PGA Sets June 2 As National Golf Day

The PGA has designated June 2 as National Golf Day. Persons who match their scores against the ‘champion’s’ total will have between June 2 and 10 to get in their official round. The winner of the match between Jerry Barber, the PGA champion, and Gene Littler, the Open champion, which will be played at Aronimink GC in Philadelphia, June 5, will establish the score at which Golf Day contestants will shoot.

This is the 11th year for National Golf Day. Various golf charities and educational and research projects benefit from the funds collected. Contestants pay $1 per round for each score they turn in in the Golf Day competition.

For the second year, winners’ scores will be in relation to par rather than on a “stroke-for-stroke” basis. If either Barber or Littler shoots a two-under-par, a contestant, with his handicap, must be three under to beat him. Men amateurs play their normal handicaps. For those who don’t have established handicaps, the Callaway system is used. Women participants use their regular handicaps in addition to a bonus of ten strokes. The Callaway system also applies to women participants who don’t have established handicaps.

Since Golf Day was started in 1952, more than $850,000 has been raised for the various undertakings it supports.

Prize List Increased to $30,000 for 1963 PGA Senior Tourney

The PGA Senior Championship, jointly sponsored by the professional organization and Wm. Teacher & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow, Scotland, will be a $30,000 event in 1963. This is a $5,000 increase over the 1962 purse. The tournament will be played Feb. 21-24.

In 1954, when the tournament was first played, the prize money totalled only $5,000. It was increased gradually between 1956 and 1960, when it became a $15,000 tourney. The 1962 event offered prizes amounting to $25,000.

The winner, in addition to getting $2,500 in 1963 and the Teacher trophy, will have his expenses paid to England to compete against the British Senior pro champion. Paul Runyan has won the PGA Sen-

ior the last two years, both times with a 275 over the National course at Dunedin. A total of 392 pros played in the various divisions of the Senior Championship this year.

Walter Hagen Wins GWA’s Richardson Trophy

Walter Hagen, to whom the pros and for that matter, the game of golf, owes more than to perhaps any man who ever played it, has been selected as the 1961 winner of the William D. Richardson trophy, awarded annually by the Golf Writers Assn. The Haig received 68 of 318 votes cast, 17 more than were given the runnerup in the balloting, Herb Graffis, Golfdom’s editor.

Others who received votes for the Richardson award: Glenna Collett Vare and Clifford Robert, 42 each; Gene Sarazen, 38; Jimmy Demaret, 33; Thomas W. Crane, and Totten P. Heffelminger, 20 each.

Won Several Big Ones

The flamboyant Hagan, who is 69 and lives near Traverse City, Mich., first gained prominence in 1913 when he finished third in the USGA Open. The following year he won the title at Chicago’s Midlothian club and then came back to win it again in 1919 at Braeburn in Mass. The Haig also captured four British Open championships between 1922 and 1929, but perhaps his greatest triumphs were saved for the PGA Championships. He won five of these, the first in 1921, and then, between 1924 and 1927, took an unprecedented four in a row.