

65 YEARS OF THE OPEN IN FACTS AND FIGURES

A Collection
of Significant
Open Records

Here are the "A" through "Y's" of National Open Championship records. Beginning with "Admission Charge" they go through "Youngest Winner." There are no records beginning with "Z."

Bill Inglish of the Daily Oklahoman, Oklahoma City, did the original research on many of these records which have now been brought up to date in anticipation of the 60th Open Championship being played at Cherry Hills Country Club, Denver, Colo., this month.

Admission Charge—Admission charge was first levied in 1922.

Amateur's lowest 18-hole score—James B. McHale, Jr.'s 65 in the third round at St. Louis Country Club, Clayton, Mo., in 1947.

Attendance Record—43,377 for three days at Winged Foot Golf Club, Mamaroneck, N. Y., in 1959. 16,527 on the third day at Inverness Club, Toledo, Ohio, in 1957, was the highest for a single day.

Best Comebacks—18 holes—Jack Fleck, in 1955 at the Olympic Country Club, San Francisco, Calif., was nine strokes off the pace and came back to win. 36 holes—Olin Dutra, in 1934 at Merion Cricket Club, Ardmore, Pa., was eight strokes behind. 54 holes—Byron Nelson, in 1939 at the Philadelphia (Pa.) Country Club; Johnny Farrell, in 1928 at the Olympia Fields Country Club, Matteson, Ill., and Walter Hagen, in 1919 at the Brae Burn Country Club, West Newton, Mass., each trailed by five strokes. Gene Sarazen was seven strokes in arrears with 28 holes to play at Fresh Meadow Country Club, Flushing, N. Y., in 1932; he made a two on the ninth, a 32 on the second nine of the morning round and a 66 on the afternoon round to complete the 28 holes in 100 strokes and win by three.

Best Start by Champion—67, by Ben Hogan at Riviera Country Club, Los Angeles, Calif., in 1948 and at Oakmont (Pa.) Country Club in 1953.

Best Finish by Champion—66 by Gene Sarazen at Fresh Meadow Country Club, Flushing, N. Y., in 1932. Second low are 67's by Ben Hogan at Oakland Hills Country Club, Birmingham, Mich., in 1951, Jack Fleck at Olympic Country Club, San Francisco, Calif., in 1955 and Tony Manero at Baltusrol Golf Club, Springfield, N. J., in 1936.

Champions Who Led All the Way—Only three have led after every round—Ben Hogan in 1953; Jim Barnes in 1921, and Walter Hagen in 1914. Four other Champions have led or were in a tie all the way—Tommy Bolt in 1958; Charles Evans, Jr., in 1916; Alex Smith in 1906, and Willie Anderson in 1903.

Consecutive Winners—Five players have won the title in consecutive years: Willie Anderson 1903-1904-1905; John J. McDermott, 1911-1912; Robert T. Jones, Jr., 1929-1930; Ralph Guldahl, 1937-1938; and Ben Hogan, 1950-1951.

Continuity—Gene Sarazen teed off in 31 successive Opens from 1920 through 1954, a record. Sarazen played through 22 successive Opens from 1920 through 1941.

Entry Record—2,385 in 1959 at Winged Foot Golf Club, Mamaroneck, N. Y.

First Score in 60s—David Hunter, of Essex Country Club, Manchester, Mass., returned a card of 68 in the first round of the 1909 Championship at the Englewood Golf Club, Englewood, N. J. He finished with 313 and in a tie for 30th.

Finishes in First Ten—16 by Walter Hagen is the all-time Open record. Among still active players, Ben Hogan has finished in the first ten 14 times. Sam Snead is next with 11.

Highest Scores to Pace Field, 72 Holes—Modern high is 299 by Sam Parks, Jr., at Oakmont (Pa.) Country Club in 1935; 287 by Jack Fleck and Ben Hogan in 1955 at Olympic Country Club, San Francisco, Calif.; Hogan, in 1951, at Oakland Hills Country Club, Birmingham, Mich.; and Hogan, Lloyd Mangrum, and George Fazio in 1950 at the Merion Golf Club, Ardmore,

Pa. All-time high is 331 by Willie Anderson (winner in play-off with Alex Smith) in 1901 at Myopia Hunt Club, South Hamilton, Mass.

Highest 72-Hole Score—Professional John Harrison, 393, in the 1900 Open at the Chicago Golf Club, Wheaton, Ill.

Highest 36-Hole Cut—155 at Olympic Country Club, San Francisco, Calif., in 1955 (low 50 and ties).

