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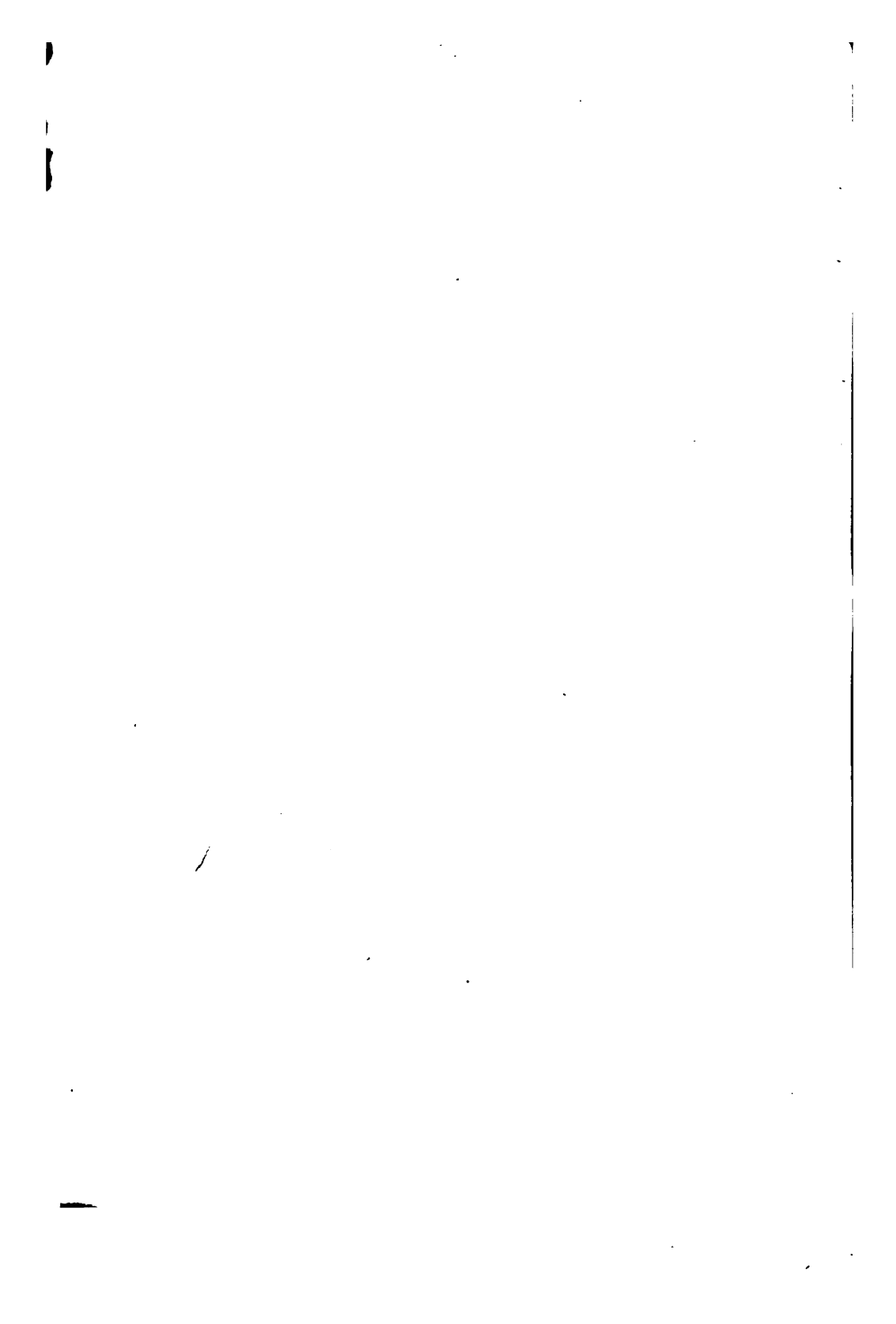
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# Our Lady of the Green

(A BOOK OF LADIES' GOLF)



# Our Lady of the Green

(A BOOK OF LADIES' GOLF)

WITH CHAPTERS BY

ISSETTE PEARSON, A. BENNET PASCOE

AND OTHERS

EDITED BY

LOUIE MACKERN

AND

M. BOYS



LONDON

LAWRENCE AND BULLEN, LTD.

