
THROUGH THE GREEN

Little Man, Big Course

On a big course like Oakland Hills, you might have thought that a short hitter like Paul Runyan would have been lost in the Open Championship. Quite to the contrary, after three rounds his score was 219 and he was just one stroke behind the leaders. He finished with 294 and a tie for sixth, but he proved all over again, that accuracy, not length, is the essence of the game.

Runyan had no 6 on his card for the 72 holes. Probably no other player in the field was as consistent. Illustrative of his comparative lack of length, he hit 30 wood shots in his first round.

Chuck Kocsis, Detroit amateur, played a splendid 297 for the low amateur medal.

On the eve of the Championship, prize money for professionals was increased by \$3,000 to approximately \$15,000. The winner received \$4,000 instead of \$2,000, as had been scheduled. Every player who returned a 72-hole score received a prize.

Hen and Chickens

"ASSIGNMENT OF HANDICAPS TOP SECRET. EVEN THE COMMITTEE DOES NOT UNDERSTAND THE FORMULA USED."

So read a recent notice at the charming Kittansett Club, on Buzzard's Bay at Marion, Mass. Occasion was the annual Hen and Chickens tournament, a mixed foursome event with 44 couples, involving a qualifying round and three match play rounds.

No other competition could be more strictly for fun. Even the name, Hen and Chickens, has no relation to the tournament but, rather, was filched from a nearby lightship.

Raynor Gardiner and Richard Wakeman started the event in 1934. Only Mr. and Mrs. Ned Connor, now of New York, have played in every annual contest. Chief arrangers this year were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Cushing.

Kittansett is a little known but outstandingly fine golf course, a real seaside links with all manner of testing shots. President of the Club is Charles L. Peirson, who is a member of the USGA Executive Committee. The spirit of the thing infected him so deeply that he sent out the following S O S to Isaac B. Grainger, USGA Rules Chairman:

"Dog picks up ball on 19th hole and drops it in third hole of practice green stop Holes on practice green were cut not by greenkeeper but his wife, so Rule 7(4) does not apply stop At this juncture Mrs. A emerges from clubhouse for match with Mrs. B stop Why? stop Chairman tournament committee just drowned in hurricane stop Would you deem this an unplayable tournament? stop If not, please cite Rule, clause and precedents and whether USGA or R. and A. stop Wire immediate reply paid."

That message was sent collect. Mr. Peirson is still awaiting an answer. He rather imagines that none will be received.



By DON SMITH

"When I say quiet, I mean QUIET!"

Three off the First Tee

Bob Toski, promising young Massachusetts professional, was late for his third round in the Open Championship at Oakland Hills. The Committee was obliged to take action and elected to penalize him two strokes for delay in play, under Rule 2(3), rather than disqualification under Rule 20(1).

It was bitter for Bob to have to play three off the first tee, but it was better than not playing at all. He took it like a man and wrote us an appreciative letter after it was all over.

In recent years there has been a noticeable improvement in players' observance of starting times in Championships. With large fields competing, it is necessary for play to move right along if fairness is to be worked. Prudent use of Rule 2(3) is a good reminder.

Back to Oakmont

The 1953 Open Championship will be played at the Oakmont Country Club, near Pittsburgh.

The Open was last there in 1935, when Sam Parks won. Oakmont entertained the Amateur in 1938, and Willie Turnesa came through.

More Help Needed

Our "Call for Help" in the June issue of the JOURNAL brought a helpful response. Through the kind co-operation of readers, we were able to complete and to bind files of golf magazines for the USGA Library.

We again ask readers who have old golf magazines lying around the house to see if they have some of the issues we need and would care to donate them to "Golf House." Accordingly, a list of missing numbers appears below.

We regret that part of the list printed in June was erroneous. Listed among the missing were the years 1933-34-35-36 of THE AMERICAN GOLFER. We have those already in the Library. The issues we particularly need are:

THE AMERICAN GOLFER: 1908—All issues; 1909—February; 1910—April, December; 1911—April, May, October, November, December; 1912—December; 1913—December; 1914—

August; 1916—November; 1918—May, July, September; 1920—May 1, June 26, July 3, August 21, December 11, 18, 25; 1923—September 8.

GOLF ILLUSTRATED (U. S.): 1914—January through April, July, September; 1915—February through August; 1916—March, April, August through December; 1917—March, June, July, October, December; 1918—March, April, May, June, August, September, December; 1919—January through December; 1920—January through July, December; 1921—January through May, July through September; 1922—January through July, October, November; 1925—February, March, May through August; 1935—September through December.

PGA MAGAZINE: 1947—October.

Hasn't some good professional got that October, 1947, PGA MAGAZINE? It's all we need to complete the set.

Golf is a Vacation Item

A survey on vacation travel by the Curtis Publishing Co. indicates that vacationers are good prospects for golf clubs and balls. The report shows that during the period reviewed, 3.9 per cent of all vacation families in this country bought golf balls and 1.5 per cent bought golf clubs for their trips. The study was based on monthly reports from a cross-section of U. S. families and a vacation trip was defined as any pleasure journey of three days or more by any member or group of the family.

The average amount spent on golf clubs by each buying family was \$37.16. The purchases of golf balls for vacations averaged \$6.59 for each buying family. Projected on a national basis, the results indicate vacation families spent \$12,000,000 last year on golf clubs and \$5,500,000 on golf balls.

Caddie Care

The boy who carries golf bags gets healthy exercise amid pleasant surroundings and the added satisfaction of making quite a bit of money. Besides all this, an increasing number of sectional associations are devoting more and more attention to his welfare.

