



The "Newest" Course

Golf Illustrated tells this one:

An American lady came to St. Andrews and went into a shop to buy a post card of a Scottish golf course as requested by a golfing friend. She was shown a post card with the wording "Old Course, St. Andrew's," written across it. She looked at it for a minute, then said to the assistant: "Honey, take that old one away. It's a picture of your newest course I want."

Players — Not Horses

One way of combatting organized gambling in golf was graphically illustrated by some of the contestants in a recent invitation tournament. After the qualifying round it was discovered that there had been an auction pool. Thereupon six of the qualifiers for the first round flight suddenly "got sick" and defaulted their matches.

Many golfers resent being used as "horses".

A Helping Hand

A student at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N. J., who is studying to be a golf course superintendent is the beneficiary of scholarship aid resulting from excess funds from the annual award dinners of the Metropolitan Golf Writers' Association of New York.

The young man is Charles Herbert Fatum, who is a junior in the college and a student of agronomy. He is a former caddie and a member of both the golf

and the cross-country teams. The award by the Metropolitan Golf Writers' Association will benefit not only the individual student but, indirectly, will be of future benefit to the game of golf.

Rule Explanation

As golfers begin operating under the revised code of Rules, the question is raised as to why the principle of the new Rule 35-2a has not been extended to Rule 40-1b on the putting green.

Rule 35-2a grants, to the player only, in singles match play the right to have the opponent's ball lifted if it might interfere with his play, but the opponent now has no corollary right to lift his ball if it might assist the player.

Rule 40-1b, which governs in three-ball, best-ball and four-ball match play, permits any player to have any ball lifted or played if the player considers that it might interfere with or be of assistance to a player or side.

One reason for keeping the multi-ball rule unchanged is that, otherwise, the player might have too much opportunity to use other balls, as to carom off one ball at the side of the hole or to be stopped by a ball beyond the hole. Conceivably a real injustice could be worked on the opponents by tying their hands and not giving them the right to have a ball lifted. In singles the situation is materially different since only one other ball, and not three, is involved.

New York Awards

Harvie Ward, Jr., of San Francisco, Amateur Champion and a member of the 1953 and 1955 Walker Cup Teams, received the Gold Tee from the hands of Billy Joe Patton, the 1955 winner, for his achievements in golf at the annual dinner of the Metropolitan (New York) Golf Writers Association. The Ben Hogan Trophy, awarded annually to an individual who has proved an inspiration by overcoming a physical handicap, was accepted by Representative Jack Westland, of Everett, Wash., in behalf of President Eisenhower. Westland was Amateur Champion in 1952.

"Harvie proved he has changed by being the hardest worker on shipboard when the Walker Cup Team sailed for Europe last year", said William C. Campbell, Captain of the Walker Cup Team. "Five years ago he wouldn't have done that. He's a man with a purpose now. You might see in him, in spite of the present-day competition in golf, the start of a new Jones era."

Ward was the low-scoring amateur in the Open Championship, with a 72-hole score of 296, finishing seventh. He was also low amateur in the Masters Tournament.

Two Books

"A History of Golf", by Robert Browning, is a valuable contribution to the historical lore of golf. This scholarly book presents an over-all picture of the development of the game from its early beginnings and shows the evolution to the present scientific era. The publisher is E. P. Dutton and Company, Inc., New York.

Mrs. Mildred (Babe Didrickson) Zaharias, one of the women golfers Browning discusses in his book, has recorded her autobiography, which is entitled "This Life I've Led." It is a conventional autobiography pulled out of the stock class by the powerful record of its subject. It is interestingly written and compiled by Harry Paxton and published by A. S. Barnes and Company, New York.

SPORTSMAN'S CORNER

In the 1955 Metropolitan Golf Association Open Championship at the Fenway Golf Club, White Plains, N. Y., Claude Harmon, Winged Foot Golf Club professional, led the field at the end of the first round by three strokes with a 67. This figure tied the competitive course record.

