

USGA HONORS AN OLD-TIME SCOT

BY

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Honors spread across three generations as the United States Golf Association returned to New York for its 65th Annual Meeting.

Findlay S. Douglas, of New York, 84 years old last November, was presented the Bob Jones Award for distinguished sportsmanship in golf.

Four collegians ranging in age from 19 to 23 were among the nine amateur golfers selected to represent the United States against Great Britain in the Walker Cup Match at Muirfield, Scotland, next May.

The Walker Cup Team will comprise: Charles R. Coe, Oklahoma City, Okla., Captain

Thomas D. Aaron, Gainesville, Ga.
Deane R. Beman, Silver Spring, Md.
William Hyndman, III, Abington, Pa.
Jack Nicklaus, Columbus, Ohio
William J. Patton, Morganton, N. C.
Dr. Frank M. Taylor, Jr., Pomona, Calif.
E. Harvie Ward, Jr., San Francisco, Cal.
E. Ward Wettlaufer, Buffalo, N. Y.

While five of these are familiar veterans of international matches, Aaron is 21 and a student at Florida; Beman is 20 and attends Maryland; Nicklaus is 19 and goes to Ohio State and Wettlaufer is 23 and a June graduate of Hamilton.

Ames Re-elected

The meeting in the Hotel Biltmore also developed the re-election of John D. Ames, of Chicago, for a second term as president of the Association.

John G. Clock, of Long Beach, Cal., was re-elected a vice-president and John M. Winters, Jr., of Tulsa, Okla., was elected the other vice-president, succeeding Charles L. Peirson, of Boston.

Clarence W. Benedict, of White Plains, N. Y., was elected secretary, succeeding Mr. Winters.

Emerson Carey, Jr., of Denver, Colo., was elected treasurer, succeeding J. Frederic Byers, Jr., who has been elected an honorary member.

Philip H. Strubing, of Philadelphia,

NEW MEMBERS OF THE USGA

REGULAR

Belleview Golf and Country Club	La.
Beth Hills Golf Club	N. Y.
Crestview Country Club	Mass.
James Connally AFB Golf Assn.	Texas
DACO Golf Association	Texas
Edna Country Club	Texas
El Rivino Country Club	Cal.
Lake Success Golf Club	N. Y.
Lincoln Golf and Country Club	Mich.
Montaup Country Club	R. I.
Oneonta Country Club	N. Y.
Pine Meadows Golf Club	Fla.
Valley Golf Club Association	Ariz.
Yorba Linda Ranch & Country Club	Cal.

ASSOCIATE

Forest Hills Golf Course	Ore.
Lakehurst Golf Course	N. J.
Lake Park Hills Golf Course	Ohio
Vernon Hills Country Club	Ill.
Worthington Golf Club	W. Va.

was elected General Counsel, succeeding Wm. Ward Foshay, of New York, who was elected to the Executive Committee.

New members elected to the Executive Committee were Fred Brand, Jr., of Pittsburgh, Charles C. Clare, of New Haven, Conn., Harry L. Givan, of Seattle, Wash., and Harold A. Moore, of Chicago.

Those re-elected to the Executive Committee were William C. Chapin, of Rochester, N. Y., Richmond Gray, of Richmond, Va., Hord W. Hardin, of St Louis, Mo., William McWane, of Birmingham, Ala., and Bernard H. Ridder, Jr., of St Paul, Minn.

While the election and several of the committee reports had cast their shadows before them, there were real elements of surprise for the one hundred sixty persons in attendance in the announcements of the Bob Jones Award and of the Walker Cup Team.

Mr. Douglas has had a career notable not only for his dedication to the game but also for his skill at playing it. Born and educated in St. Andrews, Scotland, he came to this country at the age of 22

and won the fourth Amateur Championship one year later, in 1898. He became President of the United States Golf Association in 1929-1930. Subsequently he won the Championship of the United States Seniors' Golf Association in 1932 and was president of that association from 1937 through 1941. He was a founder of both the National Golf Links of America, at Southampton, N. Y., and the Blind Brook Club, at Port Chester, N. Y.

However, as Mr. Foshay, the Chairman of the Bob Jones Award Committee, pointed out in making the presentation: "All this is a matter of record, but only part of the record.

"The things that are not of record count for more. We all know that, not only in matters pertaining to golf but also in his business and life generally, Findlay Douglas has demonstrated throughout nothing but the qualities of the gentleman and the true golfer . . .

"One time I had the pleasure of playing in a four-ball with Findlay. He pulled his approach into a bunker to the left of the seventeenth green. The ball lodged high on the side of the bunker, and it required gymnastics of a high order for him to gain a stance.

"While he was working at it, one of the others said to me: 'That's a tough one, but I guess he's had to play about every possible shot.' Well, Findlay came out of the bunker and got his par. And that has been true of his life—he has had to play every shot and he has played them as they should be played."

Previous winners of the Bob Jones Award have been Francis D. Ouimet, William C. Campbell, the late Mrs. Mildred Didrikson Zaharias and Miss Margaret Curtis. The Award bears the inscription: "In recognition of distinguished sportsmanship in golf. Presented by the United States Golf Association to commemorate the vast contributions to the cause of fair play made by Robert Tyre Jones, Jr."

Bob Jones, who made his "Grand Slam" while Mr. Douglas was President of the USGA, attended the meeting as a delegate from the Peachtree Golf Club, in Atlanta, and took the occasion to say from the floor that he felt the USGA had honored him in honoring Findlay Douglas.