PHILADELPHIA: J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY

1899

NO. 217

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To  
ALL SPORTING AND PLUCKY GOLFERS  
OF OUR SEX  
We Dedicate this Book

\*



## PREFACE

FOR some time past a want has been felt among lady golfers of a book on the subject of their play and their links. There are innumerable books of the kind on men's golf, but now golf has become such a popular and prominent game among our sex, it seems time that some book on the subject should be produced. It is for this reason, and to supply this want, that the Editors now venture to lay this book before the ladies' golfing world. They would not have attempted to do this if they had not received the kind assistance of Miss Issette Pearson, Miss Pascoe, Miss Starkie Bence, Miss H. M. Frere, and Miss Knapping, to whom their best thanks are due. They also wish to record their indebtedness to the Editor of *Golf*, from which paper they have been permitted to obtain many of the facts connected with the Ladies' Championship Competitions, and to Messrs. Longmans, Green and Co., who have allowed them to reproduce as chapters, articles which have appeared in the *Badminton Magazine*.

As regards the second part of the book, the particulars of the different clubs and links have been

obtained from the Secretaries, and the Editors wish to avail themselves of this opportunity to thank them for the trouble they have taken, and the assistance they have given in the matter.

In conclusion, they hope that the difficulties which have been encountered in compiling this volume will be taken as an excuse for any deficiencies which may be noticed, and they trust that their want of literary skill may receive favourable consideration from the fact that their sole endeavour has been to promote *esprit de corps* and a genuine love of the game among the golfing members of their sex.

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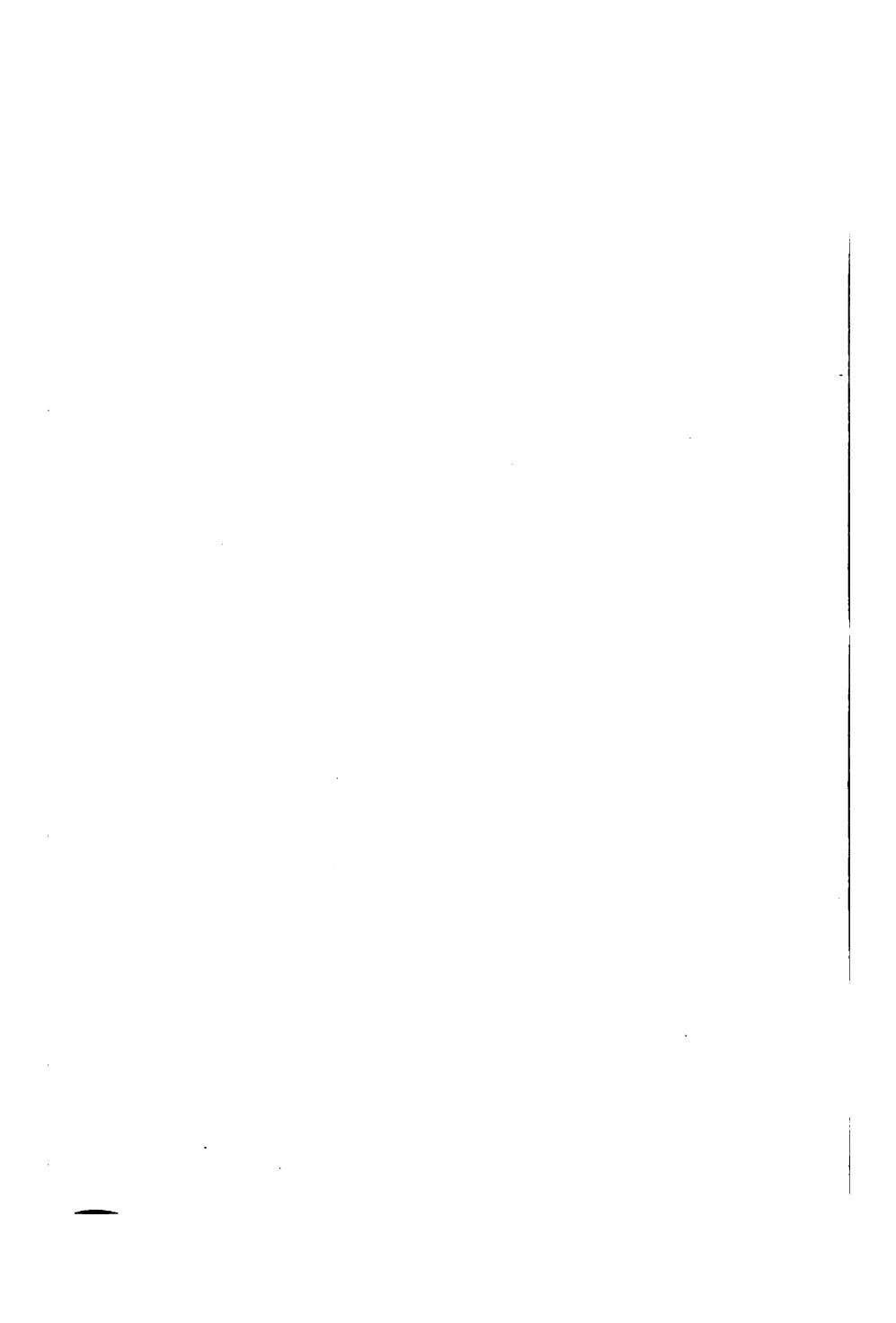
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## PART I





