

## U. S. Golf Association Decisions on the Rules of Golf

**Question.**—A and B are playing a match. A claims the hole on B on account of B walking across his line of putt, claiming that an opponent in so doing could turn on his heel, which would affect his putt. Does this not come under etiquette? If there is any ruling on the same, please give the rule that covers.

**Answer.**—There is no rule nor is there any paragraph under the etiquette of golf that covers this situation. The game of golf is presumably a gentleman's game, and if B deliberately turned his heel in the line of A's putt he would violate one of the fundamentals of golf, which is that no player should take an undue advantage of his opponent. If B deliberately did attempt to injure the line of A's putt, he should be disqualified from any further competitions and suspended from the club. If, on the other hand, it was an accident and not intended in any way to take advantage of A, the matter should be treated as unintentional and A should remind him not to do it again.

**Question.**—A, B, and C and their partners tie for low gross in a two-ball mixed foursome on medal play score and arrange to play off the tie on 18 holes by playing a three-ball sixsome. In playing out of a sand trap adjacent to the green, B's ball hits A's caddy, who is standing at the pin. B and his partner dropped out before the round was finished, and A and his partner won from C and his partner by two strokes. The questions to be decided are (1) what penalty was incurred when B's ball hit A's caddy; and (2) has such penalty any effect on the match as between A and C?

**Answer.**—You did not state in your letter whether the ball played out of a sand trap adjacent to a green was within 20 yards of the hole or not. If it was within 20 yards of the hole, rule 13 under Special Rules for Stroke Competition applies. It would cost B's ball two strokes. If it was outside the area of yards from the hole, it would be a rub of the green under rule 10. The fact that B's ball hit A's caddy has no bearing whatever upon the medal scores of A and C.

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

All questions sent to the Green Committee will be answered as promptly as possible in a letter to the writer. The more interesting of these questions, with concise answers, will appear in this column each month. If your experience leads you to disagree with any answer given in this column, it is your privilege and duty to write to the Green Committee. While most of the answers are of general application, please bear in mind that each recommendation is intended specifically for the locality designated at the end of the question.

1. **Use of a sod nursery in establishing creeping bent greens.**—We are much interested in the vegetative method of propagating putting greens by planting bent stolons and have a promise from a dealer to supply us with 60 bushels of stolons, which we intend to use as soon as we receive them. In conferring with