

# BETSY RAWLS WINS OPEN AT TIME TESTED WORCESTER

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Only once have America's men and women played the National Open Championships on the same course. The course—Worcester Country Club, Worcester, Mass.

The men's Open Championship was held there in 1925 and the 72-hole result was a tie between Willie Macfarlane and Bob Jones. Twice Macfarlane and Jones went around the Worcester course, in the only double play-off in Open history, and in the end Willie Macfarlane won by one stroke.

Now, 35 years later the women have had their turn at Worcester and the result this time was a down-to-the-last-putt battle. Miss Betsy Rawls, of Spartanburg, S. C., was the winner with 292 strokes—one better than Miss Joyce Ziske of Waterford, Wis.

Willie Macfarlane's defeat of Bob Jones was a surprise and came after Jones called a penalty stroke on himself when his ball turned as he addressed it. But Miss Rawls' winning of the Women's Open Championship was not a surprise at all. She has won four times, a superb record in itself. She won her first Open in 1951 before the tournament became part of the USGA Championship schedule. She won her first USGA Open Championship in 1953, her second, in 1957 and her third, this year at Worcester.

To win at Worcester is especially notable because the course is one of the fine ones. Donald Ross laid out the hilly 18 and like nearly all of his courses it has stood up well over the years. Some golf courses are like American automobiles—they tend to go out of date. But not Donald Ross' courses.

Several times at Worcester, Miss Rawls might have given up, had she been less of a person or a golfer. She was tied for 11th after the first round and seven strokes back after 36. Then, she was paired with her good friend Miss Mickey Wright for the last 36 holes. Miss Wright not only had won the 1958 and 1959

Women's National Opens but she also was the leader going into the last day at Worcester.

Instead of surrendering a little, Miss Rawls shot a 68 in the third round and overtook Miss Wright at 217.

After lunching together, Miss Rawls and Miss Wright both found trouble aplenty on the outgoing nine of the final round. Miss Wright had the worst of it and faded quickly out of the Championship picture. Miss Wright took a six on the first hole of the final round and she never recovered. She was bothered by an ailing left knee but she claimed it was her putting that cost her the round. She had six three-putt greens in scoring her final 82.

Miss Rawls had so much trouble early in the final round that Miss Ziske passed her and went into a two-stroke lead at the 63rd hole.

After making the final turn, Miss Rawls played like a Champion. She came home in 35—two under par, and then stood in the USGA tent by the 18th green to wait for Miss Ziske to finish.

Miss Rawls had some anxious moments as she saw Miss Ziske hit her No. 6 iron second shot over the 18th green and into the rough. Miss Ziske's third shot stopped four feet below the cup. She missed coming back and Miss Rawls' nervousness was over, she had won.

Miss Ziske said she thought she needed only the four-foot putt for a clear cut victory. She had not been aware that Miss Rawls had scored a birdie four on the 71st hole and she left the 72nd tee confident a par would win. After thinking she had tied for the title, Miss Ziske was somewhat shaken when she learned she had finished second by one stroke. After she had signed her scorecard she became aware of Miss Rawls discussing her victory in a radio interview by the tent at the 18th green.

Before that final hole the tournament spotlight first shone on Miss Wright who

set the early pace with her pair of 71's. The president of the Ladies' PGA, Miss Marilyn Smith, was just two strokes back with two 72's. Miss Ziske and Miss Rawls were both seven strokes out of the lead at the halfway point with 149's.

It was here that both began their drives for the top. Miss Rawls fired her 68 (which included six birdies) to tie the Women's Open single round scoring record set by Fay Crocker in 1958 at the Forest Lake Country Club, Bloomfield Hills, Mich. This brought her into the tie for the lead, after 54 holes, with Miss Wright, while Miss Ziske assumed third spot, after a fine 71.

It was on the 62nd and 63rd holes that Miss Ziske took the lead and looked as if she was starting to pull the Championship away from Miss Rawls' reach. The only times Miss Rawls pulled even was on the 69th and 71st holes. Miss Ziske

went ahead again on the 70th as she gained a par while Miss Rawls missed her five-footer.

This set the stage for the rousing 72nd hole finale. Miss Rawls was on in two, left the first putt three and one-half feet short and dropped that for her 292. Then Miss Ziske missed her four-footer which cost her the Championship.

