

The Open through the Years

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Do you know who were the first three players to break par for 72 holes in the Open? They were all amateurs, and they did it in 1916, 1930 and 1933.

Do you know which Open Champion won despite one stroke on which he missed the ball altogether? It happened in 1900.

Do you know who won the Open by eleven strokes? It was done in 1899. And do you know which Open Champion had to play 144 holes to win by one stroke? That happened in 1931.

Do you know who first broke 300 for four rounds and who first broke 70 in one round in the Open? These achievements, which seemed incredible in their day, were performed in 1906 and 1909.

Do you know who were the youngest and oldest winners of the Open? They won in 1895 and 1920.

Do you know who made the lowest score for four rounds and the lowest score for one round in the Open? These records were set in 1948 and 1950.

Do you know which club has entertained four Opens? It was the Championship site in 1898, 1901, 1905 and 1908.

These answers, and a good many others, come into view in a historical tour of the fifty-one Opens which have preceded this year's Championship at the Northwood Club, in Dallas, Texas.

1895—The first USGA Open was held on the nine-hole course of the Newport (R.I.) Golf Club on October 4, 1895, during the same week and on the same course as the first USGA Amateur. They had been scheduled for September and had been postponed because of a conflict with the America's Cup yacht races. Ten professionals and one amateur started the 36-hole, one-day competition. The winner, scoring 91-82—173 with the gutta percha ball, was Horace Rawlins, an English professional who had come over in January to be assistant at Newport. He was 19, and no one so young has since won. There were five money prizes: \$150, \$100, \$50, \$25 and \$10. Rawlins also won a \$50 gold medal and, for his club, the Open Championship Cup presented by the USGA.

1896—The second Open went to the 18-hole course of the Shinnecock Hills Golf Club,

Southampton, N. Y., in July, 1896. Like the first, it was a side-show to the Amateur. However, there were 35 entrants and 28 finished the 36 holes. The course measured only 4,423 yards, and Jim Foulis, a Scottish professional representing the Chicago Golf Club, won with 78-74—152. The 74 set a record which was not broken until seven years later, after the rubber-core ball had come into use. Rawlins was runner-up, three strokes back.

1897—Chicago Golf Club entertained the 1897 men's championships on its 18-hole course in September. Having successfully bid for the competitions, the West also bid strongly for the titles, but Joe Lloyd, an English professional who worked at the Essex County Club, Manchester, Mass., in the summer and at Pau, France, in the winter, returned the Open to the East, scoring 83-79—162 to lead a field of 35. Willie Anderson, who was later to win four times, played for the first time and finished second, a stroke back.

1898—The British Open had been extended to 72 holes seven years earlier. The USGA decided to do the same in 1898, and it also separated the Amateur and the Open Championships. The Open was played in June at the Myopia Club, South Hamilton, Mass., on a nine-hole course which required the competitors to go around eight times in the two allotted days. Fred Herd, a Scottish professional at the Washington Park course, Chicago, did the rounds in 84-85-75-84—328 to win. Alex Smith was second; he was later to win twice.

1899—Willie Smith, of the Carnoustie golfing family, had recently arrived to take a position as professional at the Midlothian Country Club, near Chicago, and he kept the title in Chicago by winning with 77-82-79-77—315 at the Baltimore Country Club in September, 1899. His margin of eleven strokes has never since been equalled. The first prize remained \$150 and a gold medal, but the total purse for the first eight professionals, instead of five, was raised to \$650.

1900—The Open title went abroad for the first time in 1900. Harry Vardon spent most of the year in the United States on an exhibition tour, and he was joined in October

at the Chicago Golf Club by J. H. Taylor, another great of British golf. The two English professionals dominated the Championship, finishing one-two. Vardon's score was 79-78-76-80—313, two lower than Taylor's. It included a "whiff" on the final green, where he stabbed carelessly at a very short putt and missed the ball altogether.

1901—Willie Anderson, the dour, business-like Scottish professional who had missed tying Lloyd by a stroke in 1897, came through as a representative of the Pittsfield (Mass.) Country Club, at the Myopia Hunt Club in June, 1901. His 84-83-83-81—331 created the first tie in the Championship, and he defeated Alex Smith in the play-off, 85 to 86. The 72-hole score remains the highest made by a winner, but more was to be heard from Anderson.

