Novak Ate Early; Kept Banquet Moving

Joe Novak, the old expediter from Bel Air CC, Los Angeles, kept things moving so fast at the PGA President’s Dinner that many suspected he must have had a snack before the festivities started. Joe was on his feet right through the dessert course introducing notables at the affair. When Pres. Harold Sargent got up to present the plaques and silverware to those who were honored for their 1959 or prior accomplishments, Joe had the introductions out of the way. That, in itself, should rate some kind of a plaque.

Art Wall, Jr., the player-of-the-year, and Bob Rosburg, the 1959 PGA Champion, were grateful but not loquacious upon receiving their awards. Jock Hutchison, Sr., Paul Runyan and Harry Cooper all agreed that the disappointments they may have had to endure in their golfing lives were erased when they were notified that they had been elected to the Hall of Fame. Eddie Duino, who got the home pro-of-the-year award, threatened to outtalk Horton Smith, the well known Michigan orator, but after making an emotion-tinged acceptance of the honor, decided not to try for two titles in the same year. So, everyone left early.

PGA Reviews 1959
Gains and Makes Plans for Future

During the eight-day conference of the PGA in the Ft. Harrison Hotel in Clearwater, Fla., plans were made and, where necessary, legislation was enacted to insure continuation of progress which has distinguished the activities of the professionals’ organization in the postwar era.

Highlights of 1959 include the growth of the assn. to nearly 4,500 members, the expansion of its tournament program to $1,500,000 in prize money, and a reorganization of the merchandise program. One of the most important developments of the year was the new boom in filmed golf series for television.

Pres. Harold Sargent reported that the 1959 PGA Championship at Minneapolis GC in St. Louis Park, Minn., was the greatest in history, but that Akron, O., is working hard to make the 1960 renewal at Firestone CC greater still.

A community-wide effort in Akron, headed by Loren W. Tibbals, general chmn. of the PGA Championship and executive sports editor of the Akron Beacon-Journal, has produced the biggest pre-Christmas sale of tickets in the history of the tournament. In general, the format which proved to be so successful at Minneapolis in 1959 will be followed in 1960.

May 16 was set as the date for allotment of qualifying places to the PGA sections. June 20 was set as the date for qualifying in the sections. However, qualifying may be held on any day from June 20 through 27, inclusive, without special authorization.

Entry Fees to Sections
The executive committee voted to permit the local sections to retain entry fees for the PGA Championship. This money will be used to help pay the expenses of sectional qualifiers to the national Championship.

Discussions as to the part the city of