Who is a PRO?

USGA clarifies the heretofore somewhat clouded concept of an 'amateur'

AT its annual meeting in January, the USGA announced it had completely rewritten the amateur golf code to clarify the entire picture and to put into effect certain changes from the previous regulations.

The more important changes in the code are: (1) regular faculty members of recognized institutions of learning may now teach golf along with their other duties, subject to certain minor limitations; (2) the Association's attitude regarding prizes for amateurs has been clarified, the purpose being to keep such prizes symbolic rather than tangible in nature; (3) regulations governing the routine of reinstatement to amateur standing have been tightened: (4) the probationary period for an applicant for reinstatement to amateur standing has been reduced from three years to two years.

Complete text of the USGA's new "Regulations Governing Eligibility to Amateur Classification" follow:

The following Regulations shall govern the eligibility of players to compete as amateurs in competitions held under the auspices of the United States Golf Asso-

The Executive Committee of the United States Golf Association expressly reserves the right to refuse the entry into any competition under its jurisdiction of any player, amateur or professional, who in its opinion has acted in a manner detrimental to the best interests or the spirit of the game.

SECTION 1. Acts After Eighteenth Birthday. The following Regulations—Section 1 (a to i)—apply only to the acts of a player committed subsequent to his eighteenth birthday or, in the case of a player who has been reinstated to Amateur Classification (see Section 4), subsequent to the date of such reinstatement.

A player shall be deemed to be ineligible

to compete as an amateur:

(a) If he has received compensation for acting in the capacity of a caddie; for employment as an assistant to a professional; as an employee in a golf shop engaged in making, repairing or cleaning golf clubs; as a greenkeeper charged with the maintenance of a golf course or his assistant (bona fide manual workers excepted); as a caddie-master or his

assistant.

(b) If he has received compensation for giving instructions in playing the game. These Regulations include oral and written instruction, instruction by demonstration and by picture, and are applicable whether such instruction has been given to groups or to individuals. Exempt from this provision are full-time members of the faculties or recognized institutions of learning, only a minor part of whose duties include instruction in golf. To enjoy this exemption, however, the teacher must confine his instruction to regularly enrolled students of the institution by which he is employed.

(c) If he has played in a match, a tournament or an exhibition with the intention or hope of accepting money or its equivalent as a prize or as compensation.

(d) If, because of his skill as a golfer, he has received a salary or remuneration directly or indirectly from any firm dealing in goods relating to the playing of the

(e) If he has accepted without payment golf balls, clubs or golf merchandise from a manufacturer or a dealer in golf equip-

ment or their agents.

(f) If he has received or contracted to receive compensation for lending his name or his likeness for the advertisement or the sale of anything except as he may be a dealer, a manufacturer, or an inventor thereof.

(g) If he has received or contracted to receive compensation for permitting his name to be advertised or published as the author of books or articles on golf of which he is not actually the author.

(h) If, because of his skill as a golfer, he has accepted membership or privileges in a club under conditions not ordinarily available to other members unless such membership and/or privileges have been awarded as purely and deservedly honorary and in recognition of an outstanding performance or contribution to golf.

(i) If he has accepted money covering

his expense in connection with golf competitions or golf exhibitions except from one on whom he normally depends for support; provided that he may accept a reasonable amount of expense money in the following four specific instances:

(1) As a member of the Walker Cup Team, but such expense money may be accepted from only the USGA.

(2) As a member of the Curtis Cup

Team, but such expense money may be accepted from only the USGA.

(3) As a qualified contestant in the USGA Amateur Public Links Champion-

ship.

(4) As a member of a team regularly organized as a part of the athletic activities of a recognized institution of learning and competing under the auspices of an association existing for the purpose of

conducting such competitions.

SECTION 2. Acts Before Eighteenth
Birthday. The following Regulations— Section 2 (a to c)—apply only to the acts of a player committed previous to his

eighteenth birthday:

(a) A player shall be deemed to be ineligible to compete as an amateur during the period in which he is engaged in any of those activities appearing herein in

Section 1 (a to i).

(b) A player, irrespective of his previous activities, shall be deemed automatically to have become eligible to compete in amateur competitions upon attaining his eighteenth birthday, subject, however, to the provisions of Section 2 (c) immedi-

ately following:

(c) If anyone whose golfing activities have conflicted with these Regulations shall cease such activities prior to his eighteenth birthday and so declare himself, he shall automatically become eligible to Amateur Classification; provided, however, that one who thus ceases such activities and so declares himself and who, thereby, subsequently competes as an amateur shall be deemed to have been reinstated. (Note: A player may not be reinstated more than once. See Section 4 (d).)

