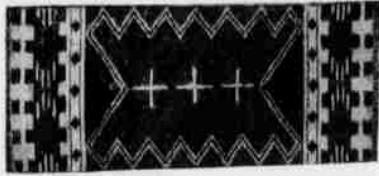


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AMATEUR GOLFER DEFINED

HERE can no longer be much doubt as to what constitutes an "amateur" golfer, a much mooted and frequently discussed question, in view of the recent ruling of the U. S. G. A.:

Section 7. "No person shall be considered an amateur golfer or shall be eligible to compete in the amateur championship of this association or in any event of amateurs authorized or held by it who accepts or has accepted directly or indirectly any fee, gratuity money or other consideration for playing, or teaching the game of golf or who personally makes or repairs golf clubs, golf balls or other golf articles for pay, or who after the age of sixteen (16) years has received pay for services as a caddie, caddie-master or green keeper, or who is or has been a professional in any other branch of athletics, provided, however, that any person who is or at the time becomes ineligible as an amateur by reason of this by-law may be reinstated upon giving to the executive committee of this association satisfactory evidence of meriting such reinstatement. Nothing herein contained shall require reinstatement as an amateur of any person in good standing as such on January 1, 1909, under the provisions of section 7 of the by-laws of this association then in force.

Section 8. "Protests against any individual for violation of section 7 of these by-laws must be made in writing by a member of a club belonging to this association and must be sent to the secretary of this association with a certificate by the secretary of such club that the protest is lodged by a member in good standing of such club."

Supplementing this is the interpretation of the *Golfers Magazine*:

"Under the new definition paid club secretaries, club superintendents, managers or bookkeepers, merchants and salesmen of golf supplies, manufacturers who do not personally make golf clubs or other golf articles are not professionals. The superintendent of a golf course who merely hires and directs the work of the laborers is not a professional. A civil engineer who surveys a golf course does not professionalize himself by such act. Heretofore he did. The new definition is, however, very emphatic regarding any one who accepts money or any other consideration for playing or teaching the game of golf. If A bets B 50 cents a hole on their match that is not playing for money in the sense of an act constituting professionalism. The purely clerical side of golf is not considered as an act constituting professionalism. The playing side when a consideration for the act of playing is accepted is deemed professionalism, and justly so. The near amateur will have to be extremely careful in the future in order to class among the simon pure amateurs."

The fact, however, remains that the shafts will continue to be directed mainly at the golfer who can golf; nevertheless, there is now little room for misunderstanding, and America has superceded England in this particular where the subject has not been defined since the ruling of 1886, which says little and means less:

"An amateur golfer is a golfer who has never made for sale golf clubs, balls, or any other article connected with the game; who has never carried clubs for hire after attaining the age of 15 years, and who has not carried clubs for hire at any time within six years of the date on which the competition begins; who has never received any consideration for playing a match or for giving lessons in the game; and who for a period of five years prior to September 1, 1886, has never received a money prize in any open competition."

The only unfortunate feature of the American ruling seems to be that anyone who is a professional in any branch of athletics may not become an amateur golfer. Are there not cases when an exception to this rule would be warranted, is a question golfers are debating, otherwise they seem well satisfied with the conditions, although a bit retractive.

GOLF FUNDAMENTALS.

Correspondent Sets Forth Trials of Game and Compensations.

To the Editor of The Pinehurst Outlook:

"When I see a beginner taking lessons in golf, I pity him (or her) as I realize how big the contract to learn golf and know the hard road it usually is to travel," one golfer was saying to another. "Yes" was the reply, "I decided to break up my sticks and never play again after a tournament fall down."

If a sportsman goes into the woods, he will willingly spend a day of labor and be well satisfied if he gets "one good shot" or more, and if the golfer adopted the same tactics in each game of golf, his mental attitude would thus find satisfaction. The exhilaration of a good shot (and of course several of them) in a game, is well worth the cost of many poor ones! If one could attain to the perfection of a good shot every time, there is no doubt that golf might pall and its fascination be correspondingly diminished.

Some men who have approached the edge of nervous prostration because of the "bad score" have given up scoring altogether and played the game thereafter with a new horizon of pleasure and satisfaction. And why?

Because the fundamental of golf is exercise (the *raison d'être*) the invitation to the open air life, the inducement to walking the conqueror of distance. Thus if one settles down to the game philosophically with these desirable objects paramount and cuts out the "pride of the score," he can take the fullest satisfaction with even a few good shots and never need "break up his sticks" or "pity the beginner."

Weather a player really becomes an expert golfer ever, is immaterial and irrelevant when by playing at all the greatest duffer can at once secure for himself the benefits, diversion entertainment and relaxation of the fundamentals of one of the greatest games on earth.

Most of us like the turkey with its fullest embellishments and not one word need be said of the keen delight and added charm of a steady consistent game of golf including a respectable score, but this article while recognizing this self-evident fact, would encourage all comers to the delights of a wonderful game which offers unusual reward to each votary not only in its perfect mastery but in its fundamentals.

—LINCOLN C. CUMMINGS.



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