1902—Laurie Auchterlonie, representing the Chicago Golf Club, won at the Garden City (N. Y.) Golf Club, in October, 1902. For the first time in the Championship, 80 was broken in all four rounds as the Scot from St. Andrews posted 78-78-74-77—307, but the introduction of the Haskell rubber-core ball in this Open was at least partly responsible. Walter J. Travis, who had twice won the Amateur, tied for second. The entry of 90 was a new high, and there were now ten prizes totaling \$970, the first of \$200 and a gold medal.

1903—Willie Anderson, now playing from the Apawamis Club, Rye, N. Y., came back to win a second time at the Baltusrol Golf Club, Springfield, N. J., in June, 1903. In order to become the first repeat winner, he had to survive a second play-off. He tied David Brown by scoring 73-76-76-82—307 and then beat him, 82 to 84. The 73 was a new low.

1904—Willie Anderson won his third Open and his second in succession in July, 1904, this time at the scheduled distance. His score of 75-78-78-72—303 was best by five strokes at the Glen View Club, Golf, Ill. The 72 again lowered the record for a single round. Gil Nichols was second.

1905—Willie Anderson accomplished a feat at the Myopia Hunt Club in September, 1905, which only the greats were to approach. He won for the fourth time, the third in succession. Twenty-five years were to elapse before Bob Jones would win his fourth Open. Forty-six years were to pass before Ben Hogan would win in three consecutive attempts, although not in consecutive years. Anderson's score was 81-80-76-77—314. He played from the Apawamis

Club in winning the last three of his four championships.



Willie Anderson

1906—Alex Smith, of the Nassau Country Club, Glen Cove, N. Y., another Scot as congenial as Anderson was dour, ended Anderson's reign at the Onwentsia Club, Lake Forest, Ill., in June, 1906. Smith scored 73-74-73-75—295 to crack 300 for the first time and lead his brother Willie, the 1899 Champion now representing Mexico, by seven strokes. The 295 was the lowest score to have won either the British or USGA Opens to that date. Jack White had set the British record of 296 in the 1904 British Open at St. Andrews. Anderson finished fifth. The purse was only \$900, for the first ten professionals, but the first prize was raised to \$300 and a gold medal.

1907—Alex Ross, of another family of golfing brothers from Scotland, went down from the Brae Burn Country Club, near Boston, to win at the old St. Martin's course of the Philadelphia Cricket Club in June, 1907. His score was 76-74-76-76—302. Gil Nichols was second for the second time.

1908—The smallest man to win, Fred McLeod, of the Midlothian Country Club, was the 1908 Champion. The Scot weighed only 108 pounds, but he played the Myopia Hunt Club course in 82-82-81-77—322 to tie with Willie Smith, of Mexico, and won the play-off, 77 to 83. It marked the fourth and last time Myopia entertained the championship, but no other club has held as many.

1909—Homebreds had appeared to be simply building character in the early years, but the character they built came to light at the Englewood (N. J.) Golf Club in June, 1909. Tom McNamara, representing the Wollaston Golf Club, near Boston, did a 69 in the second round to lead the field through the first day with 142 and his fine play forced George Sargent, an English professional from Hyde Manor, Vt., to set a new record of 75-72-72-71—290 to win. McNamara was second, four strokes back, and the era of the homebreds was dawning. Seventy was broken for the first time in this Championship, and the first to do it was Dave Hunter, who made a 68 in the first round but took 84 in the second round and finished far back at 313.

1910—Alex Smith, now playing from the Wykagyl Country Club, New Rochelle, N. Y., won his second Open, and the third for his family, at the St. Martin's course of the Philadelphia Cricket Club in June, 1910. There occurred the first three-way play-off in which Alex scored 71, homebred Johnny McDermott made 75 and Alex's brother, Macdonald, took 77. Alex's score for the

original 72 holes was 73-73-79-73—298.

1911—Johnny McDermott, of the Atlantic City (N. J.) Country Club, became the first homebred Champion at the Chicago Golf Club in June, 1911. He was a self-assured, determined alumnus of the Philadelphia caddie sheds and feared no one on a golf course. In this Championship he shot 81-72-75-79—307 to play himself into a second three-way tie, with Mike Brady and George Simpson. Then he played himself out of it with an 80 to Brady's 82 and Simpson's 85. The day of complete British supremacy had ended.

