie for.

"From them you learn the Rules of Golf, how to swing and how to act right. You know, how to smile when you feel like batting your head against a tree.

"You've got to be courteous or you won't get any help, and any poor kid needs help.

"Then, no matter how hard you work or how much your friends help or how good you get, you still have to be lucky to win a Championship.

"Take my final match. Chuck Beville and I were even going to the tenth. I hooked my drive behind a lot of trees. Chuck hit his down the fairway.

"There wasn't a chance for me to play around those trees. There was just one hole through the fork of one tree. I shut my eyes and swung. The ball went through that hole as if it had eyes, right to the green. It turned the match in my favor.

"That's what I mean. You have to be lucky."

Mason, Parge Fischer, Johnny Brown and Joe McKune drove direct from Denver to Louisville, with no stops for sleep. They did stop in Harrisonville, Mo., however, on the theory that what they needed most was a game of golf. Mason went around in 63, nine under par and a new record. Then they piled back in their automobile and drove on.

Bobby Locke exemplifies another formula for winning Championships, well described by Tom Scott in GOLF ILLUSTRATED after Locke's record 279 in winning his second straight British Open:

"Locke won not only because he was the best golfer in the field, but because he also had the best temperament, and that combination just cannot be beaten, no matter how hard the others may try.

"In a golf championship there comes to every competitor a crisis, or according to the ability of the players a series of crises, and it is the player who can forgive and forget who goes on triumphantly to win. Locke was able to do that and his just reward awaited him.

"His moment of anxiety came in the second round at the short sixth hole. There he pulled his tee shot and finished to the left of the green. His ball was in long grass and between ball and pin there was an intimidating pot bunker. With stoic calm the champion studied the shot and played right into the bunker. He was, no doubt, surprised, but if he were, he did not show it but lowered himself gently into the sand trap with bishoplike dignity, which demeanour he retained when he tried to take the ball too neatly only to see it roll back into much the same spot as it had been before he had played. He tried again and this time saw the ball go on the green but nowhere near the pin. He allowed himself the relaxation of rubbing his hand over his face. That was all. He then proceeded to miss the putt and ran up a six that would have shaken any golfer to his very shoes, let alone a man defending his title.

"There was no thumping of club on ground, no outward demonstration of any sort. He walked calmly to the next

tee, and proceeded to hole out for a birdie 4 at the 580-yard hole, and then went on his way relentlessly and methodically to register a round of 72.

"What other player in the world could have done likewise? Precious few. To most the unnerving experience would have upset most competitors so much that a total of something like 77 would have resulted. But that is where the South African is so much greater than most. The fact that he retained his composure after that experience undoubtedly won him the Championship. He had other adventures on that round, but on each occasion he extricated himself like the master he is."

Riding Now Supplanted

In forwarding three old clubs to the USGA Golf Museum, Oscar Furuset of Portland, Ore., provided an insight into the early days of golf in South Dakota.

"I bought these clubs," he related, "together with a number of gutty balls, from a man named Pat McClaire, who was football trainer and track coach at the University of South Dakota, where I was attending prep school in 1900. It is my recollection that McClaire had caddied in England and probably in Chicago.

"Although I was only a 15-year-old boy, Pat took quite an interest in me, probably because I tried to participate in athletic activities. He once told me that

A GOLFER'S LAMENT

A la Ogden Nash

Some people think that if they hit the
ball with great ferocity,
It will have a lot of influence on its
velocity;
Whereas it is the gentle touch
Which sends it flying more than much—
A gentleness applied with what
Emphasis on the right spot;
A firm persuasion that comes at the
end of a graceful swing
And sends that white sphere soaring
like a bird on the wing.
That is what the pros and the tigers
hold
And that is what one is continually
told;
But still nobody could ever compare
the flight
When I contact that little bit of
spherical white
With any bird on the wing. Unless it
be
A one-legged pullet with water on the
knee
Trying to take a running jump
And ending up bumpity-bump.
I've also been told that if your ball
finds a nice, deep trap
All you've got to do is lower your head
and give it a tap.
Fellow rabbits please observe,
If you want for aye to lose your nerve,
Do just that. Believe me when I say
A tap is as much use as bath salts on
washing day.
Take a bulldozer and a blaster
And afterwards attend to your wounds
with sticking-plaster.
And when you've shovelled the sand
out of your eyes

Prepare to admit that you've never had
better lies
Except once in a water-filled donga
Where erosion had been going on for
longer
Than eternity. But go on pretending
That no lie, however good, can catch
you bending.
And never make the mistake and think
that because you are on the green
Your troubles for that hole are over
because I've often seen
A hole that jumps out of the way
And cowers like a stag at bay
At sight of that round, white, rubber-
filled die
Coming towards it with a come-hither
look in its eye,
And dodging deftly left or right
Irrespective of my apoplectic plight,
And taking no note of the words under
my breath
Wishing it a fate far, far, far worse
than death.
There should be a law that unless you
reach a certain grade
In a certain number of years, you
should be made
To give golf best
And take and give everyone else a well-
earned rest.
Yet the ratio of golfers to those who
play but are fluffers
is about the same as that of writers
to those who write but are duffers.
Perhaps this is where I should call a
halt
And stop being conscientious to a fault.
—TIBI.

