

# Handle Only Routine Matters at PGA Scottsdale Meeting

**Lou Strong is new president • Adopt 'Hands Off' policy on real estate deals  
• Keep Caucasian membership requirement • Announce revision in conduct  
of Ryder Cup Matches • Give Martin rights to televise circuit tournaments**

**L**OU Strong has two new jobs this year. One is that of professional at the Oak Hill CC, Rochester, N. Y., and the other as 13th pres. of the PGA.

Strong was elected to the PGA post at the association's 44th annual meeting. The delegates from the PGA's 34 sections at Valley Ho hotel in Scottsdale, Phoenix, Ariz., suburb, played safely over numerous traps and, while not setting any records, handled routine affairs for the good of the cause.

A proposal to get the PGA to be the shill for a course-real estate operation at West Palm Beach was turned down. The executive committee didn't look favorably on the deal and the delegates, without having time or data for examination of the venture, were of the opinion that the PGA had more urgent duties and problems than to speculate in the real estate business.

## Dunedin in Top Shape

The decision to go along on a status quo basis on the real estate issue was influenced considerably by reports out of Dunedin that Frank Sprogell had the PGA National course in better condition than ever before and, with the revision of the first 9 by Dick Wilson, the PGA now has a course worth bragging about.

A five-year renewal of the contract with Tom Crane, PGA executive sec. and counsel since 1943, was among the actions that the organization's members, and those who do business with them, rate as a major accomplishment of the meeting. Crane's ability and judgment are invaluable to the PGA. Sprogell's contract as PGA course pro-supt.-mgr. also was renewed.

Delegates voted to maintain the Caucasian membership requirement. The decision was based on the fact that Negroes have only about half a dozen private clubs employing Negro professionals. Delegates said that the matter is one of business judgment and not of color prejudice. Admission of Negroes to the PGA depends on Negroes' capacity to establish first class clubs of their own as white groups do, according to pros who were active in getting Negroes PGA tournament cards.

## Membership at 4800

PGA announced that its membership of all classes had reached an all-time high of 4800. Figures were not detailed to show what percentage of Class A pros are at U. S. golf clubs. The PGA, unlike the USGA, does not make public the financial statement of general and tournament operations. But it did disclose that the 1960

PGA championship, staged at the Firestone CC, Akron, with the co-sponsorship and work of the local Junior League, Jaycees, major rubber companies and Jack Knight's newspaper with sports editor, Loren Tibbals, as the tourney's chief engineer, netted a record profit of \$43,000 for the PGA.

### Ryder Cup Revisions

This year's PGA championship will be played at Olympia Fields CC, south of Chicago, July 21-24. The 1961 Ryder Cup matches will be played at Royal Lytham and St. Anne's course, St. Anne's-by-the-Sea, Eng., Oct. 13-14. For the first time all matches will be played at 36 holes with two sets of singles and two sets of Scotch foursomes each day. There has been some moaning among several British players about this revision, made in the belief that it gives the British a good break and should give the event a tight competitive complexion which it has lacked in the past. The British have won but one of the last eight Ryder Cup affairs.

The 1963 Ryder Cup matches will be played at East Lake CC, Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 11-13. East Lake is the club of Harold Sargent, who was succeeded by Strong as PGA pres. Sargent and his wife, Mary, were voted a trip to the 1961 Ryder Cup matches. He has been a member of the PGA executive committee for 11 years. For Sargent that has meant a considerable sacrifice of time and money and for his wife a mountain of unpaid secretarial work as well as the added responsibilities of seeing to it that his club job is handled properly when the boss pro is away.

Other long-time officials in local and national PGA work were elected with Strong. They include Wally Mund, Midland Hills CC, St. Paul, who was elected sec. and George L. Hall, pro at Cornell's University GC, Ithaca, N. Y., and Cornell golf coach who was named treas.

New vps and members of the executive committee are Frank Commisso, Irondequoit CC, Rochester, N. Y.; Don Waryan, Woodhill CC, Wayzata, Minn.; and Bud Oakley, Palos Verdes GC, Palos Verdes Estates, Calif.

Six cities have extended invitations to the PGA for the 1961 meeting. Names of these cities were not disclosed by the PGA. The choice will be made at the committee's mid-year meeting this spring. Whichever one it is will have a difficult job beating the arrangements and program presented for the 1960 meeting by Bob Goldwater, Phoenix department store executive

## Two PGA Business Schools Are Scheduled for January, February

Tommy Armour, Horton Smith and Al Watrous head an impressive group of professionals who will serve as instructors and lecturers at the fifth PGA Business School to be held at the Hotel Ft. Harrison, Clearwater, Fla., Jan. 22-28. Others on the teaching staff include John Budd, Bill Hardy, George Aulbach and George Dawson. Emil Beck is chmn. of the Business School.

