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Explains Veteran Pros' Success Due to Keeping 'Young'

FREQUENT surprises in pro golf are supplied by the veterans coming up with fresh, radical ideas and wholeheartedly sponsoring novel ideas for advancement of the game. This policy belies the general notion that the years make one reactionary, or at least dead set on maintenance of the status quo.

A widely-known amateur official recently cited this phase of veteran pro character as not only a great service to the game, but a leading reason why there are numerous pros who have been attached to their clubs from 20 to 30 years and still are regarded off-hand as contemporaries of younger members.

"In addition to looking younger than their years, they think with the spring of youth," remarked the amateur official.

Another reminder that years touch many veteran pros but lightly was received by a GOLFDOM staff member, talking with Phil Jefferson, Pacific Coast pro who has developed notable pro and amateur players. You'd never guess it by looking at Phil or watching him in action, but he caddied for Davy Brown, winner of the 1886 British Open championship at Musselburgh. This was the last national open championship played on a 12-hole course.

MICHIGAN PGA in its open and proamateur tournaments last year played 1,359 rounds. Special attention was given to getting higher handicap amateurs in the pro-amateur events in order to develop more extensive understanding of pro problems and aspirations.

Particularly worthy of recognition, says Jimmy Anderson, Michigan PGA president, has been the manner in which the state's hot-shot playing pros cordially welcome the high handicap amateurs as partners, although the uncertainty of performance by this class of player generally means that the pro playing star sacrifices his chances at top prize money.



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