# OUR LADY OF THE GREEN

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTORY

*By Issette Pearson*

FOR the origin of the game of Golf, I must refer you to the many and varied accounts which have already appeared, as I intend confining myself to what I personally know of the game—its progress and its rules. If you wish to learn how to drive straight, approach, or putt, you have only to turn to one of the numerous works on the game by Mr. Horace Hutchinson, but up to the present no book has been written on the ladies' game, and links, and it is to rectify this that this book is published.

In a boy's book of sports published in 1844, a quaint description of the game of Golf, or Goff, is given. After describing the size and construction of clubs and balls, and stating that "golf is played upon a large piece of open ground or common, sometimes two or three miles long," and giving Blackheath as

a single instance of a "fine green for this sport," they go on to say that "at irregular distances, at the sides and ends of the green, are dug holes, the number varying from five to nineteen, into which holes whoever drives the ball in the fewest strokes, wins the game. In commencing, the player may place the ball upon a little turf about three inches in height, from whence is made the first stroke, which is generally a very long one." In conclusion, we are told that "Golf is much played in Scotland, where there are several associations, or clubs of golfers. Upon the links or course of St. Andrew's, a ball has been struck two hundred and twenty yards; and to obtain the game (nineteen holes) within ninety strokes is considered to denote a master in golfing."

Now-a-days, any one wishing to try the game has only to mention it to a friend who plays to be immediately invited up to a Club-house, provided with the necessary clubs and balls, and taken round the links. When I started, some twelve years ago, I could not hear of any lady who played, though more than one gentleman was able to assure me that there were several in Scotland, and I can remember hearing one spoken of in glowing terms, to whom my informant was only able to give a stroke, a hole, and just half the match. Times have altered since then, for I know now of more than one lady who could give that gentleman a beating level.

In looking through the *Golfing Annual* to find out which ladies' club might really claim to be the oldest,

I find that the St. Andrew's Ladies' Club was instituted in 1867, and that in 1886 it had five hundred members, but it is doubtful if any club but a putter was used. Westward Ho! was instituted in 1868, and re-constituted in 1893. The next two clubs are Musselburgh Ladies' and the London Scottish Ladies', both instituted in 1872. The first-named had twenty members, but in the first *Golfing Annual* we read—"Owing to general lack of interest and sickness among some of the leading members, it has not been continued since 1887, and it is doubtful if it will be renewed this year." However, it was re-constituted in 1896, and is now fairly prosperous.

The London Scottish Ladies' also declined after it had existed a few years, but was revived under the name of the "Wimbledon Ladies'" in 1890, and it is now one of the most prosperous and best-known ladies' clubs, and two of its present members were members of the original club.

Carnoustie, founded 1873, stands next, and from all I can learn, it has slowly and steadily increased its members from its original twenty-six to forty-five in 1887, and a hundred and twenty-four in 1897.

Later on we find, Troon Ladies' in 1882, Bath 1883, Hayling 1884, Cupar and Great Yarmouth 1885. After that date we come to what may be called the new era of golf. Probably the Amateur Championship, which was first played in 1886, was the means of attracting more notice to the game; anyway, 1888, 1889, and 1890 saw the number of

ladies' clubs more than doubled, while at the present time there are two hundred and twenty ladies' clubs, not counting those to which a limited number of ladies are admitted.

The play has improved in exactly the same way. Although there may have been good lady players in 1887 in Scotland, it is doubtful whether there were any equal to the Misses Orr, Whigham, Campbell, and other players of the present day; and I am sure that there were none in England or Ireland equal to what Lady Margaret Scott was in 1894-5.

