

## THROUGH THE GREEN

### Why 18 Holes?

The origin of 18 holes as a standard for a round of golf dates back to a decision in 1764 at the Royal and Ancient Golf Club, St. Andrews, Scotland.

An explanation is contained in "A History of Golf," written by Robert Browning, editor of Britain's "Golfing" Magazine from 1910-1955:

"One of the first and most important results of the substitution of St. Andrews for Leith (Scotland) as the recognized capital of golf was the adoption of eighteen holes as the recognized round. In the first half of the nineteenth century the rules still varied to some extent on different courses, and even in such matters as the number of holes in the round there was no recognized practice, the figure varying from the five of the original Leith lay-out to the twenty-five of Montrose (Scotland) . . . .

"At St. Andrews itself the adoption of the round of eighteen holes was purely arbitrary and even purely accidental. Originally both St. Andrews and Prestwick (Scotland), its great rival to the west, had twelve holes . . . .

"At St. Andrews, however, the twelve holes were laid out in a strip along the shore, running out to the (River) Eden. The golfers struck off from beside the home hole and played 11 holes out to the far end of the course, then turned and played 11 holes home, playing to the same hole as on the outward journey, but in reverse directions, and finished off by holing out at the same hole from which they started. At this time, therefore, the

round at St. Andrews consisted of twenty-two holes. In 1764, however, the Royal and Ancient Club passed a resolution that the first four holes should be converted into two, and as this change automatically converted the same four holes into two on the road in, the 'round' was reduced from twenty-two to eighteen."

Thus, this accidental incident that 18 holes was the most convenient number of holes at St. Andrews, with its gradually established pre-eminence in golf, operated in the direction of 18 holes being accepted as the standard for a round of golf.

Here is the resolution of October 4, 1764, that is the basis for the acceptance of 18 holes as a standard round:

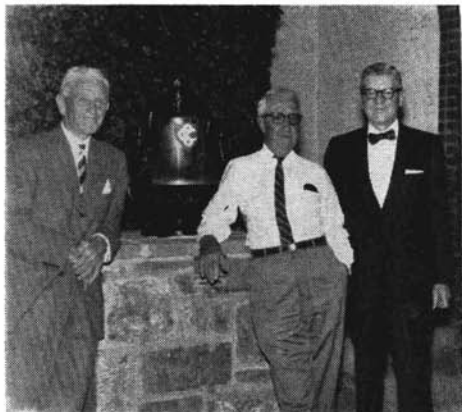
"The Capital and Gentlemen Golfers present are of opinion that it would be for the improvement of the Links that the first four holes should be converted into two. They therefore agreed that for the future they shall be played as two holes, in the same way as presently marked out."

### Enthusiasm!

One of the most remarkable organizations in golf is the Hawaii Public Links Golf Association. It consists of 86 member clubs. Each club must have at least 25 individual members to qualify.

The president is T. S. Goo; he succeeded his wife, Mrs. Violet Goo.

These straws in the wind give a hint of the enthusiasm and the ability which resulted in scheduling the 1960 USGA Amateur Public Links Championship in Honolulu.



## RING COLUMBIA

A well traveled, once hard working railroad engine bell is now in distinguished semi-retirement at the Columbia Country Club, Chevy Chase, Md. The bell was presented to the club by the Burlington Railroad after it was removed from an old engine. The bell is used as a signal on ceremonial occasions and other times it is locked away. On the left Jock Hutchison, 1921 British Open Champion and on the right Fred McLeod, 1908 USGA Open Champion, skirt the bell, Judge Godfrey L. Munter, Columbia president, stands beside Mr. McLeod. Fred weighed only 108 pounds when he won the Open Championship—the smallest player ever to win.

## Caddie Cars

Twice, electric caddie cars have been permitted by the City of St. Andrews, Scotland, on the historic fish-hook shaped piece of linksland lying between the city and an inlet of the North Sea.

The area is occupied by the Old Course and each time that mechanical cars went out into the area, the occasion was big.

The first time favored Bob Jones when he captained the Eisenhower Cup Team in October, 1958. The second time was in July during the Centenary playing of the British Open Championship.

The Joint Links Committee of the City of St. Andrews voted to permit cars to be used by members of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club's Championship Committee only in cases of emergency. Even then the cars had to be kept off fairways.