While the presence of four youngsters lends a special fillip to the Walker Cup

Team, even Jack Nicklaus, who only recently turned 19, is not the youngest ever so honored. Roland MacKenzie was only 17 when he played for the Walker Cup in 1926 at St. Andrews.

The Team plans to leave New York by jet aircraft on Thursday, May 7. The Match will be held at Muirfield, Scotland, on Friday and Saturday, May 15 and 16. It is likely that most of the players will remain abroad to compete in the British Amateur at the Royal St. George's Golf Club, in Sandwich, England, from May 25 through 30. They are exempt from the sectional qualifying on May 9 for that event.

If any player selected finds he is unable to accept the invitation to join the Team, an invitation will be issued to one of the following alternates in order:

1. William C. Campbell, Huntington, W. Va.
2. Charles R. Kocsis, Royal Oak, Mich.
3. Richard D. Chapman, Pinehurst, N. C.

Other News

A number of other announcements resulted from the four days of sub-committee and Executive Committee meetings in "Golf House" prior to the Annual Meeting.

Prize money for professionals in the 1959 Open Championship has been increased by \$5,000 to a new record total of \$40,000. First prize will be \$10,000, an increase of \$2,000. Provision is made for 50 professional prizes, as heretofore. This is the third consecutive year in which the total prize money has been raised \$5,000.

The Open Championship will be played at the Winged Foot Golf Club, Mamaroneck, N. Y., June 11 through 13.

Exemptions from qualifying because of performances as amateurs will be granted henceforth only if the players concerned are still amateurs.

There will be no handicap limit for entrants in the Senior Amateur Championship, as a trial in 1959. Heretofore entries were accepted only from players whose USGA handicaps did not exceed 10 strokes.

The Championship will be held at the Memphis Country Club, Memphis, Tenn., from October 5 through 10.

The Association's next Annual Meeting

will be held Saturday, January 30, 1960, in New York. The Green Section's mid-winter Educational Program will be held the previous day, also in New York.

The USGA representatives to the Administrative Committee of the World Amateur Golf Council will be the President, Mr. Ames, and the Chairman of the Championship Committee, Mr. Ridder.

Nearly 200 green committee chairmen and golf course superintendents, a surprising number of them from beyond the Metropolitan New York area, attended the third mid-winter Educational Program sponsored by the Green Section at the Hotel Biltmore on the day before the Annual Meeting.

Individual experts and panels discussed various aspects of golf course rebuilding and remodeling in morning and afternoon sessions. Among those participating were William C. Chapin, of Rochester, N. Y., chairman of the Green Section Committee; Edwin Hoyt, of New Canaan, Conn., chairman of the Northeastern District of the Green Section Committee; seven agronomists from the Green Section staff; and Dr. Ralph E. Engel, of Rutgers University; Prof. H. B. Musser, of Pennsylvania State University; Robert Trent Jones and William F. Gordon, golf course architects; and Dr. Andrew P. Virtuoso, president of the Whipoorwill Club, Armonk, N. Y. The next edition of the USGA Journal will contain a summary of the discussions.

In the course of the Annual Meeting, the chairmen of the various sub-committees of the Executive Committee reported on their special fields of activity, and their reports indicate the increasingly wide scope of USGA operations.

Mr. Winters reviewed the work of the Rules of Golf Committee in preparing for the conference with representatives of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club, at St. Andrews, Scotland, in May on proposals for changes in the code. The proposals cover a wide range, including such matters as balls lost, out of bounds, unplayable and in water hazards. The USGA representatives will be Mr. Winters, Wm. Ward Foshay, Isaac B. Grainger, Richard S. Tufts and Joseph C. Dey, Jr.

Mr. Ridder, chairman designate, reported on the successful events conducted by the Championship Committee during

1958 when a World Amateur Team Championship was instituted, Charles R. Coe, of Oklahoma City, was leading amateur in the Open and won the Amateur Championship, Tommy Bolt won the Open Championship over a record entry of 2,132 players and the United States defended the Americas Cup against Canada and Mexico.

Mr. Hardin, speaking for the chairman of the Amateur Status and Conduct Committee, reported that some commercial agencies had offered to waive charges for rooms and meals to induce amateur golfers to compete in tournaments, often in ignorance of the Rules of Amateur Status. Amateurs who accept such offers forfeit their amateur status, and as a matter of practice when such offers come to USGA attention, the sponsors are informed of the Rules.

As Chairman of the Membership Committee, Mr. Hardin pointed with pride to the net increase of 123 clubs and courses during the year and to a new record membership of 2,289 clubs and courses at the close of the fiscal year on November 30, 1958.

Mr. Chapin drew attention to the increasing number of courses served by the Green Section Visiting Service (formerly the Regional Turf Service) and to the intangible benefits accruing to all golf clubs as a result of Green Section work.

Mr. Benedict described the scientific research being carried out under the direction of the Association to improve its control over the velocity of the ball and to assist it in evaluating other matters such as the backspin effect of varying degrees of markings and finishes on the faces of iron clubs.

Mr. Carey, as treasurer designate, reviewed the Accountants' Report which revealed a net income of \$14,056 for the fiscal year ended November 30, 1958, against \$38,232 in 1957 and \$40,405 in 1956. He pointed out that only a few direct expenses were charged against the income from championships, although an important part of the total effort of the New York office staff was devoted to championship work. He pointed out, further, that none of indirect benefits of the work of the Green Section, in which all clubs shared, were reflected in the net expense incurred by that department.