With reference to links, a very common question asked by one player to another is, "Which are your favourite links?"—a question I always find very difficult to answer. Of course the better lady players all reply by mentioning various men's links, but if they are confined to ladies' links, you generally hear one of the eighteen-hole courses mentioned. I personally only know two—West Lancashire and Prince's—but there are nine-hole links which I prefer to these, because neither of them possess more than one hole long enough to necessitate a second shot with a wooden club. Of these courses, West Lancashire is undoubtedly the better, not only because it is a sea-side links, but because the holes are of a more varied and sporting nature. When speaking of long links, I find the question is still more difficult to answer, as my favourites, Sandwich, Hoylake, Littlestone, Prestwick, Machrihanish, North Berwick, and Muirfield, all seem perfect (I do not mention St. Andrew's, as I have

never yet had the pleasure of playing there), but they are laid out for men, and the chief attractions of many of the holes are lost for ladies. In the majority of places, where ladies play over the same links as men, they have shortened tees. This is a good plan, but in placing the tee care should always be taken that good play gets an advantage, as nothing is more exasperating than for a player to find that after a fine, long drive, she has no advantage over an opponent whose topped ball has gone about ninety yards. This may occur from more than one cause. The player who has missed her drive may be able to reach the green with a full second, while the other requires a short iron shot; or the one who has had a good drive may be obliged to play short of a hazard, and then on to the green in three, her opponent playing the like after a long second.

Now a word as to the most suitable length for a ladies' links. This, of course, will depend on the turf and amount of run one gets on the ball, but I would put the limit at 5000 yards.

A reference to the lengths of the Ladies' Championship links shows that they have varied between 4097 yards (Portrush) and 4863 yards (Gullane), but the par has only varied three strokes—77 to 80. Want of ground is of course the drawback to the majority of ladies' links, but even these might be improved by a little careful consideration; and those who aspire to lay out a links should remember that it is not the aggregate length that makes a good course, but the

placing of the hazards in relation to the length of the holes.

In all cases I think a par of 80 is sufficiently high. When ladies argue that they ought to play on men's links, they forget that however good they may become they will always be far behind a scratch man; anyway, this generation will not see a lady who will drive to within thirty yards of Mr. Tait. Against the absurdity of ladies advocating the suitability of a well-laid-out men's links for their play I cannot speak too strongly, but would advise young players to beware of them, as they spoil the style of play by conducing to "press"; constant futile attempts to carry a hazard spoils a bold game, and encourages a habit of playing round the difficulty, to say nothing of the effect on the spirits and temper, of just failing to carry a hazard after a good shot. When laying out new links it is advisable to place the tees as you intend to keep them, and not to make them short at first with a view of lengthening them afterwards. Again, does it not strike some of us as absurd, that at the majority of these scratch ladies' open meetings that are now so popular, the winner returns a score of 90 to 100? Have we ever heard of Messrs. Ball, Tait, or Hilton winning with such a score? Why, then, is it considered necessary to give ladies such a trial of strength? Is not the motto of the game, *Vi et arte*?

An assertion that is often made to me by the opposite sex is, "You ladies quarrel so much over golf—you are always having rows." My reply is,

“ Well, you gentlemen made the rules by which we have to play, and they are so ungrammatical and illogical that not any two of you can expound them in the same way.” I do not know if ladies really do quarrel more over the game than gentlemen, or if it is that, instead of being content to confide a grievance to their own particular chum, they both (it always takes two to quarrel) enlist as many members as possible on their side, until the club is virtually divided into two factions.

That the present St. Andrew's rules conduce to unsportsmanlike play is, I think, undeniable. Take, for instance, the hitting of a ball twice, causing the loss of a hole. In the majority of cases, to hit the ball twice is purely accidental, generally being the result of a bad lie, and even when it is caused by a spooned or scraped shot, surely the penalty of a stroke would deter any one trying to do it on purpose; whereas, with the present rule, one hears of a player being asked to hole out a nine-inch putt when she has two for the hole, as, if she hit her ball twice, she would lose the hole. From experience I can truly say, that owing to hitting a ball twice is the greatest test of integrity to which a golfer can be put, especially when it is the question of winning or losing the hole.

Were I to mention only half of the instances similar to the above which occur in the present rules, they would fill an entire volume by themselves. Is it, therefore, any wonder that many of us think that if the Royal and Ancient is not capable of drawing

up rules which are less open to criticism, it is quite time that the ladies were invited to help them?

Now incomprehensible as some of these rules appear, there are certainly many players who make the worst of them, and as this book is for ladies, I speak of and to them, but I believe that, as far as the wording of rules is concerned, ladies are, on the average, better informed and more considerate than gentlemen. It is the spirit of the rule and the object for which it was made that is so often overlooked, thereby causing the greater part of the trouble.