1912—To prove the point, Johnny McDermott won his second consecutive Open at the Country Club of Buffalo, N. Y., in August, 1912, and immediately behind him was that other homebred Tom McNamara. McDermott's score was 74-75-74-71—294, and he needed it to stave off McNamara, who closed with another 69 to trail by only two strokes. The rise of the homebreds stimulated such interest that it lifted the entry to 131, another record.

1913—The homebred groundswell reached a climax at The Country Club, Brookline, Mass., in September, 1913. Francis Ouimet, of the Woodland (Mass.) Golf Club, who had learned the game as a Brookline caddie and continued to play as an amateur, won at the age of 20 and in his first try over the veteran British professionals, Harry Vardon and Ted Ray. The first amateur to win, his victory caught the fancy of the multitude and contributed largely to the popularity of the game. Ouimet finished late, in the rain, with a birdie and a par to complete a 77-74-74-79 and tie Vardon and Ray at 304, twenty over par. In the third three-way play-off, he made a 72 to Vardon's 77 and Ray's 78. McDermott had finished eighth. Another new record of 165 entrants was established, which required the first qualifying round in the history of the Championship. Half the field played two rounds on Tuesday and the other half two on Wednesday, the low 32 and ties each day making up the field for the Championship proper on Thursday and Friday.

1914—The homebreds now popped up like spring flowers. A Country Club of Rochester, N. Y., professional named Walter Hagen, who in his first appearance had finished fourth at Brookline, came on to win in August, 1914, at the Midlothian Country Club. He led every round and equalled George Sargent's mark with 68-74-75-73—

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290, two over par, yet he had only a stroke over a homebred amateur. Charles Evans, Jr. Evans needed a 2 to tie on the last hole, and his pitch hit the cup and bounced out. As Hagen came onto the scene, McDermott faded off; it was his last Championship.

1915—Jerome D. Travers, an amateur from the Upper Montclair (N. J.) Country Club, followed the trail which Ouimet had blazed. Travers already had won the Amateur four times, and he achieved his ambition in the Open by playing the last six holes in par to beat Tom McNamara by a stroke. The Championship was at the Baltusrol (N. J.) Golf Club in June, 1915, and Travers' score was 76-72-73-76—297, nine over par.

1916—The amateurs underscored their mastery at the Minikahda Club, Minneapolis, Minn., in June, 1916. Charles Evans, Jr., of the Edgewater Golf Club, Chicago, the third amateur winner in four years, not only won but broke par over four rounds for the first time and lowered the record by four strokes. His score was 70-69-74-73—286, two under par and a mark that was to stand for 20 years. Jock Hutchison closed with a 68 and also bettered the old record, but he was two strokes shy of a tie. Travers did not defend. The purse was increased this year to \$1,200, with \$500 and a gold medal for the leading professional, but there were still only ten money places. Evans won the Amateur three months later and was the first to win both in the same year.

1917-1918—There were no Open Championships during World War I, but the USGA conducted a similar tournament for the benefit of the Red Cross at the Whitmarsh Valley Country Club, Chestnut Hill, Pa., in June, 1917. Jock Hutchison won with 292 and Tom McNamara was second with 299.

1919—When the Open was resumed in June, 1919, at the Brae Burn Country Club, West Newton, Mass., Walter Hagen, now playing from the Oakland Hills Country Club, near Detroit, restored the prestige of the professionals. He played the last six holes in one under fours to overhaul Mike Brady with a 75 in the last round and then won a play-off marked by controversy over the Rules, 77 to 78. Hagen's first four rounds were 78-73-75-75 (or 301, seventeen over par. Meanwhile, Willie Chisholm took 18 on the 185-yard eighth hole in the first round. The purse was increased again, to

\$1,745; first professional prize remained \$500, but other prizes were increased and eleventh and twelfth places were added. For the first time, play was extended to three days, with one round on each of the first two days and two rounds on the third. 1920—The Open Championship went abroad for the second and last time in August, 1920. Ted Ray and Harry Vardon came over from England again to play at the Inverness Club, Toledo, Ohio. With seven holes to go, Vardon was leading by five strokes, but a gale came up and Vardon, who was 50 years old, played the last seven holes in even fives. Ray was the winner, with 74-73-73-75—295, seven over par, and Vardon finished in a four-way tie for second, one stroke back, with Leo Diegel, Jock Hutchison and Jack Burke. Ray was 43 years old and remains the oldest winner. An amateur named Bob Jones played for the first time, tied for the lead with 18 holes to play and finished in a tie for eighth at 299; he was 18 years old. The entry rose to another new high of 265. The two-day format for the championship proper was restored.