Holes-In-One—Among those making holes-in-one during an Open were Bill Kuntz, 142-yard 11th hole at Oak Hill Country Club, Rochester, N. Y., in 1956; John Weitzel, 190-yard 12th hole at Baltusrol Golf Club, Springfield, N. J., in 1954; Zell Eaton, 158-yard 10th hole at Baltusrol Golf Club, in 1936; Leo Diegel, 146-yard 13th hole at Inverness Club, Toledo, Ohio, in 1931; Eddie Towns, in the 1922 Open at the Skokie Country Club, Glencoe, Ill.

Longest Championship—In 1931 Billy Burke and George Von Elm tied at the Inverness Club, Toledo, Ohio. The play-off was at 36 holes and it took two play-offs, or 72 extra holes, to decide Burke the winner by one stroke.

Longest Open Course—7,037 yards in 1937 at Oakland Hills Country Club, Birmingham, Mich.

Lowest 9 Hole Score—James B. McHale, Jr.'s 30 on first nine in third round at St. Louis Country Club, Clayton, Mo., in 1947.

Lowest Round—64 by Lee Mackey, Jr., (first round) at the Merion Golf Club, Ardmore, Pa., in 1950.

Lowest Second Round—66 by Johnny Goodman in 1933 at North Shore Golf Club, Glen View, Ill.; Jimmy Thomson in 1937 at Oakland Hills Country Club, Birmingham, Mich.; Johnny Bulla in 1950 at Merion Golf Club, Ardmore, Pa.

Lowest Third Round—65 by James B. McHale, Jr., in 1947 at St. Louis Country Club, Clayton, Mo.

Lowest Fourth Round—65 by Walter Burkemo in 1957 at Inverness Club, Toledo, Ohio.

Lowest First 36 Holes—138 by Sam Snead at Riviera Country Club, Los Angeles, Calif., in 1948; by Ben Hogan at Northwood Club, Dallas, Texas, in 1952; and by Dick Mayer and Billy Joe Patton at Inverness Club, Toledo, Ohio, in 1957.

Lowest Last 36 Holes—136 by Gene Sarazen at Fresh Meadow Country Club,

Flushing, N. Y., in 1932, and by Cary Middlecoff at Inverness Club, Toledo, Ohio, in 1957.

Lowest 36-Hole Cut—138 at Riviera Country Club, Los Angeles, Calif., in 1948 (low 50 and ties).

Lowest 72-Hole Scores—276—Ben Hogan (67-72-68-69) 1948. 278—Jimmy Demaret, 1948. 280—Jim Turnesa, 1948. 281—Ralph Guldahl, 1937; Julius Boros, 1952; Dr. Cary Middlecoff, 1956. 282—Tony Manero, 1936; Lew Worsham, and Sam Snead, 1947; Bobby Locke, 1948; Julius Boros and Ben Hogan, 1956; Dick Mayer and Dr. Cary Middlecoff, 1957; Bill Casper, Jr., 1959.

Lowest Scoring Averages (10 or More Opens)—Ben Hogan leads with 71.88 average for 62 Open rounds and a 72-hole average of 287.53. Sam Snead is second with 72.64 for 73 rounds and 290.55 over 72 holes in 18 Opens. Bob Jones competed in 11 complete Opens and had a 73.98 for 51 rounds and 295.91 for 72 holes.

Money Winners—Ben Hogan leads with \$27,061.66 in 15 complete Opens, with Cary Middlecoff second with \$13,751.15 in 11. Julius Boros is third with \$13,520 in 10 Opens, Bill Casper, Jr., fourth with \$12,800 in three, and Sam Snead fifth at \$12,686.20 in 18. If Bob Jones had played as a professional, he would have won only \$4,366.25 for his record of four Open titles and four runner-up finishes in nine consecutive Opens.

Most Wins—Three men have won four times: Willie Anderson 1901, 1903, 1904, and 1905; Robert T. Jones, Jr., 1923, 1926, 1929, and 1930; Ben Hogan, 1948, 1950, 1951, and 1953.

Most Times Runner-up—Sam Snead and Robert T. Jones, Jr., four times each.

Most Decisive Victories—11 strokes—Willie Smith, in 1899 at Baltimore Country Club, Baltimore, Md. Nine strokes—Jim Barnes, in 1921 at Columbia Country Club, Chevy Chase, Md. Seven strokes—Fred Herd, in 1898 at Myopia Hunt Club, South Hamilton, Mass., and Alex Smith, in 1906 at Onwentsia Club, Lake Forest, Ill. Six strokes—Laurie Auchterlonie, in 1902 at Garden City Golf Club, Garden City, N. Y.; Ralph Guldahl, in 1938 at Cherry Hills Country Club, Denver, Colo.; Ben Hogan, in 1953 at Oakmont (Pa.) Country Club. Five strokes—Willie Anderson, in 1904 at Glen View Club, Golf,

Ill. Four strokes—George Sargent, in 1909 at Englewood (N. J.) Golf Club; Julius Boros, in 1952 at Northwood Club, Dallas, Texas; Tommy Bolt, in 1958 at Southern Hills Country Club, Tulsa, Okla.

