

OPEN TOURNAMENT GOLF.

Reasons Why Enthusiastic But Not Particularly Good Players Do Not Enter.

One of the reasons why enthusiastic but not particularly good golfers do not enter open tournaments, according to the *Golfers' Magazine*, is because oftentimes in these cup events a scratch player will have an off day in the qualifying round and drop down into the second or even third flight, and then the players who rightfully, on their known form, playing in the second and third flights, really have no chance to win. A case in point was the open tournament at the Deal Golf Club. For instance, there was Pierre Proal in the fourth set, when a few weeks before he was fighting it out in the final with Jerome D. Travers for the chief cup in the Apawamis event. With Proal it was simply a case of his having an off day in the medal play round. A little later he got the feel of his clubs, and his opponents were easily brushed aside. The uncertainty of medal play is ever liable to result in a slip up such as has just been cited, but, of course, it rarely happens in such a pronounced manner as in the Proal case. Repetitions of the Deal situation are of frequent occurrence, and it is not likely they will cease so long as the present conditions of open tournaments prevail.

A case with an entirely different aspect, however, was brought to notice recently. A player, somewhat well known, before setting out for his round on the opening day of a big tournament, closely scrutinized the prizes displayed on the clubhouse table, and was heard to remark that as the cup offered in the third division was to his mind the most attractive in the lot, that was the one he was going for. He won it through failing to qualify in the first division where he belonged. Not exactly a sportsman, was he? And yet the instance is not an isolated one. There is a very simple plan whereby these troubles can be obviated, and all players in open tournaments be brought together in the match play rounds on fairly even terms.

Let it be announced that only players with handicaps of six or under are eligible to compete for the first cup. Those with ratings from six to twelve strokes for the second cup and twelve or more for the third flight. All players who fail to qualify in the class in which they start, not to drop to a lower class, but to be simply "out of it." This plan will bring players together in the match rounds with only six strokes difference between the high and low men, which is not so great as to enable one player to entirely outclass all others in his division. Some such plan would unquestionably arouse a much greater interest in tournament play among the medium class players, and would entirely do away with the discouragement to others occasioned by a scratch player, who, through one or two bad holes, drops down into the second or third flight, and then walks off with the cup in a class where he does not properly belong.

Disqualified.

Knieker—Has Jones investigated anything?
Bocker—No, indeed; he is a detective.

CHAMPIONSHIP TENNIS.

Annual Tournaments Afford Interesting Series of Contests.

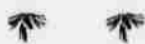
The annual championship tennis tournaments ended during the week, affording an interesting series of contests which were followed with interest from the Country Club House balcony.

A. E. Wright, Cooperstown, N. Y., and Miss Ethel S. Check, East Orange, N. J., won the mixed doubles, defeating Owen Roberts and Miss Dexter, Boston, in the finals, 6-1, 6-4.

I. Ford Johnson, Dobbs Ferry, N. Y., won the men's singles, defeating M. L. Smiters, St. Louis, 6-1, 0-6, 6-1, 7-5, in hotly contested finals.

Miss P. Roberts, New Haven, was the winner of the women's singles, defeating Miss E. A. Whiting, Moorestown, N. J., 6-1, 6-1, in the final round.

The prizes in all events were gold medals.



MISS HINCKLEY MARRIED.

Becomes Wife of Mr. Alanson Wood of Wisconsin.

The marriage of Mr. Alanson Wood of Marquette, Wisconsin, and Miss Bessie Otis Hinckley, well known to visitors at Pinehurst, took place Tuesday, April third, at the beautiful winter home, Holly Hedge, Camden, of Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Bull, Wisconsin friends of the groom. Mr. and Mrs. Wood are now spending their honeymoon at Mr. Wood's winter residence, Villa Flora, St. Augustine.



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