1921—Jim Barnes, an Englishman representing the Pelham (N. Y.) Country Club, won the 25th USGA Open with remarkable ease over a strong, international field in July, 1921, at the Columbia Country Club, Chevy Chase, Md. His 69-75-73-72—289, nine over par, enabled him to lead after every round and win by nine strokes over Walter Hagen and Fred McLeod. Bob Jones tied for fifth at 303. Warren G. Harding, President of the United States, presented the trophy to Barnes.

1922—Gene Sarazen, 20 years old, burst onto the scene at the Skokie Country Club, Glencoe, Ill., in July, 1922, with the impact of a thunderclap. Representing the Highland Country Club, Pittsburgh, he scored 72-73-75 to stand four strokes behind going into the last round, then finished with a 68, including a birdie on the last hole, to win by a stroke with 288, eight over par. Bob Jones and John Black, who was 43 and a grandfather, tied for second. It was the best finishing round so far, and a token of Sarazen's future. The entry set another record of 323, and the qualifying at the scene of the Championship had to be extended to three days. Spectators were charged admission fees for the first time.

1923—Bob Jones' era really opened at the Inwood (N. Y.) Country Club in July, 1923. The amateur from the East Lake course in

Atlanta, Ga., was leading after three rounds of 71-73-76 but finished with a two-over-par 6 on the last hole and a 76 for 296, eight over par. Bobby Cruickshank, playing behind him, birdied that last hole, and the two entered a play-off. They were even again going up the last fairway, but Cruickshank had pulled his tee shot and had to play his second short of the lagoon guarding the green. Jones hit a No. 2 iron shot nearly 200 yards from the rough over the lagoon to the green to make his 4 and win, 76 to 78. It was his first major Championship. The entry of 360 set still another record, and qualifying at the scene of the Championship required four days. Since the Championship proper took two more days and the play-off another day, a full week was needed to determine the Champion.

1924—Cyril Walker, an Englishman almost as little as Fred McLeod, won at the Oakland Hills Country Club in June, 1924. Representing the Englewood (N. J.) Golf Club, he did a deliberate 74-74-74-75—297, nine over par. Jones, who had finished earlier with a birdie 4 against the wind on the long finishing hole for 300, led until Walker completed his round and was second. The first elements of sectional qualifying were introduced; eastern and western elimination rounds were held in May at Worcester, Mass., and Oak Park, Ill., and the low 40 and ties at each place qualified for the Championship proper. Use of the steel-shafted putter was permitted for the first time.

1925—Willie Macfarlane tied Bob Jones at 291, seven over par, and they had to play off twice before Macfarlane won at the Worcester (Mass.) Country Club in June, 1925. In the first play-off, both scored 75s, marking the first time a play-off, too, had ended in a tie. Jones went four strokes ahead on the first nine of the second play-off, but Macfarlane caught him with a 72 to Jones' 73. The Scot, who wore glasses and represented the Oak Ridge Golf Club, Tuckahoe, N. Y., had scored 74-67-72-78 in the Championship proper, and had been one of five, including Francis Ouimet, Johnny Farrell, Leo Diegel and Walter Hagen, who came to the final hole with a chance to win or tie. His 67 was a new low. Preliminary elimination rounds were held at three points: Long Beach, N. Y., Lake Forest, Ill., and San Francisco, Cal., and the entry record jumped again to 445. The Championship proper was the last condensed into two days.

1926—Bob Jones had won his first British Open during a spring tour of the British Isles and took his second USGA Open at the Scioto Country Club, Columbus, Ohio, in July, 1926. It was the first time a player had won both in the same year. Despite a depressing second round in which he called a penalty on himself when his ball turned over as he was addressing a putt, he came from behind with a birdie 4 on the last hole to complete a 70-79-71-73—293, five over par, and beat Joe Turnesa by a stroke. This Championship was again extended to three days, with one round each of the first two days and two on the third day. There were seventeen sectional qualifying rounds and the system was well established. So was the popularity of the Open; the entry rose to another new high of 694. The purse was increased, too, to \$2,145 by the addition of eight places so that the first 20 professionals were rewarded in cash, although first prize remained \$500.