Reprinted from South African Golf

there was a game called 'golf' which was going to be a great game in this country and would supplant riding as a social activity.

"I asked him how the game was played, so he laid out four holes on the campus, with tin cans for cups, and showed me. I bought the clubs and balls from him and started to play. Then some members of the faculty secured clubs from Spalding's in Chicago and started to play. They broke a number of windows, which caused the authorities to forbid playing on the campus.

"I took my clubs and gutty balls to my father's ranch, where I lost all the balls in the sandhills.

"The principal reason I am glad to contribute these clubs is that, although they are more than 50 years old—how much more I do not know—they have the basic designs and features of modern clubs and are not freaks or oddities, like so many clubs made thereafter.

"Another reason is that I wish to pay tribute to the late Pat McClaire, who was so right in his prediction of the game fifty years ago."

The clubs are a brass Prestwick putter, a Morristown iron and a Crescent brassie, two of them with the original hickory shafts and grips. Such contributions, of course, are received with particular gratitude.

USGA Women's Championship

The USGA's sectional qualifying system for determining Championship fields has long been a great success among male golfers, but it hasn't yet caught on with the ladies.

This year arrangements had been made to hold sectional qualifying in 19 locations to determine a field of 128 ladies who were to compete in the all-match-play Women's Amateur Championship. But only 157 entries were received. That did not warrant the far-flung qualifying system, so the sectional tryouts were cancelled.

The Championship will still be entirely at match play, with all entrants eligible. There will be as many first-round byes

SPORTSMAN'S CORNER

When Charley Boswell, of Birmingham, Ala., plays golf, a friend goes along to give him the direction and distance to each hole and to find his ball after each stroke. The friend also guides his footsteps around hazards and pitfalls on the course.

Charley lost his sight in the Battle of the Bulge, and a less courageous man might have accepted that as the end of his career as an athlete. Charley, however, had been a member of the University of Alabama football team that played in the Rose Bowl before the war, and he had also developed an enthusiasm for golf. As a sportsman, he learned to accept handicaps as a challenge.

In the fifth annual championship for blind golfers at the Augusta Country Club in Augusta, Me., Charley set an example for all handicapped individuals. He played the course in 112 and 108 for a 36-hole score of 220 and won the championship for the third time.

Thirteen other blind golfers exhibited the same courage at the same time, although none came within seven strokes of matching the skill which Charley has developed. The best indication of this skill came not in the championship but later when Francis Ouimet put on a tight blindfold and played a one-hole match with the blind champion.

Charley made the par-4 hole in 5. Francis topped his drive, was short with his second, took a couple of whiffs and a few putts and holed out for a 10.

as necessary to produce a proper draw.

Dates are September 11-16, and the place is the East Lake course of the Atlanta Athletic Club. Participants will include Curtis Cup Team members of both the British Isles and the United States. Another visitor is Miss Fay Crocker, of Montevideo, Uruguay.

The Curtis Cup match is at the Country Club of Buffalo, N. Y., September 4 and 5.

Necrology

We record with regret the passing of Lord Wardington, Chairman of the Championship Committee of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland, and formerly a member of the USGA Rules of Golf Committee.

A leader in another field of golf recently died — L. B. Icely, for many years President of the Wilson Sporting Goods Co.

University of Michigan's New Golf Clubhouse



When the first USGA Junior Amateur Championship was held at the University of Michigan in 1948, the boys found an excellent golf course but only a small shelter which served as a temporary clubhouse. This season the University opened a permanent clubhouse to match its course. An unusual feature is the manner in which the lounge merges into Albert C. Katzenmeyer's golf shop. There are lockers for 305 men and 63 women and 11 rooms which can be used for the Michigan football team on pre-game nights or for visiting teams. The basement will contain indoor driving ranges and a practice putting green.

Good Lawns

The Department of Agriculture's Leaflet 281, "Pointers on Making Good Lawns," very probably has in it all the information the home owner will need for making a lawn. This leaflet, prepared by the USGA Green Section in cooperation with the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils and Agricultural Engineering, is a revision of an article that appeared in "Grass," the Department's 1948 Yearbook.

It tells how to begin to work up to a good lawn around a new house and discusses keeping turf in tune, renovating an old lawn, selecting kinds of grasses, restraint in watering and new combinations of cool-season grasses with warm-season grasses so as to have a good lawn throughout a long period. It contains a surprising number of facts on practical lawn handling.

Copies may be obtained free from members of Congress or from the Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

National Kid's Day

One of our authors, Maurie Luxford of North Hollywood, Cal., has asked us to publicize a request by the National Kid's Day Foundation that as many golf clubs as possible conduct National Kid's Day Sweepstakes on Saturday, September 23. This, of course, we are pleased to do in view of Luxford's statement that:

"All proceeds from this annual one-day drive will be spent in the furtherance of National Kid's Day, a movement through which summer camps for boys and girls eventually will be established in every state in the union."