May 25 Designated As National Golf Day

Saturday, May 25, has been designated by the PGA as National Golf Day. This is the 12th year that the competition for the nation's golfers is being staged. In the 11 years that it has been held, approximately $900,000 has been raised for golf charities and education and research projects. Proceeds from the annual event are turned over by the PGA to National Golf Fund, Inc. for distribution.

The target score for persons who take part in National Golf Day will be established on May 28 when Gary Player, the 1962 PGA champion, and Jack Nicklaus, winner of last year's Open, meet in Dallas in the round of the champions. Their match will be played at the Dallas AC CC, site of the 1963 PGA Championship.

Rules for taking part in National Golf Day are the same as in recent years. The player pays $1 for each round submitted in the competition. There is no limit on the number of rounds that may be submitted.

Contestants will compete against the winner of the round of the champions on the basis of scores in relation-to-par rather than on a stroke-for-stroke basis, as once was the case. If either Player or Nicklaus wins their match with a 2-under, the Golf Day participant will have to shoot a 3-under (with handicap) to win. This makes it possible for entrants in the contest to play their rounds on Par 3 as well as standard courses. Men amateurs will play their handicaps; women will play their regular handicaps plus an additional seven strokes. Persons who beat the champion will receive medals from the PGA.

Funds from National Golf Day are divided among 17 organizations. These include caddie scholarship funds, blind and amputee associations, turf research and education programs and the education, relief and benevolent funds of the PGA.

PGA Junior Tourney

PGA members have recommended a PGA National Junior Tournament for both boys and girls to be played at the National GC in Palm Beach Gardens.


Palmer Overtakes Middlecoff in Postwar Dollar Derby

The $80,000 plus that Arnold Palmer earned on the tour in 1962 enabled him to pass Cary Middlecoff as the postwar era's leading money winner. A year ago, Palmer trailed Middlecoff by approximately $19,500 but Cary managed to win less than $7,000 in official money in 1962 and forfeited first place in the standings with hardly a protest. At the same time, he relinquished second place to Doug Ford, whose $28,000 winnings in the past season pushed him over the $300,000 mark.

Five of the six leading money winners for the 1947-62 period are in their 40s, but fellows like Bill Casper, Jr., Gene Littler and Dow Finsterwald, all around the age of 35, are closing in on them. Sam Snead, in the No. 4 position has picked up $277,000 in the last 16 years, but if his career record were taken into account, he'd be leading the pack.

Here are the standings:

Arnold Palmer $ 344,778
Doug Ford 306,080
Cary Middlecoff 303,550
Sam Snead 277,609
Julius Boros 253,925
Ted Kroll 249,899
Bill Casper, Jr. 248,688
Gene Littler 248,041
Dow Finsterwald 238,957
Art Wall, Jr. 217,648
Jack Burke, Jr. 215,490
Lloyd Mangrum 201,184
Mike Souchak 194,734
Tom Bolt 192,318
Jay Hebert 189,831
Fred Hawkins 170,655
Bob Rosburg 170,172
Jerry Barber 165,645
Doug Sanders 164,712
Billy Maxwell 164,319

Memorize This, Men!

Here is the tonnage report on the tomes delegates to the 1962 PGA national meeting are supposed to assemble and digest for the enlightenment of section members: 237-page report of officers and committees; 86-page report of treasurer and finance committee; 248-page proceedings book of 1961 annual meeting; 227-page report of executive and tournament committee meetings; 17-page report on PGA foundation for education-service.

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