1927—Tommy Armour, a Scot who had recently turned professional, holed a 10-footer for a birdie on the last green to tie Harry Cooper at the Oakmont (Pa.) Country Club in June, 1927. Cooper had three-putted the last green but still had seemed a winner. Their scores of 301 were thirteen over par and the highest of modern times, in testimony to the terrors of the course. Armour, representing the Congressional Country Club, near Washington, D. C., won the play-off, 76 to 79; his first four rounds were 78-71-76-76. Jones made his poorest showing, with a 309 that left him tied for eleventh. Again the entry rose, this time to 898. The professional competition for the Ryder Cup was played in this country for the first time, at Worcester, and the British team participated in this Championship. Archie Compston made the best showing, tying for seventh with 308.

1928—Johnny Farrell, of the Quaker Ridge Golf Club, Scarsdale, N. Y., and Bob Jones played to another tie, with 294s, ten over par, at the Olympia Fields Country Club, Mateson, Ill., in June, 1928. The play-off distance had been increased to 36 holes, and Farrell won it with a 70-73—143 to Jones' 73-71—144. Farrell's Championship rounds had been 77-74-71-72. The entry rose above 1,000 for the first time, as 1,064 attempted to qualify.

1929—Bob Jones took two 7s on his final round and had to hole a 12-foot putt on the last green to tie Al Espinosa at the West course of the Winged Foot Golf Club,

Mamaroneck, N. Y., in June, 1929. Jones' score was 69-75-71-79—294, eight over par. In his fourth play-off, however, he was invincible; his 72-69—141 was 23 strokes better than Espinosa's 84-80—164. The purse now was \$5,000. First professional



Bob Jones

prize was \$1,000, instead of \$500, and the rewards for the other leaders also were substantially increased, although none after those tied for twentieth place was rewarded.

1930—The third trick of Bob Jones' Grand Slam was played at the Interlachen Country Club, Minneapolis, Minn., in July, 1930. He had won the British Amateur and the British Open. After three rounds he had a five-stroke lead in the USGA Open, thanks in part to a half-topped spoon shot which skipped across the lake to set up a birdie 4 instead of submerging at the long ninth hole in the second round and in part to his 68 in the third round, his lowest in the Open. Yet he had to make three birdies on the last five holes and hole a 40-footer on the last green to win by two strokes over Macdonald Smith. His score of 71-73-68-75—287, one under par, was his best in eleven Opens, and it marked the second time par over four rounds was broken. After completing the Grand Slam by winning the Amateur, he retired at the age of 28. The entry rose to 1,177, another new record. This Open was the last for the ball no smaller than 1.62 inches in diameter and no heavier than 1.62 ounces.

1931—When Bob Jones retired, a wide-open and keen struggle was anticipated, but not such a lengthy struggle as was waged at the Inverness Club, Toledo, Ohio, in July, 1931. George Von Elm made a birdie 3 on the last hole to tie Billy Burke, of the Round Hill Club, Greenwich, Conn., at 292, eight over par, and 72 additional holes were required to determine the winner, who turned out to be Burke by a stroke. Burke's score in the Championship proper was 73-72-74-73. In the first 36-hole play-off, Burke did 73-76—149 but Von Elm again birdied the last hole to tie with 75-74—149. In the second 36-hole play-off, Burke made 77-71—148 to Von Elm's 76-73—149. The margin between them thus was one stroke, acquired five holes from the finish, in 144 holes of golf, the most ever required to determine a Champion. The so-called "balloon" ball, no smaller than 1.68 inches in diameter and no heavier than 1.55 ounces, which had been used experimentally and optionally in the previous two years, was standard this year.

