

Interlachen Country Club To Host 34th Walker Cup Match Aug. 18-19

Edina's Interlachen Country Club is set to host the 34th Walker Cup Match August 18-19. Superintendent John Katterheinrich has the course playing in championship form. Interlachen has played host to the 1930 U.S. Open, the 1936 U.S. Women's Amateur and the 1986 U.S. Senior Amateur.

The Walker Cup competition was begun in the wake of World War I with a view toward stimulating golf interest on both sides of the Atlantic. It grew in part out of two international matches between Canada and the United States, 1919 and 1920.

Simultaneously, British and American players were seriously seeking each other's national championships. In addition, the USGA Executive Committee had been invited to Great Britain for a series of meetings with the Royal and

in golf to send teams to compete for the trophy, but no country was able to accept that year. The American urge for international competition was rampant, however, and William C. Fownes, the 1910 Amateur champion, who had twice assembled the amateur teams that played against Canada, rounded out a third team in the spring of 1921 and took it to Hoyiska, England, where in an informal match it defeated a British team, 9 to 3, on the day before the British Amateur.

In the spring of 1922, the R&A announced that it would send a team to compete for the Walker Cup at the National Golf Links of America, in Southampton, N.Y.

The competition originally was conceived as a worldwide affair, involving any countries that might care to challenge. The USGA invited any countries interested in golf to send teams to compete for the trophy. Except for Great Britain, no other country was able to accept the invitation to compete.

Although the United States has clearly dominated the series, the matter of the number of American victories has never clouded the true purpose of the Walker Cup Match. A much higher value has been placed upon the series as a medium of international friendship and the understanding between the R&A and the USGA.

In alternating between the United States and Great Britain, the Match is always scheduled so that the visiting team also can participate in the Amateur Championship of the host country.

The Match was played on an annual basis until 1924, when it was felt that the financial strain of annual matches was too severe, and that interest might drop if they were played too frequently. A decision was made to meet in alternate years thereafter.

After the 1938 Match at St. Andrews, Scotland, the series was interrupted by World War II. When the Match resumed in 1947, St. Andrews was selected as the site again. Under normal circumstances, the Match would have been played in the United States, but the postwar economic conditions would have made the trip difficult for the British.

During the visit to England for the 1951 Match, at Royal Birkdale, representatives of the USGA and the R&A met in London with officials from Australia and Canada, and crafted a uniform worldwide code of rules.

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Walker Cup Procedure

Superintendents with a National GCSAA card have the opportunity to obtain a grounds pass for the upcoming 1993 Walker Cup at Interlachen Country Club in Edina, Minn. They may also bring their spouse.



Superintendents may pick the pass up at a will call booth set up at Blake School. Blake is located on the corner of Blake Road and Excelsior Blvd. Will call opens at 7:30 a.m. on August 17. Superintendents must have a current GCSAA and personal I.D. to obtain the pass. There will be no parking at the course. Shuttle buses will go back and forth from Blake School to Interlachen every 15 minutes.

The tournament will have a practice round on Tuesday, Aug. 17. Matches will be played on Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 18-19.

Ancient Golf Club's Rules Committee regarding the advisability of modifying various rules of the game. Among the participants was George Herbert Walker, the president of the USGA in 1920.

Upon the Executive Committee's return to the United States, the possibility of international team matches was discussed. The idea so appealed to Walker that he soon presented a plan for an international golf championship and offered to donate an International Challenge Trophy. When the press heard of this story, they called the trophy the Walker Cup, and the name has stuck.

Early in 1921, the USGA invited all countries interested

1993 MGCSA Schedule

The Links at Northfork	Aug. 9
Stodola Tourney @ Hillcrest Country Club (morning & afternoon shotguns)	Sept. 13
Eau Claire Country Club	Oct. 11
Annual Conference @ Minneapolis Conention Center . . .	Nov. 17, 18 & 19