Major Changes in New Rules

Rules of Golf as revised by agreement of United States Golf Assn., Royal and Ancient and Canadian and Australian golf associations, now are available from USGA, 40 E. 38th st., New York 16, N. Y. Price of the rule book is 25 cents a copy. The previous major revision of rules was made by the USGA in 1947.

The arrangement of the Rules has been radically changed. Noteworthy changes in substance are listed below.

Definitions

4 Ball holed is defined.
14c Lateral water hazard is defined.
14 Sand of itself no longer a hazard, unless within confines of hazard.
19 Observer is defined.
20 Obstruction definition simplified to be merely anything artificial, with certain exceptions.
25 Putting green: All ground especially prepared for putting.

Rules

2-2b Putter shaft may be fixed at any point in head.
2-3a Ball: for international team competition, diameter of ball shall be not less than 1.620 inches. This permits use of British ball in international matches in U. S. A.
3 14 Clubs: Club may not be borrowed from any other person playing on course.
8 Practice stroke during play of hole in stroke play: Penalty reduced to two strokes.
11-3 Decision: USGA will not give decision if play is not conducted in accordance with Rules of Golf.
21 Wrong ball: Playing a stroke with any wrong ball except in a hazard entails loss of hole in match play and two strokes in stroke play.
22-1a Dropping ball improperly entails one-stroke penalty.
23-1 Lifting ball must be done by player, partner or either of their caddies.
27 Ball at rest moved: General—In some cases, ball must be dropped, not replaced. In other cases, ball must be played as it lies, not replaced. See Rule for details.
27-2a Touched or moved by opponent, his caddie, clubs or other equipment—opponent incurs penalty stroke.
29-1a Out of bounds: Penalty increased to stroke and distance. Penalty stroke may not be remitted by Local Rule.
29-2b Unplayable ball: Two optional procedures in both match and stroke play. In proceeding under two-stroke-penalty option, ball must be dropped.

31 Obstructions: Ball in hazard must be dropped, not placed.
32-1 Casual water, ground under repair, hole made by burrowing animal: Relief procedures identical.
32-1b In hazard—option permits dropping outside of hazard under one-stroke penalty.
32-3 Ground under repair—ball need not be found, but to treat it as lost requires reasonable evidence.
33 Hazards and water hazards:
33-1e Finding ball in hazard—sand or fallen leaves covering ball may be removed enough to enable player to see top of ball (and need not be restored to original position); if ball is moved, no penalty, and ball must be replaced.
33-1f Clubs may be placed in hazard.
33-3 Ball in lateral water hazard—ball may be dropped either where original ball was played or within two club-lengths of either side of hazard, opposite point where ball last crossed hazard margin.

35 Putting green and within 20 yards of hole:
35-1a Loose impediment— if ball moves after loose impediment within six inches has been touched, it must be played as it lies; penalty, one stroke.
35-1e, f Other ball at rest—player shall not play or lift ball until opponent's or fellow-competitor's ball is at rest.
35-2a Ball interfering or assisting, match play—When ball nearer hole lies on putting green, it may be lifted, at option of player or opponent, if either consider that it might interfere with or assist the player. (Stymie abolished.)
35-2b Playing out of turn—recall optional with opponent.
35-3a Ball interfering or assisting, stroke play—When ball nearer hole lies on putting green and might interfere with or assist competitor, either he or fellow-competitor may require it to be lifted or played at owner's option. Failure to comply entails owner's disqualification, and competitor making request may lift ball. Preferable that ball be played, rather than lifted.
36 The Committee: Certain duties enumerated.
36-5 Disqualification penalty may be waived on modified Rule, warranted in exceptional individual cases.
36-7a, b Local Rules—Must conform to USGA policy. Penalty imposed by Rule of Golf shall not be waived by Local Rule.

Golfdom
The player: Certain duties enumerated.

Forecaddie may not be employed, under penalty of disqualification.

Practice on course prohibited on day of.

Forecaddie may not be employed, under penalty of disqualification.

Bogey or par competition: Disqualification

Three-ball, best-ball and four-ball match play:

Former rules consolidated.

Ball moved by another ball: through the green or in a hazard, must be dropped.

Four-ball stroke play: Specifically covered in Rules for first time.

Northern Cal. PGA Junior Promotion Is Great Job

Dewey Longworth, chmn. Northern Cal. PGA Junior Golf Promotion committee, in his committee's report to NCPGA pres. Pat Patten, showed a pro record that becomes a model for all other PGA sections.

The NCPGA members were active in promotion of 75 junior tournaments in 1951. Ten colleges and 21 high schools, and a total of 2,335 students received free instruction from the 33 Northern Cal. pros reporting. Close cooperation with amateur golf associations, school administrators and physical education departments were in evidence and there was much activity in junior departments at clubs.

PGA sectional officials, especially those heading junior golf promotion committees, should get, if possible, a copy of the NCPGA report from Dewey Longworth, pro, Claremont CC, Oakland 18, Cal. This report shows one part of the PGA's national junior promotion program that is of vast value to golf clubs, municipal golf courses and schools.