1932—Gene Sarazen won the British Open and came home in June, 1932, to play the last 28 holes in 100 strokes and win the USGA Open, too, at the Fresh Meadow Country Club, Flushing, N. Y. He was seven strokes behind as he came to the

ninth tee on the morning of the final day, and he decided to throw caution to the winds. A birdie 2 on that hole and a 32 on the second nine gave him a 70 and left him only one stroke off the pace. The final 18 he played in 66, the lowest round in the Championship to that date, to win by three strokes. He was representing the Lakeville Golf and Country Club, Great Neck, N. Y., and his full score of 74-76-70-66—286, six over par, tied the mark Evans had set sixteen years earlier. The victory made him the second man, after Jones, who did it twice, to win the British and USGA Opens in the same year. The present ball, no smaller than 1.68 inches in diameter and no heavier than 1.62 ounces, replaced the "balloon" ball.

1933—Johnny Goodman, an amateur, played away to one of the Open's longest leads, then turned conservative and won by only a stroke at the North Shore Golf Club, Glen View, Ill., in June, 1933. Goodman started with a 75 and a 66 to lead at the halfway mark, extended his lead to six strokes with a 70 in the third round and started his last round 4-3-2, three less than par. Yet he fell away to a 76 for 287, one under par, and Ralph Guldahl would have tied him if his iron shot to the last green had been true for a 4, instead of fading into a bunker for a 5. Goodman, the third man to break par in the Open, played from the Omaha (Neb.) Field Club and was the fifth and last amateur to win; like Ouimet, Evans and Jones, he was not to win his Amateur Championship until later, four years later in his case.

1934—Olin Dutra, of the Brentwood Country Club, Los Angeles, Cal., reversed Goodman's procedure in winning at the East course of the Merion Cricket Club in June, 1934. His 76-74 in the first two rounds left him eight strokes back starting the final 36 holes. Among the seventeen men ahead of him were nearly all the great professionals of the times. On top of this, he was seriously upset by a stomach ailment. Yet his strokes on the last day were true as a surveyor's measure, through all of Merion's hazards, and he caught and passed the pack with rounds of 71 and 72 for 293, thirteen over par, to lead Gene Sarazen by one. That deficit of eight strokes was the largest a winner has made up over the final 36 holes in modern times.

1935—Sam Parks, of Pittsburgh, used his knowledge of the Oakmont (Pa.) Country Club to win in June, 1935. Although a

comparatively recent convert from college and amateur ranks and little known nationally, Parks, professional at the nearby South Hills Country Club, was the only player to negotiate Oakmont's furrowed bunkers and shaved greens in less than 300. He won by posting a 77-73-73-76—299, eleven over par. Jimmy Thomson, who had been tied with him for the lead going into the final round, fell two strokes behind in his attempt to match or beat that figure. It was a heart-breaking Championship for many; none of the twenty leaders was able to break 75 in the last round.

1936 Tony Manero of the Sedgefield Club, Greensboro, N. C., lifted himself from comparative obscurity by finishing with a 67 for 282, six under par, to break the record by four strokes, and thus, as it had been in 1927, the Open title was again snatched away from Harry Cooper. It happened at the Baltusrol Golf Club, Springfield, N. J., in June, 1936. Cooper's 284 already had broken by two strokes Evans' and Sarazen's record which had stood for twenty years and all the principal challengers appeared to have foundered when Manero played out his brilliant finish, posting 73-69-73-67. Par for four rounds was broken for the first time by a professional in this Championship and in the process suffered its first real beating. Manero was six under, Cooper was four under and Clarence Clark was one under. Previously par had been broken only by the three amateurs, Evans in 1916, Jones in 1930 and Goodman in 1933. As the scores went down, the entry went up, and the 1,277 who competed in sectional qualifying set another high mark.

1937—Ralph Guldahl, an unattached professional from Chicago, who had just missed four years earlier, made short work of Manero's record at the Oakland Hills Country Club in June, 1937. With another late and great finish, he completed a score of 71-69-72-69—281, seven under par, to reestablish the record. He beat Sam Snead, playing in his first Open, by two strokes. In all, five players were under par for the four rounds. The entry increased again to a new high of 1,402.

1938—Ralph Guldahl became the fourth player, after Willie Anderson, Johnny McDermott and Bob Jones, to win in successive years, and he did it easily. With a score of 74-70-71-69—284, even par, he built a lead of six strokes over Dick Metz at the Cherry Hills Club, Denver, Colo., in June, 1938.

