
This is an adept and sound modernization of a couple classics, now out of print, on the Mark G. Harris method of the short game.

Bob Cromie, book editor of the Chicago Tribune, formerly of its sports staff, an intense student of the game, a clear writer and one of the foremost golf book collectors, brought the Harris book up to the minute in text and illustration. Cromie made it a “must” text book for the golfer who wants to make his putting better.

The late Mark G. Harris, a prominent men’s clothing designer and tailor, was forced by ill health to retire from business in the early 1930’s. He was about 65 years old then. In that era, before the present tremendous activity in Senior golf was even imagined, he stoutly maintained, after he watched golfers on a practice green, that older men could putt and chip as well as younger stars. His statement was ridiculed by golfing friends so he took up the short game, figured out some basic geometry and vix-proof physiology and psychology and became an astonishing short-game player.

Although ably instructed by the late Bob Macdonald and assiduous at practice, Harris couldn’t hit a wood or an iron much more than 150 yards due to physical handicaps. But within 50 yards of the pin he would get down in 2, two times out of three. He made a movie short that was so good it was hard to believe.

The great putters of today and yester-year confirm the Harris findings. Lloyd Mangrum writes the foreword to Cromie’s excellent revision of the Harris standard. Helen MacDonald, prominent teaching professional, tells of phenomenal performances that exhibited the Harris mastery of the short game. The book is very helpfully illustrated.

Women’s View of the Course

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Obstructions, too, should be clearly defined. These are just some of the more basic requirements in preparing a course for competition and many tournaments are won or lost by their proper application.

When Women and Course Work Clash

I imagine right now most of you are saying a little prayer that no woman will ever be placed in a position of authority at your course but it might not be too bad. For one thing, on weekdays you wouldn’t have to come to work until about one o’clock at which time we are through playing.

While we are quite willing to offer suggestions for the grooming and maintenance of a golf course we would be most reluctant to sacrifice any playing privileges in order to facilitate their accomplishment. A course, though perfect in each detail, is of little value unless it is available for play. Justifiable or not, I believe this quite accurately reflects our attitude, especially concerning our Ladies’ Day.

Perhaps on other days even we concede your work program must take precedence. However, there is a definite need for better communication between the women players and their superintendent. You should be fully informed of the women’s golf schedule, especially Guest days and other out of the ordinary events.

When you have some extensive maintenance problem an explanation to the Women’s Golf chairman would promote excellent relations and she in turn could explain your position to the members.

If, when women have arranged an event, conditions dictate protecting the course from play, call the chmn. early in the morning (she’ll be up) and through her telephone committee she can notify all the players. In areas where you are doing extensive work, for instance, repairing a pipe line, if you properly designated it ground under repair, both workers and players would benefit.