

# IT'S YOUR HONOR

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## *True Test Of Golf*

TO THE USGA:

I can't go along with the argument that the Olympic Country Club course was too tough or unfair for the Open Championship. Rather, I think it was a fine, true test.

A premium was placed upon accuracy and distance for each shot—from the tee efforts right through the greens work. I spent a week there before the Open and predicted the winner would be a champion in every sense (he would not be weak in *any* department of the game, would think and plan well, not frustrate easily, etc.). I also felt that the winner's total might go as high as 291.

Too many of the regular circuit tourneys are played on short, "open" courses where aggressiveness and good putting are more important than shot-making and strategy, the refinements. Youngsters fresh off the circuit often make the mistake of trying to "bull" a course conditioned for the Open, become over-bold, and the results are invariably disastrous. They become frustrated and some, not being entirely honest with themselves, prefer to think the course is unfair rather than face the fact that they made errors in judgment or shot-making.

I think it's just this simple: Everyone starts at the same place, each hole, and finishes at the same place—playing the same Rules en route. The Open courses always demand more of the players, and if a man has a weak department, mentally or physically, he stands little chance of winning the Open. That's what *makes* our Open Championship.

Howard Capps  
Las Vegas, Nevada

## *Praise For Handicaps*

TO THE USGA:

Thanks to the inauguration of USGA Golf Handicap System for Men at our club, our tournaments have all had very close matches and it has made for a splendid increase in golf interest among our members.

Our players' handicaps, figured by the USGA system, have proved so equitable in their private matches, as well as our tournaments, it has made our players unusually conscientious in handing in every score. The Golf Committee audits each player's score, posts every score on the individual's handicap card, figures each handicap and posts it weekly. It requires considerable time and work on the committee's part, as we use the Current System, but since we have weekly handicap events and the play and interest have increased so under the system, the committee feels the time and work are most worth-while.

Congratulations to the USGA Handicap Committee for its fine work in preparing such an improved handicapping system for men, and we do hope you have an equally good one for the ladies. In my forty years of golfing at various clubs from coast-to-coast, it is the most equitable system I have experienced.

Francis L. Clayton  
Chairman Golf Committee  
Twin Hill Golf and Country Club  
Joplin, Mo.

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