This Championship also was distinguished by a new record for strokes taken on a single hole; Ray Ainsley took 19 on the par-4 sixteenth hole in the second round, most of them in trying to extricate his ball from a brook. Prize money was increased to \$6,000 by the addition of awards to those finishing from twenty-first to thirtieth; first prize remained \$1,000.

1939—Byron Nelson, of the Reading (Pa.) Country Club, made up five strokes in his last round and posted 72-73-71-68—284, eight over par. Sam Snead came to the last hole needing a par 5 to win, took 8 and finished fifth. Craig Wood came along later needing a birdie 4 to tie and made it. Denny Shute came up last needing two pars to win but lost a stroke on the seventeenth hole and created the fourth three-way deadlock. In the first play-off, Wood appeared to have the Championship in hand, but Nelson birdied the last hole and they tied again at 68; Shute had 76 and was eliminated. In the second play-off, Nelson was in such form that he holed a full No. 1 iron shot for an eagle 2 at the fourth hole, and he won with a 70 to Wood's 73. The Championship was played over the Spring Mill course of the Philadelphia Country Club in June, 1939. Marvin H. Ward, who was to win the Amateur later in the season, finished fourth, one stroke out of the triple tie.

1940—Lawson Little placed a 72-69-73-73—287, one under par, on the scoreboard and then stood by while Gene Sarazen finished with three pars to tie. Little played superb golf to win the play-off, 70 to 73, at the Canterbury Golf Club, near Cleveland, Ohio, in June, 1940. Little was playing from Bretton Woods, N. H., and had turned professional after winning the USGA and the British Amateur Championships in 1934 and 1935. He was the sixth man to win both Amateur and Open Championships. Sarazen was 38 years old and was making his bid eighteen years after he had won his first Open. Six players were disqualified for starting their last rounds ahead of schedule, with a storm brewing, but played out the round provisionally and one of them, Ed Oliver, made an unofficial 287.

1941—Craig Wood, of the Winged Foot Golf Club, Mamaroneck, N. Y., shared or held the lead after each of the last three rounds and won with 73-71-70-70—284, four over par, at the Colonial Club, Fort Worth, Texas, in June, 1941. This despite a back injury prior to the Championship which

almost caused Wood to withdraw. He won by three strokes over Denny Shute. Rain was so heavy and lightning so severe during the second round that play was twice stopped. The Colonial course was comparatively new, having been opened in 1936. 1942-1945—Open Championships were suspended again during World War II. Instead of the competition which had been scheduled for the Interlachen Country Club, Minneapolis, a Hale America Open was conducted in June, 1942, at the Ridgemoor Country Club, Chicago, in cooperation with the Chicago District Golf Association and the Professional Golfers' Association of America. Ben Hogan, of the Hershey (Pa.) Country Club, won with a score of 72-62-69-68—271, seventeen under par. His remarkable score was three strokes lower than those of Mike Turnesa and Jimmy Demaret. Bob Jones, now a captain in the Army, came out of retirement to play and scored 290. The competition was played for the benefit of the United Service Organizations and the Navy Relief Society, which divided \$25,745.27. Prizes distributed were in the form of defense bonds.

1946—When the Open was resumed at the Canterbury Golf Club, Cleveland, in June, 1946, Lloyd Mangrum, of Los Angeles, an ex-soldier who had fought and earned the Purple Heart overseas, appropriately won. On the last day of the Championship proper, which was attended by the largest crowds to that time, Vic Ghezzi set the stage by posting a 284, four under par. Mangrum and Byron Nelson, playing together behind him, remained in the contention. Nelson had incurred a penalty stroke in the third round when his caddie had inadvertently kicked his ball in the swirling crowd, but he could still win by two strokes if he finished with three pars, and Mangrum was only a stroke behind him. Nelson three-putted the next-to-last green and took a 6 on the last hole to tie Ghezzi. Mangrum held steadier and made it the fifth three-way tie. Ben Hogan and Herman Barron came still later, each needing three pars to win, but they failed by a stroke of even tying. These five and four others all were under par for four rounds, establishing a quantitative mark in this aspect of the Championship. In the first play-off, Mangrum once had a lead of four strokes, but at the end all three were tied again with 72s. In the second play-off, Mangrum was three strokes behind Ghezzi and two behind Nelson with six holes to play, but he

birdied three of them, survived a sharp thunderstorm and won in rain under darkening skies with another 72, to 73s by Nelson and Ghezzi. Mangrum's original four rounds were 74-70-68-72. The purse was increased to \$8,000, and the first professional prize was increased to \$1,500.