1952 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

JANUARY

April 7 — Los Angeles Open, Riviera CC, Los Angeles, Calif.

April 9-12 — Annual PGA Senior, Dunedin, Fla.

April 10-13 — Bing Crosby Pro-Am Inv., Cypress Point GC, Monterey Peninsula CC, Pebble Beach GC, Del Monte, Calif.

April 15-19 — Senior's Natl Open, Medal Play, PGA Natl GC, Dunedin, Fla.

April 17-20 — San Diego Open, San Diego (Calif.) CC, Chula Vista

April 23-27 — Florida Winter Amateur, Palm Beach (F.L.) CC

April 23-27 — 20th Annual Doherty Challenge Cup, Miami (Fla.) CC

April 24-27 — Phoenix Open, Phoenix (Ariz.) CC


May 31-3 — 7th Annual Women's International Four-Ball, Orangebrook CC, Hollywood, Fla.

FEBRUARY

February 7-10 — El Paso Open Inv., El Paso (Tex.) CC

February 11-15 — 17th Annual Mixed Four-Ball Tourn., Everglades Club, Palm Beach, Fla.

February 14-17 — Texas Open, Brackenridge Park GC, San Antonio, Tex.

February 16-17 — Women's Weathervane Open, Normandy Beach, Fla.

February 19-24 — 11th Annual International Mixed Two-Ball Tourn., Dubsdread CC, Orlando, Fla.

February 23-24 — Natl Ch. of Golf Club Champions, Ponce de Leon GC, St. Augustine, Fla.

February 21-24 — Houston Open Inv., Memorial Park GC, Houston, Tex.

February 22-24 — Natl Baseball Players' Championship, Miami (Fla.) CC

March 25-Mar. 1 — 28th Annual Dixie Amateur, Miami (Fla.) CC

March 28-29 — Baton Rouge Open Inv., Baton Rouge (La.) CC

MARCH

March 3-7 — Sonth Fla. Amateur, Palm Beach (Fla.) CC

March 6-9 — St. Petersburg Open, Lakewood CC, St. Petersburg, Fla.

March 11 — La Gorce Pro-Am., La Gorce CC, Miami Beach, Fla.

March 11-15 — 2nd Annual Nat'l Seniors Best-Ball Ch., Ponce de Leon GC, St. Augustine, Fla.

March 12-15 — Women's Titleholders Ch., Augusta (Ga.) CC

March 13-16 — Miami Beach Open,

17-18 — Reed Memorial, Seminole CC, Hobe Sound, Fla.

APRIL

April 17-22 — 34th Annual Houston (Tex.) CC Amateur Inv.

April 18-23 — Amateur Senior's Match-Play Ch., Kenilworth Lodge CC, Sebring, Fla.

April 18-23 — Women's North & South Amateur, Pinehurst (N. C.) CC

April 19-18 — Seminole Pro-Am., Seminole CC, Palm Beach, Fla.

April 21-23 — Women's Inv. Four-Ball, Bahamas CC

April 21-24 — Jacksonville Open Inv., (Club to be announced), Jacksonville, Fla.

April 25 — Aiken Pro-Am., Palmetto GC, Aiken, S. C.

April 27-30 — Wilmington Azalea Open Inv., Cape Fear CC, Wilmington, N. C.

MAY

May 1-6 — Trans-Mississippi Women's Championship, Arizona CC, Phoenix

May 3-6 — Masters Tournament, Augusta (Ga.) National CC

May 11-14 — Greensboro Open Inv., (Club to be announced), Greensboro, N. C.

May 21-26 — 52nd Annual North & South Amateur Championship, Pinehurst (N. C.) CC

MAY

May 26-31 — British Amateur Championship, Prestwick GC

June 9-11 — WGA Open Championship, (Club to be announced), St. Louis, Mo.

JUNE

June 6-7 — Curtis Cup Match, Muirfield, Scotland

June 7-9 — NAIB, (Place to be announced later.)

June 12-14 — USGA National Open Championship, Northwood Club, Dallas, Texas

June 16-21 — USGA Open, Skokie CC, Glencoe, III.

June 17-20 — WGA Junior Championship, Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis

June 18-24 — PGA Championship, Rolling Springs CC, Louisville, Ky.

JULY

July 7-11 — British Open Championship, R. Lytham, St. Anne's

July 14-18 — WWGA Junior Inv. Open, (Club to be announced)

July 23-26 — USGA Junior Amateur, Yale GC, New Haven, Conn.

August 28-2 — WWGA Amateur, Los Angeles (Calif.) CC

AUGUST

August 18-22 — USGA Girls' Junior, Monterey Peninsula CC, Pebble Beach, Calif.

August 18-23 — USGA Amateur, Seattle (Wash.) GC


SEPTEMBER

September 8-14 — WGA Amateur Championship, Exmore CC, Highland Park, Ill.