

Silver Anniversary for the Boys

1952 is the Silver Anniversary of the District of Columbia Golf Association's junior program, and Frank Emmet, the guiding spirit, believes it is the oldest of such programs in the United States. There are older single events, such as the Western Junior and the Eastern Interscholastic Championships, but he knows of no association which has sponsored and supported such a comprehensive junior golf program for 25 consecutive years.

In 1927, when the golf course was nearing completion at Georgetown Prep School in the suburbs of Washington, the headmaster told Emmet, then the general manager, to form a golf team and find competition. The school had a golf course

and some pretty good players. Why not make full use of them? Emmet made a few calls, wrote some letters and came up with a blank. There wasn't another schoolboy golf team in the area.

This year, thanks to Emmet, a record number of 23 teams are starting the 25th year of schoolboy golf, playing in three leagues. All matches will be on private courses, for the member clubs of the District Golf Association are cooperating fully.

The schoolboy matches will be followed by the schoolboy championship, which draws about 160 players, junior field days, competition in several national tournaments, inter-city matches and the District Junior Match Play Open, an



Jones, Washington Post

In characteristic setting and mood, Frank Emmet, director of junior golf activities for the District of Columbia Golf Association, looks up to receive the entry of Paul Taggart of Montgomery Blair High School in a competition at the Manor Country Club. Allan Vogt, Montgomery Blair coach, is assisting Emmet, and the entrant on the right is Carney Howell, also of Montgomery Blair.

event which is open to both public-links and private-club juniors. This event has now been set up as a memorial to the late Marvin (Bubby) Worsham, one of Washington's outstanding young golfers who was killed in an automobile accident near Wake Forest College in 1950. Trophies have been donated by Del Webb of Phoenix, Ariz., who was an ardent admirer of Worsham.

One of the highlights of the Silver Anniversary program will be a trip to Toronto, Canada, to engage the juniors of Canada in the Robert Simpson Cup series on July 29. Play is patterned after the Walker Cup and Ryder Cup matches, with eight boys on a side, two selected from each age group from 14 to 17 inclusive. Foursomes are played in the morning and singles in the afternoon. Canada lost, 8 to 3, at the Columbia Country Club in Chevy Chase, Md., last year in the first match of this home-and-home series.

District of Columbia Golf Association clubs are planning a fund raising week end May 3 and 4, and \$2,500 is the goal for junior golf competition. In fact, the first week end every May is traditionally devoted to fund raising for the juniors. With the USGA Junior Amateur Championship in New Haven, Conn., the team match in Canada, the Western Junior at St. Paul, Minn., the Four-Ball at Charlotte, N. C., the Junior Chamber of Commerce tournament at Eugene, Ore., and the PGA caddie tournament at Columbus, Ohio, it may take more than \$2,500 to support the program this year.

Under the Washington program, schoolboy golf teams are made up of six players each. There are restrictions at the clubs; no practice is allowed, no clubhouse privileges are granted and faculty supervision is mandatory. The majority of club members give the youngsters every other consideration, however.

During the summer several clubs conduct junior field days. Invitations are extended to all boys interested in golf. The club professional usually opens the meeting with a talk on an aspect of the Rules, etiquette and instruction. He may be assisted by well-known amateurs. An

18-hole competition follows. In 1951, 168 boys played in the high school golf matches, 325 individuals participated in the various events running from April to Labor Day, more than 1,000 entries were received for all events and 22 boys made trips to national junior competitions.

The juniors, in addition to their own officers, handicap committee and so forth, have a card-index file on all players with official scores and a scrapbook in which they maintain a record of all competitions. In fact, four scrapbooks cover the 25 years of junior golf in Washington.

USGA PUBLICATIONS OF GENERAL INTEREST

THE RULES OF GOLF, as approved by the United States Golf Association and the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland, effective January 1, 1952. 25 cents. (Special rates for orders of 1,000 or more.)

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These publications are available on request to the United States Golf Association, 40 East 38th Street, New York 16, N. Y.