Fundamentals of teaching, club repairing, merchandising and general shop operation are among the subjects that will be covered in the 40-hour course. The PGA has sent out nearly 5,000 folders describing the school, along with application blanks, to pros and clubs throughout the U. S. Last year nearly 250 pros and assistants attended the Clearwater courses. Apprentice pros can earn credits toward full membership in the PGA by attending the Business School.

A second Business School course will be offered at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, Feb. 14-17. This is the third year for this school and at least 100 students are expected to be on hand when it is convened. Practically the same course is offered at L. A. as at Clearwater. George Lake, pro at Recreation Park GC, Long Beach, is director of the California school.

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and retiring chmn., PGA national advisory committee.

### Honored at Dinner

Goldwater was honored at the annual PGA president's dinner as were Warren Orlick, PGA golf-professional-of-the-year; Arnold Palmer, the association's professional golfer-of-the-year, and three new pros in the PGA Hall of Fame, Fred McLeod, Mike Brady and Jimmy Demaret. Jay Hebert, 1960 PGA champion, was hailed in absentia. He was attending a Hebert brothers party in Lafayette, La.

Glen Sisler, pres., Northern Steel Co., Detroit, was elected chmn. of the PGA advisory committee. Harry Radix, sec. of the committee for many years, was made vice chmn., and Robert Leacox, Kansas City, Mo., was named successor to Radix as advisory committee chmn.

William D. Schaffner, pres., National PGA Distributors, Inc., and William D.

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that of diffusion with disposal of all water over field capacity.

**3. Design and Principles of Contouring Greens** — Design will insure surface drainage in many directions and not in just "several or two or three directions." Surface water will escape from the green to the nearest outlet on all sides or in every direction. It will be carried only a short distance to the nearest outlet at the perimeter of the green. Methods of construction and principles of contouring greens have been published and are available, including multiple pin positions or cup cutting areas to save greens by preventing wear and tear. This combination, including location, will cover drainage in five phases: surface, internal, lateral, by diffusion and by air.

**Irrigation Design and Engineering** — By having the necessary phases of soil mixture, construction methods and design, it is now possible to combine fully automatic multiple sprinkler systems to obtain the ultimate in maintenance efficiency that was previously impossible. It will save the U. S. courses millions of dollars in maintenance when proper construction in all phases is combined with automatic sprinkling systems. A three to four hour watering job is completed in 15 minutes.

Watering is the greatest labor cost on the course. What do you get in return? Now this loss can be channeled to productive activities. A course never needs to be closed because the greens are too wet.

Golf courses have never had the opportunities that now are offered. Certainly the objective of our older courses should be toward more efficient management by making use of the many advancements developed in recent years.

### **Penick's Teaching Is A Hit**

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There were more applicants for the course than could be admitted.

She emphasized that the job of fitting women's clubs is tremendously important and that pros must be losing considerable club business by not making women aware of this factor.

Don January told of starting in golf by caddying for his father, then getting into fast amateur competition around Dallas and being tutored by Dallas pros before he decided to turn pro himself. He said that the great lessons circuit pros get are from fellow performers. He said Gary Player gave him valuable assistance by

telling him to look at the ball and not around it so as to stay over it longer.

### **Palmer's Secrets**

Arnold Palmer answering a request to reveal the "secret" of being the "best driver" replied that a good deal depends on the grip. He keeps his left elbow straight and high right elbow in. He says that he squeezes the grip if he finds his drives getting off line. When he moves his left hand a bit more on top of the grip to keep from hooking he doesn't have to hold the club so firmly. For longer shots he takes the club away quite slowly. His driver has a 12 degree loft and the shaft is stiff. He takes the driver back from 6 to 12 inches before his wrists start cocking.

Warren Orlick conducted a useful session on the rules, illustrating with diagrams some of the puzzling matters that pros are asked to settle. Orlick also made illuminating comment on the 1961 changes. Orlick, a leading student of the rules and probably the No. 1 practical authority on their application, is a severe critic of the change that permits keeping the flagstick in the hole.

### **TV Rules Violations**

He cited violations of rules in the TV matches as showing that tournament pros need considerably more education in the rules or risk losing public standing as authorities. His remark recalled to several persons a comment Walter Hagen made during the 1960 National Open when a pro sent in from the course for a rules committee decision on a simple case. Said The Haig: "A man who plays golf for a living shouldn't have to ask an amateur for the answer in a case like that."

### **PGA Meeting**

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Rogers of the law firm that unraveled the legal intricacies that led to the PGA brand of equipment being put on the market, reported to the delegates. Schaffner discussed the progress made with the PGA line in 1960 and revealed merchandising plans for the current year, while Rogers brought the delegates up to date on the latest legal developments.

Other business transacted included arrangements made between the PGA and International Golf Sponsors Assn. and William A. Martin and Associates, Chicago, for TV tournament coverage. Miscellaneous circuit details also were worked out by the tournament advisory committee with co-sponsors.