One of his playing partners, Jay Hebert, matched him stroke for stroke until the 15th hole, where he drove 290 yards into a trap guarding the green. Confronted with the prospect of a possible birdie and a sure par, he missed two easy sand shots and took a duffer's 7. He finished the round with a 70 in a tie for second place, three strokes behind Harmon's 67.



CLAUDE HARMON

The wise thing for Harmon to have done at this stage would have been to go home and rest for the following day's second round, but he realized only too well the agony his playing partner had gone through in piling up seven strokes on that 15th hole and decided to try to help him, even if it cost him a chance to win the tournament.

For the next hour he and Hebert stood in a trap a few yards from the 18th green, banging explosion shots to a practice green nearby.

The next day Hebert's 72 for a total of 142 left him still in second place. Harmon, with a 79, played himself right out of the championship.

Both volumes are highlighted with colorful and historic pictures and will interest both the golfer and non-golfer alike.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE USGA

REGULAR

Chicago Women's Golf Club,
Chicago, Ill.
Coffin Golf Club, Indianapolis, Ind.
Eastern Hills Country Club of Garland,
Texas
Healdsburg Men's Golf Club,
Healdsburg, Cal.
Meadow Brook Golf Club, Reading, Mass.
Meadowbrook Country Club, Tulsa, Okla.
Palm Beach Country Club, Palm Beach,
Fla.
Philipsburg Country Club, Philipsburg, Pa.
Robins Air Force Base Golf Course, Ga.
Sebring Golf Association, Sebring, Fla.
Spotswood Country Club, Harisonburg,
Va.
Sunset Valley Tee Club, Highland Park,
Ill.
Western Illinois State College Golf
Course, Macomb, Ill.
Wildwood Golf and Country Club,
Cape May Court House, N. J.

ASSOCIATE

International Paper Company Course,
Georgetown, S. C.
Lions Municipal Golf Course,
Austin, Texas

Warning from Middlecoff

Speaking at a Sports Achievement Dinner in Dallas, Tex., Cary Middlecoff warned that gambling may cause a scandal in golf equal to that in basketball several years ago.

Middlecoff revealed that he had been offered a bribe to lose a minor golf tournament seven years ago by a man he had never seen before or since.

"If it was like that then, I would say it is probably worse now," said Middlecoff.

Calcutta pools that are held at many of the tournaments were the quickest means of getting golf into disrepute and causing a scandal, he added.

Leighton Calkins

We record with regret the passing of Leighton Calkins, originator of the old Calkins Handicap System, at his home in Plainfield, N. J. He was 87.

Mr. Calkins was a member of the USGA Executive Committee in 1907 and 1908. He also served as President of the New Jersey Golf Association in 1907 and 1908 and was Secretary of the Metropolitan Golf Association in 1905, 1906, 1907 and 1908.

The Calkins System for Calculating Handicaps was introduced in 1905 and was adopted by the USGA in 1911 when the Executive Committee resolved to prepare a handicap list of men who were members of Member Clubs. Handicaps were determined by averaging a player's three best scores and applying that average to Calkins' handicap table in the column under the par figure for the course played.

Calkins' principal contribution was the development of the handicap table which took into account not only the difference between the player's average best scores and par but also the degree of improvement which could be expected of players at different handicap levels. The Calkins system was generally discontinued in the late 1930's and early 1940's.

From 1915 to 1920 he served three terms as Mayor of Plainfield. He was a member of the Plainfield Country Club.

S. Davidson Herron

Golf lost another former Champion in the passing of S. Davidson Herron, at Pinehurst, N. C. He was 59. His home was in Sewickley, Pa.

In 1919, at the age of 20, Mr. Herron met Robert T. Jones, Jr., who then was only 17, in the final of the USGA Amateur Championship at the Oakmont Country Club, Oakmont, Pa. In defeating the Atlanta, Ga., youngster, who was destined to become one of the great golfers of all time, Mr. Herron played brilliantly, being four under 4s when he achieved a 5 and 4 triumph. By his victory, Mr. Herron became one of the few to win a major title on his home course. In 1923 he was a member of the United States Walker Cup Team which met Great Britain at St. Andrews, Scotland.