The Evans Scholarship program of the Western Golf Association is well known. The Cleveland District Golf Association has a similar program which was begun in 1940 and now has provided scholarship

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SPORTSMAN'S CORNER

By FRANCIS OUIMET

FORMER OPEN AND AMATEUR CHAMPION

I have been extremely fortunate in having had good opponents to play against or good partners to play with in Championships. Nevertheless, I can quickly think of several acts of sportsmanship.

At Myopia, in the 1908 Open Championship, Gil Nicholls was disqualified through no fault of his own. His marker turned in a score that was one stroke lower than it should have been. Those were the days when the marker was a supreme being and little attention was given to re-checking the card at the conclusion of the round. The check was made at the end of each hole.

Scanning the board, prior to starting his final round, Gil noted the score posted for him was 75 and he knew himself it should have been 76. He knew also that to bring the matter to the notice of the USGA officials meant disqualification. He had made the 15th hole in 5, whereas the marker had given him a 4, which accounted for the discrepancy.

With proper fortitude and respect for the Rules and the game, and with full knowledge of the consequences, he advised the committee of the error and was promptly disqualified, the committee having no other alternative under the Rules.

However, they were so impressed with this fine display of sportsmanship that they allowed him to play his final round. His total of 331 tied that of John Jones for fifth place, but because of the disqualification his score could not pass into the

record book. This, I think, is interesting. Fifth and sixth money prizes in 1908 were \$70 and \$60. The USGA officials on hand reached into their pockets and presented him with the money he would have won. I am of the opinion Gil would have much preferred seeing his name placed in the records.

Mrs. Jackson's Penalty

Mrs. H. Arnold Jackson was not only a fine golfer but an outstanding sports-woman. As Miss Katherine Harley, she won the Women's Championship in 1908. Later, as Mrs. H. Arnold Jackson, she won the Championship in 1914.

Playing in the Women's Championship at Westchester-Biltmore in 1923, she reached the turn in the qualifying round in 43, remarkably good golf for a woman on this long course.

Playing the tenth hole, she drove her ball and it rolled down an embankment to the left, where her caddie located it, or thought he had. It was more or less buried in the long grass, and she played it onto the fairway.

From here she continued, and after holing out she discovered initials on the ball that were not her own. She promptly ruled herself out of the tournament, because she had played more than one stroke with the wrong ball, which, under the Rules, was the proper thing to do. Mrs. Jackson knew the Rule, knew the consequences, made her own decision and deserves a pat on the back for her sportsmanship.

CADDIE CARE

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assistance to 29 boys. Half of the Cleveland Association assessment on members of member clubs is allocated for caddie scholarship aid.

The Illinois Women's Golf Association has raised more than \$23,000 in the last nine years through Victory Tournaments at many clubs, and part of this has gone

to the Evans Scholars Foundation. Co-operating with the American Women's Voluntary Services, the IWGA has contributed to many other worth-while programs.

One of the Evans Scholars, Aelred Geis, was honored this spring as the outstanding Chicago area senior at Michigan State College. Geis, studying Wildlife Management, had registered the remark-

able record of 3.68 out of a possible 4 for his four years of college. He obtained his scholarship as a caddie at the Tam O'Shanter Country Club.

The Western Association, which has done notable work in the caddie field, put out this year another of its little booklets on the subject. This one is "Recruiting and Retaining Your Caddies," thorough and sensible as usual.

Walker Cup By-Play

The column "Scott's Corner" in the British magazine *GOLF ILLUSTRATED* reports that the funniest sight during the Walker Cup matches at Birkdale, England, came when a referee was called upon to measure a putt in a foursome. Apparently he was prepared for just that contingency; he put his hand into his pocket and pulled forth some string. He pulled and pulled, and as more and more string came into view, the ladies began to shriek, fearful that the referee might be unraveling his underwear. The end finally came in sight and the putt was duly measured.

"Scott's Corner" further reported that a man standing just inside the rope during one point of the play was pushed back by an officious steward who stood "about the height of a 9 iron." When the man objected, the steward demanded: "Who do you think you are?"

"Well," replied the man, "I'm a player, really."

The steward replied with a loud laugh, then snapped: "Don't give me any of that. Get to blazes out of here."

Dr. Frank W. G. Deighton, a modest, quiet gentleman, obeyed orders; although he was not playing, he really was a member of the British Walker Cup Team.

Knowles Wins French Amateur

Little that was available to the USGA Walker Cup Team had escaped the squad after Robert W. Knowles, Jr., of Brookline, Mass., won the French Amateur last month. The Team had defeated the British and Dick Chapman had followed with a personal victory in the British Amateur.



Robert W. Knowles, Jr.

Knowles in the final defeated Henri de la Maze, 3 and 2. De la Maze had won the title four times running and had become regarded as invincible in French play.

No Man's Land?

What is the position of a golfer who does not wish to be a professional and yet has not conformed with the Rules of Amateur Status? Where does he stand?

In the eyes of the USGA, a player is either an amateur or he is not an amateur; there is no middle ground. To allow a non-amateur to compete with amateurs can be a source of embarrassment to everyone concerned and a source of unfairness to the amateurs.

The USGA does not consider that intention to apply for reinstatement is mitigating. Suppose a player did not apply, or suppose that his application could not be granted — he still would be a non-amateur.

There are times when it seems that the line is finely drawn, but however fine it may appear, it is clear-cut.

ST. ANDREWS

Oh, the Auld Course, the cauld course—
Although the greens are big,
If wander ye tae ilka side
Ye winna score sae trig.

Then should your tee shot gang astray
And land where ye must dig 'er,
Before ye hack your pathway back
Ye'll wish the greens were bigger.

—BILL BEVERIDGE
Milwaukee, Wis.