## CDGA Directory of Information

The Chicago District Golf Association is a pace-setter in the service of disseminating useful information to its Member Clubs concerning the clubs themselves, their problems, membership, financing, charges, courses, facilities and club personnel.

The 11th annual CDGA Directory of Information reaches a new high in providing this service.

The Directory, a 106-page loose leaf publication, even carries a labor breakdown from selected clubs which is designed to be used as a yardstick by other clubs in meeting their own labor costs and problems.

Typical information given on a Chicago District Club is: name, address and telephone number of officers, members of the board of directors and committee chairmen; names and telephone numbers of the manager, bookkeeper, green superintendent, professional, locker manager and caddie-master; course rating; facilities, such as golf, swimming, ice skating; dates for board meetings, fiscal information; dates when the course and clubhouse are open; types of membership; numbers of various types of members; transfer fees and various charges of many kinds of services at the clubs.

An analysis of costs and charges is made on operations of the bar.

## It's a Pleasant Habit

Three holes-in one in four days and all on the same hole by the same player . . .

Mrs. Paddy Martin of Rickmansworth, England, put that record together this spring on the Rickmansworth Golf Course near London. The lady, an 18-handicapper, used an eight iron each time on the 125-yard third hole.

## Player of the Year

Gary Player, Johannesburg, South Africa, has been named "Sportsman of the Year" in his homeland. Player also was selected for the same honor by sportswriters in 1958. Player won the British Open Championship in 1959 and was second to Tommy Bolt in the U. S. Open of 1958.

## General Chairman's Ace

The Open Championship means many things to many people.

Take Harold R. Berglund, for instance. He spent much of the last two years planning Cherry Hills' vast arrangements for the recent Open in his capacity as General Chairman.

But he appeared in another role in the Local Qualifying Rounds at the Denver Country Club. He was a player. And what a player!

He played the 17th and 18th holes in 1-6. Although he did not qualify, the Open brought him his first hole-in-one.

## Cause and Effect

From the Sacramento (Calif.) Golf Club news:

"The Minister's playing partner was not doing well and became careless of his language. The man of the cloth thought a moral lesson might not be amiss.

"Minister: I notice that the players who score the best do not swear.

"Fellow Player: What do they have to swear about?"

## Harmon in Harness

One of the most remarkable rounds of the year has been played by Claude Harmon, professional at Winged Foot Golf Club, Mamaroneck, N. Y.

Mr. Harmon shot Winged Foot's West Course—site of the 1959 Open Championship—in 31-30—61. From the regular tees, which Mr. Harmon used, the course has a par of 71. The course was playing unusually long and his score was two strokes better than the unofficial record. The competitive record is 65 by Jug McSpaden.

Mr. Harmon's Card: 333 444 334—31  
243 343 443—30—61

## "Practice" Club Disapproved

The USGA will not approve an illegal club even if the implement is intended to be used for practice only.

A club outfitted with iron rollers along the sole was submitted to the USGA for consideration. The makers said the implement would be used for practice.

Only clubs which meet the requirements of Rule 2-2 of the Rules of Golf are

## Executive Committeeman



Robert K. Howse, of Wichita, Kansas, has been elected to the Executive Committee of the USGA and fills the vacancy on the 15-member committee created by the resignation of Emerson Carey,

Jr., of Denver, Colo.

Mr. Howse was a member of the USGA Junior Championship Committee from 1951-1956 and a member of the Sectional Affairs Committee since 1958. He is a member of the Wichita Country Club.

approved by the USGA.

The USGA considers it inadvisable for anyone to manufacture a club which does not conform to the rule. A person who trained or practiced with such an implement would in all likelihood use the club while playing.

## Books Reviewed

MY GOLFING ALBUM, by Henry Cotton, (Country Life, Ltd., 2 Guineas—\$5.88). A 248-page collection of pictures of courses and players, both British and American, with considerable instructional text by the author. Anecdotes and memories keep the text lively. Pictures range from ancient to modern.

GOLF ADDICTS ON PARADE, by George Houghton, (Country Life, Ltd. 15 shillings, \$2.10). A large collection of bound golf cartoons done in black and white. Most are humorous and new to American golf readers. Houghton draws at least 100 golf cartoons each year.

## Necrology

Elijah W. (Bill) Cunningham, Boston, sports columnist and golf writer for 40 years for the Boston Herald, the Post and the Dallas Morning News.

William D. Wallace, Miami, retired golf writer for the Daily News and formerly with New York newspapers.