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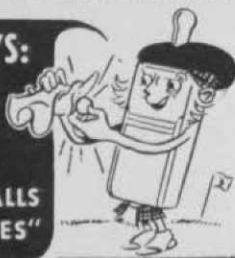
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## USGA, Western GA Revise Requirements for Membership

By JACK FULTON

TWO golf associations have announced changes in membership requirements. The USGA plans to desert the one-class, one-fee type of membership which has been in force heretofore and adopt instead a graduated scale of fees for annual membership which, it is hoped, will increase the membership roster of the association markedly. Meanwhile the Western Golf Association has abolished annual dues from clubs and substituted an annual membership fee from individual golfers.

The USGA plan calls for continuation of the present annual \$30 dues from clubs of 18 holes or more, but modifies the dues for clubs at courses of less than 18 holes to \$15 per year. Requirements for eligibility and benefits of membership are to remain as at present.

It is also proposed to create a Public Links Section, membership in which will be open to any regularly organized club which neither owns, leases or maintains a course of its own but instead plays over a course open to the public. Annual dues for such clubs would be \$5.00 and they would receive all benefits of USGA membership except a vote at meetings of the association, eligibility of individual members to the Amateur and Women's National, and services of the Green Section.

### Not In Force in '42

If the Public Links Section is approved at the USGA's annual meeting this month, all entrants in the association's annual Public Links championship must be members of clubs which are members of the USGA, effective with the 1943 championship. The requirements will not be enforced for 1942.

At its 42nd annual meeting, held at Chicago, Dec. 13, the Western Golf Assn. transformed itself into an organization to (a) "Promote and supervise any and all matters and activities pertaining to or for the benefit of caddies"; and (b) to promote and provide means and facilities for the education of caddies.

In continuing its original object of promoting "generally the interests of golf" the WGA will conduct and supervise its long established Western Open and Ama-

*Golfdom*

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teur championships, and its newer, but highly successful Western Junior championship.

Rules and other golf legislation, course maintenance research and other affairs of golf, the Western, in its new organization plan, acknowledges to be the province of the USGA.

Membership in the WGA is on an individual basis under the new plan. Presidents and secretaries of WGA member clubs as of Dec. 1, 1941 become members of the WGA under the new plan, and without payment of dues, until WGA membership of their clubs expire.

Under the new WGA, membership in the organization is open to individuals acceptable to the Western's Board of Directors, and on payment of \$5 annual dues.

Behind this historic change in golf association function is the story of the success of the caddie scholarships at Northwestern university. These scholarships were established by a fund contributed by Chick Evans. Chick turned into the fund royalties from phonograph instruction records made when he was National Open and Amateur champion.

The Western Golf Assn. as trustee of

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the fund became interested in the ambitions of the youngsters and in their outstanding merits. By adding its own funds to the Evans starter, the WGA has enabled 56 former caddies to receive education otherwise beyond their reach.

Scholastic, business and civic achievements of the caddie undergraduates and graduates have been so exceptional and the number of excellently qualified applicants so large that Western officials determined to revise the association's structure to focus its main effort on making golf an important factor in youth welfare.

The new WGA plan calls for the organization transferring at the end of each fiscal year all cash net assets in excess of \$5,000 to the WGA Scholarship Fund.

The association has a house for caddie scholarships on Northwestern's Evanston (Ill.) campus. On this establishment there remains only a \$2,900 mortgage.

The WGA hopes to be able to extend its caddie scholarships to other universities, and on that account is abandoning its former restriction of being concerned only with territory west of a line through Buffalo and Pittsburgh. Golfers, men and women, anywhere in the U. S. now are eligible to WGA membership.

**GIVE THE CADDIES A HAND FROM A SPORTSMAN**

T. C. Butz, President,  
 Western Golf Assn.  
 111 W. Washington,  
 Chicago, Ill.

I desire to apply for membership in the Western Golf Assn., subject to acceptance by the Committee on Admissions. Within 30 days after election to membership I will pay my annual dues of \$5, understanding that income of the WGA, excepting minimum operating expenses, is for financing caddie scholarships.

NAME (please print) .....

ADDRESS .....

CLUB .....