OBSTRUCTIONS

(Continued from page 13)

"Nearest Point" of Open Shed

USGA 52-19. D.20; R.31

Q1: Ball went into a shed on the course. It stopped in the middle of the shed and the nearest point of the obstruction to the ball was a post in the middle of the shed. Moving two club-lengths from nearest point of the obstruction to the ball would not get the ball out of the shed. Is this correct?

A1: No. In Rule 31 the reference to the nearest point of the obstruction means the nearest point on the outside of the obstruction. The object of the Rule is to provide the player with relief from the obstruction.

Pavement around Obstruction

Q2: On the course there is a drink stand. Around the stand is pavement. The ball stopped on the pavement. Again, moving two club-lengths from the nearest point of the obstruction would not get the ball off the pavement. Would it have to be played on the pavement?

A2: It depends upon whether the local committee defined the pavement as an obstruction. Under Definition 20, artificially constructed roads and paths are not obstructions; however, it would not be improper to consider the pavement in question as an obstruction. If it were classified as an obstruction, see answer 1 above.

Out-of-Bounds Post — No Relief

Q3: According to the Rule book, a ball cannot be moved away from an out of bounds post, or anything marking out of bounds. Is this correct?

A3: Yes. Under Definition 20, a boundary marker is not an obstruction and there is no relief under Rule 31.

Questions by: CHARLES F. BAILEY
TAMPA, FLA.

Embankment Not Obstruction

USGA 52-23. D.20, 14b, c; R. 33-2,3

Q: Definition 20 says:
"An 'obstruction' is anything artificial, whether erected, placed or temporarily left on the course."

An earthen reservoir has been erected some 30 yards from No. 6 tee, and at an approximately 45-degree angle to the right thereof. Occasionally, bad shots from beginners or shanked shots come from the tee to rest on the side of this reservoir embankment, now covered with grass and weeds, or go over the embankment into the water. A sketch is attached to roughly show the relative locations.

The question is whether this reservoir em-

bankment is an obstruction as contemplated by your Definition.

There are three different views represented on our Committee, as follows:

1. That the entire area, including the embankment and the water inside, is an obstruction, and the ball should be dropped and played as in Rule 31-2.

2. That it is not an obstruction and that the ball should be played as if on any mound or earthen elevation, such as are a part of the course, such as those around traps, greens, etc.

3. That it should be described as a "lateral water hazard", and played as in Rule 33-3. Argument against this is that the reservoir was not built as a hazard but as a water system for the course. They rely on some of the Definitions in the 1951 Rules.

It should be borne in mind that a ball coming to rest any place except in the water is playable—that is, there are no wires, steps, pipes or other hindrances to making a shot of some kind.

Of course, a local rule can be drawn that balls in this area are to be played in any of the above manners, but we prefer to rule in line with the intention of the USGA when it wrote the Rule.

Question by: CLAUDE C. WILD
AUSTIN, TEXAS

A: The earthen embankment is not artificial in the sense contemplated by Definition 20 and therefore is not an obstruction.

The reservoir itself—that is, the depression containing water—should be classified as either a water hazard or a lateral water hazard, depending upon the applicability of Rule 33-2 and 3.

Ball in Hazard Must Be Dropped in Hazard

USGA 52-24. R.11-4, 31-2

Q: A ball lies on a bridge crossing a water hazard. The spot on the bridge at which the ball lies is within the confines of the hazard, but is less than two club-lengths from the rear margin of the hazard. In proceeding under Rule 31-2, may the player drop the ball without penalty outside the hazard but within two club-lengths of the spot on the bridge where the ball originally lay, but not nearer the hole?

Question by: FIELDING WALLACE
AUGUSTA, GA.

A: No. As the ball originally lay within the confines of a hazard, it must be dropped within the confines of the same hazard in proceeding under Rule 31-2. There is no authority for doing otherwise either in that Rule or in any other Rule, and the principle of equity (Rule 11-4) would require that the ball remain within the hazard.