

# WORLD TEAM EVENT PLANNED FOR AMATEURS

BY

JOSEPH C. DEY, JR.  
*USGA Executive Director*

**F**ROM Tasmania to Massachusetts, in almost any direction, the reaction was much the same—that it is a good and timely thing to start a World Amateur Golf Team Championship this year.

From Tasmania, for example, came this cablegram from Len Nettlefold, the Australian Amateur Champion of 1926-28: "Very thrilled to receive news of proposed World Amateur competition. Congratulations and best wishes for its future success."

From Massachusetts, to complete the documentation, came this comment from perhaps the most experienced amateur golf internationalist in the world, Francis Ouimet: "I think it is a wonderful thing and can't help but do a great deal of good. If I were 40 years younger, I would be working hard to be one of the team of four representing this country, and needless to say, I wish the venture every success."

The venture will be launched in October of this year at the most appropriate place possible—St. Andrews in Scotland, where golf has been fostered so well for 400 years.

In a few short weeks, on May 2 and 3, detailed plans will be made in a conference at Washington, D. C.—a conference of representatives of national amateur golf associations around the world, from approximately 30 countries and every continent.

There has never before been such a meeting of national golf officials. American friends of golf have helped make the Washington conference possible by a most generous offer of free airplane transportation for one representative of each national association that intends to enter a team at St. Andrews.

Joint sponsors of the preliminary plans are the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews and the United States Golf Association.

The object of it all is to further friendship among the peoples of the world. President Eisenhower has said:

"Both officially and personally I am interested in the plan advanced by the USGA for an amateur team golf championship among nations. I visualize it, as you do, as a potent force for establishing good will and friendship between yet another segment of the populations of nations."

From the Honorary Secretary of the Argentine Golf Association, Federico S. Terrero, came the following comment which summarized the feelings of many:

"Such an important Championship . . . will bring together the best amateurs of the world and will undoubtedly foster further friendship of the peoples in our troubled continents."

The World Amateur Team Championship idea has come about on this wise:

For a number of years the USGA has received invitations for team matches periodically from national associations in other countries. Six years ago a new competition was begun, the Americas Cup match among Canada, Mexico and the United States. Other invitations came subsequently, but it was not possible to accept them. Last winter, for example, Japan expressed interest in a match with the United States. Not long before, there had been similar interest from South Africa, and from the Caribbean. Additionally, the USGA had been asked to try to have golf included in the Olympic Games.

As a consequence of all this, it seemed to the USGA Executive Committee last January that the time was probably ripe for a world-wide amateur team competition which could accommodate all possible interests. The Committee approved the idea in principle and decided to seek the cooperation of the Royal and Ancient.

A USGA special committee was ap-

pointed, comprising John D. Ames, of Chicago, President; Charles L. Peirson, of Boston, a Vice-President and Chairman of the Championship Committee; Totten P. Heffelfinger, Minneapolis, and Richard S. Tufts, Pinehurst, N. C., both former Presidents, and William Ward Foshay, of New York, General Counsel.

Plans were formulated, whereupon Mr. Ames and the USGA Executive Director flew to St. Andrews for private meetings with R&A representatives, particularly Henry H. Turcan, Chairman of the General Committee; N. C. Selway, Chairman of the Championship Committee, and Brig. Eric Brickman, Secretary. There had been an informal meeting in this country with John B. Beck, the R&A Captain.

The R&A was most cooperative and decided immediately to join with the USGA in constituting an Interim Committee on Organization. The meetings at St. Andrews were marked by the same warm spirit of teamwork that have characterized R&A-USGA collaboration on the Rules of Golf since 1951.

It is planned to hold the World Team Championship every other year, with the second event in the United States in 1960. It is not intended to have any effect upon the Walker Cup and the Americas Cup series, which are held in odd and even years, respectively.

American advocates of adding golf to the Olympics seem more than satisfied by the World Championship idea. Golf has never been an official part of the Olympics. However, in the 1904 Games at St. Louis, the local Olympic organizing committee had the right to include a demonstration of golf in the program, and there was a competition, the winner of which was George S. Lyon, of Canada. This event was not recognized as an official Olympic event.

Following is the original plan for the World Amateur Team Championship as circulated among nearly 50 countries, for use as a basis of the Washington discussions in May:

#### 1. OBJECT

To further friendship among the peoples of the world.

#### 2. PARTICIPANTS

(a) Teams of amateur golfers representing golf organizations which are the sole national authorities for amateur golf in their respective countries.

(b) Each country's team will consist of four players who are citizens of that country. Each team will have a captain who may be either one of the four players or a fifth person not eligible to play.