SECTION 3. Prizes for Amateurs. It is the opinion of the United States Golf Association that the best interests of the game of golf will be served if prizes for amateur competitions be limited to objects of greater symbolic and less intrinsic value. It advises particularly against the offering of prizes of the following

character:

(a) Those of unusual money value (a top limit in value of one hundred dollars is suggested).

(b) Those whose nature makes them

readily convertible into cash.

(c) Orders on mercantile establishments which fail to limit the purpose to which the orders may be put.

The Tulsa (Okla.) Tribune has announced that for the third consecutive year it will sponsor and promote the Tulsa Sport Show. 1941 event is scheduled for April 3-6. Besides exhibitions in other sports, well known golf pros will demonstrate fine points of the game as a part of the program which is to be held in the Tulsa Coliseum. Sam Snead and Ralph Guldahl were among golf's 'guest artists' at the 1940 Tulsa Sport Show.

SECTION 4. Reinstatement to Amateur Classification. (a) Each application for reinstatement to Amateur Classification shall be considered on its own merits and the Executive Committee of the United States Golf Association expressly reserves the right to disapprove any such application for reasons which it deems to be sufficient.

(b) An applicant for reinstatement to Amateur Classification shall prepare his application, in duplicate, on forms designed for that purpose by the United States Golf Association, which will furnish such forms upon request. The application shall be submitted, in duplicate, to an officer of a responsible sectional golf association in whose district the applicant resides. The said officer of the sectional association shall endorse upon the form, in the space provided, the recommendation of his association and shall forward both copies to the office of the United States Golf Association. The United States Golf Association shall take action upon the application, it shall appropriately endorse both copies and it shall forward the duplicate copy to the applicant, as provided in Section 4 (g) herein. The duplicate copy shall be the applicant's notification of the action of the United States Golf Assn.

(c) Each application for reinstatement to Amateur Classification shall be accompanied by a letter from each of four responsible persons who shall vouch for the reputation of the applicant and, within his judgment, the accuracy of the appli-cant's statements. These four letters shall accompany the application to the sectional association whose endorsement is sought and thence to the office of the United States Golf Association.

(d) A player may not be reinstated to Amateur Classification more than once.

(e) An applicant shall not become eligible for reinstatement to Amateur Classification until a probationary period of two consecutive years shall have elapsed during which period he shall have at all times conducted himself in such a manner as to qualify for such Classification under these Regulations.

(f) A player shall be ineligible for reinstatement to Amateur Classification if through any five-year period subsequent to his eighteenth birthday he has engaged in activities of a character to exclude him from Amateur Classification under these

Regulations.

(g) Thirty days shall elapse between the date on which a completed application shall be received at the office of the United States Golf Association and the date on which the Amateur Classification of the applicant may be restored. However, an application may be tendered to the United States Golf Association prior to the expiration of the applicant's probationary (Continued on Page 69)

Amateur Ruling (Continued from Page 22)

period. Such an application shall be deemed to have been received either as of the date on which it shall actually have been received or as of the date thirty days prior to the expiration of the applicant's probationary period, whichever of the two is the later.

SECTION 5. Amateur Golfers in Exhibition Matches. An amateur golfer may take part in an exhibition match for which admission is charged provided that the exhibition has been arranged primarily for the benefit of and the net proceeds actually are to be paid to a recognized charitable institution. Professionals appearing in such matches may be paid appropriate amounts for their services, and the sponsor may be reimbursed only to the extent of its actual expenses. The expenses of the sponsor must be certified by one so empowered by the sponsor.

SECTION 6. Professionals as Club Members. Any club may include in its membership a professional golfer or one who for any reason is ineligible to play in amateur competitions, and the Amateur Classification of its other members shall not thereby be affected.

Stag Parties Help Winter Lull

A spaghetti dinner was the method Miami Valley GC (Dayton, Ohio) used in mid-February to "pep-up" club interest and keep the membership intact at a time when thoughts of golf are often allowed to lag—unfortunately—at many Northern clubs. At the suggestion of Gene Marchi, the popular Miami Valley pro, the club staged a dinner with spaghetti and all the trimmings, that was attended by over 100 members. Members and their guests were invited free.

This was the first in a series of three stag parties that the club will conduct

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