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Whether it's tournaments or clinics (above), Patty Berg is always a great attraction.

## Winning Tournaments Is Only Half of Berg Success Story

*Writers Recognize Patty's Great Overall Contributions to Golf in Giving Her Richardson Trophy*

**T**HE lead on a recent story by Charles Bartlett, *Chicago Tribune* stated simply . . . "Patricia Jane Berg, 41 year old professional, has been named winner of the William D. Richardson trophy for outstanding contribution to golf by the Golf Writers Association of America."

Behind this recognition by the nation's golf writers, lie a lifetime of accomplishment by the all-time great, Patty Berg.

Outstanding contribution may sound like mere words to some but to newspaper men, golf professionals and devoted Berg followers, it means many years of hard work.

It was in the early '30s that a freckled face girl by the name of Patty Berg first took up golf in Minneapolis. By the time Patty was 17 years old she had won the Minneapolis State Championship, was runnerup in the Trans Mississippi, runnerup

and medalist in the Western Derby and runnerup in the National Amateur Championship.

### 81 Tournament Victories

This was a beginning of a long line of trophies and triumphs for Patty whose record now includes 81 tournament wins and more than \$120,000 in prize money.

Patty has accomplished the finest record in women's golf today with these achievements to her credit: Holder of the women's 18-hole world record of 64 established in 1952; Three-time winner of the Associated Press Woman Athlete of the Year, 1938, 1943, 1955; Seven-time winner of the Titleholders Championship, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1948, 1953, 1955, 1957; Seven-time winner of the Western Open, 1941, 1943, 1948, 1951, 1955, 1957, 1958; Three-time winner of the Vare Trophy for low scoring average, 1953, 1955, 1956

and the first woman golfer to be leading money winner and Vare Trophy winner in the same year, 1955.

While Patty's record may read like a lifetime devoted to winning, the spunky redhead's contribution to golf goes far beyond this, as most professionals, both home and playing, realize.

#### Stars at Many Clinics

Since Patty turned professional back in 1940, she has devoted thousands of hours to promoting golf through her clinics. Until recently, when Alaska joined the United States, Patty could boast of having conducted golf clinics in every state in the union.

Traveling more than 50,000 miles per

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**Other golf figures who figured prominently in the Richardson Award winning were Fred Corcoran, International Golf Assn. and Ladies PGA promoter, and Charley Coe, last year's Amateur champion. Patty Berg received 93 votes, Corcoran, 59, and Coe, 39. Patty is the second woman to be honored by the golf writers, the late Babe Zaharias having received the award in 1953.**

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year, Patty averages at least 125 clinics in between tournament play. Her instructive and entertaining exhibitions are rated as being as good as any staged by any pro, male or female.

The expert shotmaking of Miss Berg is generally taken for granted, but her terrific wit and personality never cease to amaze people who come to watch and learn. Although she employs no gag-writers, the entertaining Patty never seems to run short of humorous material. Her demonstrations of her "sisters'" golfing abilities are almost as well known as the Minneapolis redhead herself.

Patty, whose head never has been inflated by all her success, feels the clinic program is her way of giving back to golf what the game has given her.

#### Acknowledges Debt

As far back as 1947, in a speech at the PGA's annual meeting, Patty stated: "Any little success which has been mine should be credited to the professionals who took such pains instructing me in the correct methods of the game. You know of the vast debt I owe to golf. It can be repaid only by me. I have found the means of repayment in the form of a golf clinic."

Patty has been particularly interested in promoting golf among the younger set. It

is her aim that as many as possible of the youngsters of the nation will be the future golfers of America and from the rank and file of the kids will come the future professionals.

Her clinic, which incorporates all the fundamentals of golf, is not intended to be complete in itself, but rather to stimulate interest in persons attending to advance further. Many a golf professional has had his lessons book jammed following a visit by the fabulous Patty Berg.

Anyone who has seen Patty's clinic is well aware of coming away with the words, "see your pro," ringing in his ears.

Aside from Patty's fine instructional clinic, golf professionals always enjoy her warm and friendly personality. Following a clinic, it is generally the practice of popular Patty to sit down over a coke and chin with the members. She is genuinely interested in people and feels these sessions are more satisfying to her than they are to the people who sit and talk with her.

After 19 years of professional golf and some 3,000 odd golf clinics later, there is hardly an individual who would not agree that Patty Berg has repaid golf many times over.

However, this is not the reasoning of the spunky redhead who still approaches each golf season with a school-girl freshness. She continues to be the big attraction at any golf tournament and folks still come from miles around to see her famous golf clinic . . . they always will. But don't think Patty feels her debt is paid to golf. As Patty claims, "It would be impossible for me ever to put as much back into the game as I have taken out of it, but it's certainly the swellest darn job in the world trying to do it."

#### Tournament of Champions

At least 26 and possibly 29 pros will compete in the Tournament of Champions tournament at the Desert Inn, Las Vegas, Apr. 23-26. Entrants have to win circuit tournaments before becoming eligible to compete. When the Desert Inn event was originally planned, it was expected there would be no more than 15 or 16 players taking part in it every year.

#### PGA Adds May Tourney

The first annual Ice Cream Invitation golf tournament, for women, will be held in Southern Pines, N. C. at the Mid-Pines club, May 8-10. It is being sponsored by the Howard Johnson restaurant chain. Prizes of \$6000 will be awarded.