Most Sub-par Rounds, Individual, in Open—Three—Harry Cooper, 1936, at Baltusrol Golf Club, Springfield, N. J.; Ralph Gulda, Sam Snead, and Ed Dudley, 1937 at Oakland Hills Country Club, Birmingham, Mich.; Byron Nelson and Ed Oliver, 1946 at Canterbury Golf Club, Cleveland, Ohio; Sam Snead, 1947 at St. Louis Country Club, Clayton, Mo.; Ben Hogan, Jimmy Demaret, Jim Turnesa, and Bobby Locke, 1948 at Riviera Golf Club, Los Angeles, Calif.

Most Sub-Par 72-Hole Totals, Single Open—Nine were under par in 1946 at the Canterbury Golf Club, Cleveland, Ohio.

Most Sub-Par Rounds in Career—16 by Ben Hogan. Sam Snead is second with 15.

Most Rounds Under 70 in Career—12 by Ben Hogan.

Most Strokes on One Hole—Ray Ainsley took 19 strokes on the par-4 sixteenth in the second round at the Cherry Hills Country Club, Denver, Colo., in 1938. Willie Chisholm took 18 on the 185-yard eighth hole in the first round at Brae Burn Country Club, West Newton, Mass., in 1919.

Oldest Winner—Ted Ray was 43 years 4½ months old, when he won at the Inverness Club, Toledo, Ohio in 1920. He was born March 28, 1877. The tournament was held in August. Oldest of the recent Champions is Ben Hogan, who was 40 when he won his fourth Open at Oakmont (Pa.) Country Club in 1953.

Pace-setters' Fate—The man who led after 18 holes has won only 12 of the 59 Opens. The man who led after 36 holes has won 18 of the 56 Opens at 72 holes. The man who led after 54 holes has won 28 of the 56 Opens at 72 holes, exactly half.

Play-offs—Play-offs occur approximately once every three Opens. The last was in 1957, between Dick Mayer and Cary Middlecoff, and it was the twentieth play-off in 59 Opens. There have been six three-man play-offs and 14 two-man play-offs. Four play-offs, in 1925, 1931, 1939 and 1946, have themselves ended in ties and required replays. Both Willie Anderson and Robert T. Jones, Jr., won

twice in play-offs, and Jones participated in four. The most decisive play-off victory was Jones' 23-stroke margin over Al Espinosa in their 36-hole extension at Winged Foot Golf Club, Mamaroneck, N. Y., in 1929.

Poorest Start for Champion—Modern high is 76 by Ben Hogan in 1951 at Oakland Hills Country Club, Birmingham, Mich.; and Jack Fleck in 1955 at the Olympic Country Club, San Francisco, Calif. The all-time high is 91 by Horace Rawlins in the first Open at the Newport Golf Club, R. I., in 1895.

Poorest Finish for Champion—Modern high is 75 by Dr. Cary Middlecoff in 1949 at Medinah (Ill.) Country Club. All-time high is 84 by Fred Herd in 1898 at Myopia Hunt Club, South Hamilton, Mass.

Shortest Open Course—6,532 yards (in modern times) in 1947 at St. Louis Country Club, Clayton, Mo. The shortest in history was the Shinnecock Hills Golf Club, Southampton, N. Y., which measured only 4,423 yards in 1896.

Smallest Winner—Fred McLeod, 108 pounds, at Myopia Hunt Club, South Hamilton, Mass., in 1908.

State Hosts—Illinois is the state that played host for the most Opens, having staged 10. Pennsylvania and New York are tied for second with eight.

Under Par—The last player under par for four rounds was Ben Hogan, who was five under in 1953 at Oakmont (Pa.) Country Club.

Winners of Open and Amateur Championships—Six players; Francis Ouimet, Jerome D. Travers, Charles Evans, Jr., Robert T. Jones, Jr., John Goodman and Lawson Little. Evans, in 1916, and Jones, in 1930 won both in the same year.

Winners of Open and PGA—Seven players; Jim Barnes, Walter Hagen, Gene Sarazen, Tommy Armour, Olin Dutra, Byron Nelson and Ben Hogan. Sarazen in 1922 and Hogan in 1948 won both in the same year.

Winners of USGA and British Opens—Eight players; Ted Ray (England), Harry Vardon (England), Jim Barnes, Walter Hagen, Robert T. Jones, Jr., Tommy Armour, Gene Sarazen and Ben Hogan. Jones in 1930, Sarazen in 1932 and Hogan in 1953 won both in the same year.

Youngest Winner—Horace Rawlins, 19, at the Newport Golf Club, Newport, R. I., in 1895.