#### 3. RULES

(a) Participants must be amateur golfers under the Rules of Amateur Status of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland, or the United States Golf Association.

(b) Play will be conducted under the Rules of Golf as approved by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews and the United States Golf Association.

#### 4. FORM OF COMPETITION

72 holes stroke play (18 holes per day).

All four members of each team compete.

Aggregate of the three lowest scores for any team is the team's score.

Team with lowest three-man aggregate for 72 holes will be the Champion. (Provision to be made for settling ties)

#### 5. FREQUENCY AND TIME OF COMPETITION

(a) The Championship will be held biennially, starting in 1958.

(b) The Championship will be held during October unless special circumstances require otherwise.

#### 6. ROTATION OF COMPETITION

The Championship will be rotated among the three following zones in the order given:

(a) 1958—*European-African Zone*:—Countries of Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

The 1958 Championship will be played at St. Andrews, Scotland, in October on dates to be fixed later.

(b) 1960—*American Zone*:—Countries of North America, Caribbean America and South America.

The 1960 Championship will be played in the United States of America at a place to be selected by the United States Golf Association.

(c) 1962—*Australasian Zone*:—Countries of Asia, Australia, New Zealand and Oceania.

#### 7. VENUE

Except as stated above for 1958 and 1960, the countries in the zone concerned will

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**A:** In stroke play, the player played four strokes with his original ball and incurred a penalty of two strokes for violation of Rule 22-2 with the second ball. His score for the hole was 6. In match play he lost the hole.

Rule 22-2 provides that "A ball is in play when dropped." When the player dropped a second ball thinking he was observing Rule 33-3b, he had a second ball in play even though improperly.

If he had picked up the second ball as soon as the original ball was found, he would have incurred a penalty of two strokes in stroke play or lost the hole in match play under Rule 22-2. The fact that he played out both balls under Rule 11-5 does not relieve him of the penalty in stroke play. He is not, however, subject to penalty for playing a wrong ball.

If the search had lasted five minutes, the original ball would have been lost—Definition 6. Since the ball was not lost in a water hazard, the player would have been required to put a ball in play in accordance with Rule 29-1; his failure to do so probably would have been a serious breach

entailing loss of hole in match play or disqualification in stroke play—see Note 1 to Rule 29.

### ***Greenkeeper's Hole Defined***

USGA 58-5

D. 13

**Q:** We would very much appreciate knowing what is meant by "a hole made by a greenkeeper" in Definition 13. Perhaps you could supply us with some examples of such holes which are considered "ground under repair" and other examples of holes which would not be considered "ground under repair". We have already noticed that a rut caused by the tractor is not a "hole" which can be considered as ground under repair.

Question by: WARREN V. BUSH  
Las Cruces, N. M.

**A:** A "hole made by a greenkeeper", as used in Definition 13, is usually ground temporarily opened for upkeep of the course, such as a hole made in moving sod or a tree stump, laying pipe lines, and similar conditions.

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determine, by majority vote, the country in which the Championship will be held.

#### **8. RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONDUCT**

The national amateur golf authority in the entertaining country will be responsible for the conduct of the Championship.

Such authority shall pay all expenses incident to the Championship (except expenses of visiting players); it may charge admission to spectators and otherwise raise income as it may desire, and shall be entitled to retain all proceeds.

#### **9. EXPENSES OF PLAYERS**

Each national golf authority may defray the expenses of its Team's four members and of a non-playing captain not to exceed the following limits:

(a) First class round-trip travel between the player's home and the scene of the Championship.

(b) Living expenses during travel, for not more than (?) days at the scene of the Championship, and caddie fees for those days.

#### **10. PRIZES**

(a) *Team*—There will be a team trophy inscribed as follows:

### **WORLD AMATEUR GOLF TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY**

To further friendship among the peoples  
of the world  
presented to

THE UNITED STATES GOLF ASSOCIATION

and

THE ROYAL AND ANCIENT GOLF CLUB OF  
ST. ANDREWS, SCOTLAND

by

(name of donor)

(date)

(Note—the United States Golf Association has received offers of a trophy and will accept one. The United States Golf Association will serve as trustee of the trophy for purposes of insurance and for safekeeping during any suspension of the Championship)

The Trophy will be held by the national authority represented by the winning team for the ensuing two years.

(b) *Individuals*—Prizes will be presented to members of the winning team and the runner-up team. Such prizes will be uniform from year to year.

(c) Cost of individual prizes and of insurance of the Team Trophy will be defrayed pro rata by the participating countries.