

USGA Announces Junior Event; Blasts Rules Evasion

By HERB GRAFFIS

Fielding Wallace, Augusta, Ga., former chmn. of the USGA Green Section committee, became pres., USGA, at the association's annual election and meeting which was held at Waldorf-Astoria hotel, New York, Jan. 10. James D. Standish, Jr., Detroit, who with Totton P. Heffelfinger, Minneapolis, were elected vps., was appointed chmn. Green Section committee.

A new event, the national junior championship, was announced at the meeting. Place and time are to be selected.

The amateur status rules were changed to allow a caddie, caddie master or asst. caddie master to serve until his 21st birthday without forfeiting amateur status. Idea of this is to allow university students to pick up golf income during the summer and provide select educated personnel for the caddie development program. Action was influenced by desire to encourage such enterprises as the Western GA Evans scholarships.

USGA also made a new ruling prohibiting anyone after his or her 18th birthday accepting a scholarship or its equivalent as an incentive to enroll or continue as a student in an institution of learning. Penalty is loss of amateur status. High school or college golf coaches if they receive any compensation for instruction now lose amateur status.

Criticized Shamateurs

The USGA also took a blast at the pot-hunters and semi-pros. The Calcutta and sweepstakes events were referred to as contrary to the amateur spirit and developing mercenary sharpshooting and no small degree of larceny. The USGA mentioned the ruling of the Texas GA which recently advised member clubs that anyone participating in sweepstakes in which money prizes were given would be ineligible to compete in the TGA amateur events.

Condemn Carry-and-Cash Rules

At the annual lunch representatives of state associations emphatically asserted their agreement with the USGA on the matter of one set of rules. Testimony of general amateur trend toward stricter observance of the rules was extensive. It was the belief that the carry-and-cash version of the rules for softening tournament play and making low scores easier had had the effect of identifying the USGA championships in the public mind as the true tough tests of golfing ability.

A copy of a resolution submitted to the American Society of Golf Course Architects by the Society's Committee on the Ball, Implements and Standards, and unanimously adopted by the Society was read at the USGA meeting.

The resolution read:

"WHEREAS the members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects in annual meeting at Pinehurst, N.C., Dec. 3 through 6, 1947, unanimously recognized the United States Golf Association as the ruling body of golf in the United States, therefore be it resolved that the Society and its members pledge full cooperation with the Association and approve the rules and regulations governing the game of golf as drawn up by the Association.

"WHEREAS the members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects are charged with the responsibility of designing and building golf courses and whereas the design of golf course is effected by the standards of golf balls and golf implements and whereas the United States Golf Association has adopted standards for balls and implements which are approved by this Society and its members, therefore be it resolved that this Society urges the retention by the United States Golf Association of said standards."

With an income of \$88,396 in 1947 the USGA operated at a \$9,391 loss. Main items of expense were:

Administrative and general	\$45,203
Green Section (net)	34,459
Walker Cup	15,632

This year the Curtis Cup women's international matches, Birkdale, Eng., May 21-22, will cost about same as the Walker Cup matches.

Those to whom invitations have been sent as members of the team are Dorothy Kieley, Los Angeles; Dorothy Kirby, Atlanta; Grace S. Lenczyk, Newington, Conn.; Mrs. Julius A. Page, Jr., Chapel Hill, N. C.; Polly Riley, Fort Worth, Tex., and Louise Suggs, Atlanta.

In the event that an original nominee is unable to make the trip, an invitation will be extended to one of the following alternates in the order listed: First alternate, Helen Sigel, Philadelphia; second alternate, Peggy Kirk, Findlay, Ohio; third alternate, Jean Hopkins, Lakewood, Ohio.

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Public links section of the USGA was abolished with regular membership now being open to a regularly organized permanent club composed of individual dues-paying members managed through officers and committees operating permanently at one golf course which it does not necessarily have to control. Such a club is entitled to all privileges of the association. While associate membership is open to any golf course in the United States which is not controlled by a regularly organized club it carries neither the right to vote at USGA meetings nor eligibility for the various championships.

Annual dues for regular membership in USGA for clubs having 18 holes or more now is \$35; for 9-hole clubs, \$20. Associate membership annual dues for 18-hole or larger clubs are \$25 and for 9-hole clubs, \$15.

USGA membership now is 1,134 which is 20 less than the previous top mark.

Green Section at New High

Green Section activity last year reached a new high. The Section's staff, headed by Fred V. Grau, travelled more than 40,000 miles in extending the effective research and educational work of the Section. The staff participated in 55 educational meetings and conferences. Great work has been done in coordinating sectional turf activities and in close cooperation with associations.

A sub-committee headed by Alfred Langben and including many noted practical golf turf authorities got started on the Green Section's proposed turf manual. At a meeting of this committee following the USGA annual meeting it was decided to make the manual a treatment of the fundamentals of golf course turf and management rather than a highly scientific volume on golf course grasses. It is expected to have the book in print this year.



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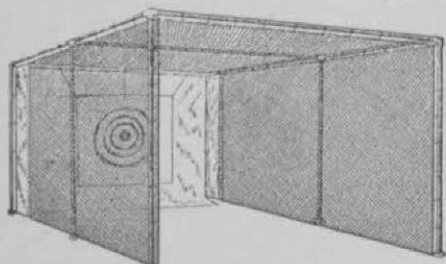
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