With her victory, Miss Rawls earned first money of \$1,800 while Miss Ziske netted \$1,200. Mrs. Marlene Bauer Hagge and Miss Mary Lena Faulk were tied for third at 298 and earned \$725 each; Miss Wright, fifth with 299, worth \$500. Total prize money was \$7,200.

Miss Judy Torluemke, 15 years old, of St. Louis, Mo., became the youngest player in Women's Open history to win the amateur honors with her 326 finish, good for 24th place. Miss Torluemke may also be the smallest, weighing but 99



Miss Betsy Rawls won the Women's Open Championship at the Worcester Country Club, Worcester, Mass., in a down-to-the-last-hole struggle. She took first money, two trophies and many congratulations. Mrs. Henri Prunaret, on the left, is the Chairman of the USGA Women's Committee; Clarence W. Benedict, on the right, is a USGA Vice-President.

pounds. Second amateur was Miss Sally Carroll, Wheeling, W. Va., with 329; Miss Claudette A. LaBonte, Taunton, Mass., third, with 330.

Only one Curtis Cup player competed this year—Miss Joanne Goodwin of nearby Haverhill, Mass. A heavy program of golf, including Curtis Cup matches, The British Womens' Championship and Women's National Amateur Championship had forced many fine amateurs to miss the National Open.

The Worcester Country Club did a magnificent job of tournament preparation. There were fine galleries. While

final official attendance figures are not complete, an estimate of daily ticket sales shows that approximately 367 tickets were sold on Thursday; 486 on Friday and 1,246 on Saturday. Estimated season tickets sold totaled approximately 1,025, an excellent showing.

The Worcester Country Club did everything in its power to make the girls feel at home, thanks to the wonderful treatment accorded all contestants by Duncan H. Dewar, Jr., the General Chairman; Harry Midgely, President of the Worcester Country Club and all the committeemen.

### HOW THE LEADERS STOOD AFTER EACH ROUND

#### 18 Holes

Miss Mickey Wright .....	71
Miss Marilyn Smith .....	72
Mrs. Marlene Bauer Hagge .....	74
Miss Fay Crocker .....	74
Miss Joyce Ziske .....	75
Miss Mary Lena Faulk .....	75
Miss Wiffi Smith .....	75
Miss Beverly Hanson .....	75
Miss Kathy Whitworth .....	75
Miss Murle MacKenzie .....	75
Miss Betsy Rawls .....	76
Miss Ruth Jessen .....	76

#### 36 Holes

Miss Mickey Wright .....	142
Miss Marilyn Smith .....	144
Miss Mary Lena Faulk .....	147
Miss Kathy Whitworth .....	148
Mrs. Marlene Bauer Hagge .....	148
Miss Betsy Rawls .....	149
Miss Joyce Ziske .....	149
Miss Fay Crocker .....	150
Miss Wiffi Smith .....	151
Miss Beverly Hanson .....	152
Miss Betty Jameson .....	152

#### 54 Holes

Miss Mickey Wright .....	217
Miss Betsy Rawls .....	217
Miss Joyce Ziske .....	220
Miss Mary Lena Faulk .....	223
Mrs. Marlene Bauer Hagge .....	223
Miss Wiffi Smith .....	224
Miss Fay Crocker .....	226
Miss Marilyn Smith .....	227
Miss Louise Suggs .....	227
Miss Kathy Whitworth .....	228

#### 72 Holes

Miss Betsy Rawls .....	292
Miss Joyce Ziske .....	293
Mrs. Marlene Bauer Hagge .....	298
Miss Mary Lena Faulk .....	298
Miss Mickey Wright .....	299
Miss Wiffi Smith .....	300
Miss Beverly Hanson .....	301
Miss Fay Crocker .....	302
Miss Louise Suggs .....	304
Miss Marilyn Smith .....	304
Miss Kathy Whitworth .....	304

#### SEVEN STEPS TO GOLFING SUCCESS

Now first you check your grip  
To be sure that there's no slip,

And then a casual glance  
To verify your stance;

A little forward press  
Completes the golf address.

Now bring the club back slow  
And also keep it low,

Just keep your left arm straight  
And let your hips rotate.

Remember at the top  
To momentarily stop;

Then all you have to do  
Is swing that club head through

—JAMES THAMES  
Birmingham, Ala.