1947—Lew Worsham, of the Oakmont (Pa.) Country Club, scored 70-70-71-71—282, two under par, was tied by Sam Snead and then won in a play-off, 69 to 70, at the St. Louis (Mo.) Country Club in June, 1947. They were three strokes ahead of the field in the Championship proper. A dramatic moment occurred when Snead came to the last hole needing a birdie 3 to tie; he made it with an eighteen-foot putt. Snead had less fortune on the last green of the play-off; he missed a putt of less than a yard which would have kept the play-off alive. James B. McHale, Jr., an amateur, set a new 18-hole record when he played the course in 30-35—65 in the third round. The purse was increased again, the total to \$10,000 for the first 30 professionals and first prize to \$2,000; and the competition was for a new cup, the original having been destroyed in a fire at the Tam O'Shanter Country Club during the winter. This Championship was the first to be televised.

1948—Ben Hogan, of the Hershey (Pa.) Country Club, was again a favorite, as he had been for some years, and this time he won exactly as expected at the Riviera Country Club, Los Angeles, in June, 1948. His score of 67-72-68-69—276 was five below Ralph Guldahl's mark for the Championship and eight below par, another record in itself. Jimmy Demaret, with 278, and Jim Turnesa, with 280, also were under the old Championship record in finishing two-three, and altogether five players were under par. The entry record rose again to 1,411.

1949—Dr. Cary Middlecoff, a dentist who had left the amateur ranks two years previously, and Clayton Heafner came down the stretch together, matching shot for shot in June, 1949. Middlecoff went ahead with a par on the fifteenth hole and completed a 75-67-69-75—286, two over par, while Heafner missed a putt for a birdie on the last green and trailed by a stroke. Sam Snead, playing later, needed 33 on the last nine to tie but lost a stroke at the par-3 seventeenth hole, where he needed three strokes to get down from just off the green, and had to share second place with Heafner. Play was over the No. 3 course of the Medinah

(Ill.) Country Club. Hogan had been severely injured in an automobile accident in February and could not compete.

1950—Ben Hogan achieved the miracle victory which few but he had thought possible in the Golden Anniversary Open over the East course of the Merion Golf Club in June, 1950. Sixteen months after a nearly fatal automobile crash in Texas, and still walking in some discomfort, he played an exacting course in 72-69-72-74—287, seven over par, and tied Lloyd Mangrum and George Fazio. The final 36 holes marked the first time Hogan had attempted two rounds in a single day since his injury, and it may have been weariness which caused him to lose strokes to par on the fifteenth and seventeenth holes of the last round when he seemed to have the Championship won. It was the eighteenth tie, and the sixth three-way tie, in fifty Championships, and like all but four of the previous deadlocks, it was settled in one round. Hogan came back to play a flawless 69 which won over Mangrum's 73 and Fazio's 75. Mangrum trailed by only a stroke with three holes to play but thoughtlessly picked up his ball to blow off an insect at the sixteenth green and incurred a two-stroke penalty. The record for a single round fell when Lee Mackey, Jr., a professional, opened with a 33-31—64; but he finished in a tie for twenty-fifth at 297. Prize money was increased again to approximately \$15,000; the first professional now received \$4,000 and every professional who returned a 72-hole score was assured of at least \$100.

1951—Ben Hogan, still representing the Hershey (Pa.) Country Club, rose to more great heights at the Oakland Hills Country Club in June, 1951. The revamped course was perhaps as difficult as any on which the Open had been played. Hogan already had won in both of his last two tries and, despite Willie Anderson's record in the early days, the law of averages seemed against him. His first two rounds left him five strokes off the pace. Yet Hogan tamed course, fellow-competitors and the law of averages with 76-73-71-67—287, seven over par, to lead Clayton Heafner by two strokes. The 67 he considered his greatest single round to that time, and he made it by playing the last nine in 32. The only other sub-par round of the Championship was Heafner's closing 69. From the standpoint of attendance, this was the most successful in the series, and the entry, too, rose to a new high of 1,511.