The question of a moved ball was some time ago the theme of many a letter to *Golf*, and was discussed at length in the clubs. Since then, when our opponent goes up to address her ball, we glare at it all the time to see if the motion of the air caused by her "waggle" should cause it to move! Now surely this rule was made to prevent the lie of the ball being improved, or its being decidedly moved in taking away a stick, stone, or other impediment; yet if a ball which is supported in a good lie by a blade of grass falls into a hole when the player is addressing it, we are only too ready to claim the stroke. Of course in medal play one feels obliged to count it, but I certainly think that in a match (championship or otherwise) we should be wiser not to be too eager to claim the penalty from our opponent. We might even go further, and by refusing to claim the hole when a bad shot of our own has hit our opponent's



caddy, or when the opponent's caddy through ignorance has walked up the line of putt, and similar cases, add to the pleasure of the match, and at the same time advocate a more fair version of the rules.

Handicapping is the bugbear of all committees, not so much on its own account, but because players will expect the impossible. It is not in golf only that it is a cause of annoyance, but the same quibbles and complaints occur in lawn-tennis, yachting, racing, etc.—in fact, in every sport where there are handicaps.

In Chambers's *Etymological Dictionary* we find the word handicap defined as "a race in which the horses carry different weights, or are placed at different distances, or start at different times, so that all shall have as nearly as possible an equal chance of winning. The word was originally applied to a method of settling a bargain or exchange by arbitration, in which each of the parties exchanging put his *hand*, containing money, into a *cap* while the terms of the award were being stated, the award being settled only if money was found in the hands of both when the arbiter called 'Draw.' "

In all cases the chief object of handicaps is to level up. There are two ways of doing this. One is to give handicaps on what you and others think that player can do, and the other is to handicap them on what they have proved that they can do.

The first system is open to the objection that everybody has a difference of opinion as to everybody else's capabilities; and the second should be

easy enough when a player belongs to only one club, and plays there regularly in medal competitions, though even then handicap committees know how often a player may and does, without rhyme or reason, suddenly return a score ten or even twelve strokes better than she has done before, thereby "romping in" as a winner, and putting the remainder of the club up in arms;—then the handicap committee had better have business abroad, as no figures will convince the uninitiated members that the committee have not been grossly negligent, and, funnily enough, the whole of the rest of the club "could have told them so!" If this is the case with those who play fairly regularly at one club, how much more difficult must it not be with regard to those who play six months at one club and six months at another!

Again, there is the difference between match and medal play. As a rule, a good medal player is good at match, but the reverse is not so generally the case, and there are cases of two players who are equal in match play who may have a difference of quite ten strokes in all their medal rounds.

Now that inter-club matches are so general, the method of scoring is much discussed. It seems hard for a club which has won six matches out of eight to lose the event through a member being twelve down. The Ladies' Golf Union rule of adding two for each match cancels this sometimes, but is not altogether satisfactory. Counting matches only is an encouragement to place a weak player above

her place, as it would not matter by how much she lost if the others all won. Alas! we are all so keen to beat that other club that we have not time to experiment as to the fairest way of doing it.

But after all, whatever may be its defects, is there any other game that gives such keen satisfaction to its advocates? We all of us know the thrill of delight when the ball goes clean off the club.

A "boundary" hit at cricket may, perhaps, give the same sensation as a good drive from the tee, and "potting" the red at billiards may bear comparison with holing from the edge of the green, but it is difficult to describe the feeling of exultation after lofting your ball over a formidable sand-bunker, and laying it within a foot of the hole.

Golf, I have been told, is physically a better game for our sex than any other, as it exercises a greater number of muscles without any fear of over-exertion or strain. As you cannot win your match if you lose your temper, I suppose we may claim that the game has also a good moral effect. Its enemies have been forward in declaring that golf is a selfish game, as you play for your own honour and glory. To a certain extent this is true, but inter-club matches are becoming more general, and when regulations are made as to qualifications for playing in a team we shall see an improvement, but at the present time the same players seem to meet over and over again playing for different clubs, and "my revenge" is their first thought.

Neither must we forget the social view of golf.

Does it not bring together all sorts and conditions of men and women? and does it not tend to make us broader-minded? Those whom we used to judge by, and possibly condemn for, their appearance, we now recognize as being "not a bad sort," and allow that those who do not think as we do are not necessarily quite wrong. In fact, Thackeray must have been anticipating ladies' golf when he said, "The world is a looking-glass, and gives back to every man the reflection of his own face."

## CHAPTER II

### THE LADIES' GOLF UNION

*By L. Mackern*

IN writing an account of the Ladies' Golf Union, it is necessary to give a short sketch of its origin and rise. Early in 1893 two or three ardent members of the Wimbledon Ladies' Golf Club started the idea of arranging a Ladies' Championship, and enlisted the advice and services of a clever organizer and enthusiastic golfer, in the person of Mr. Laidlaw Purves. He at once advised that all the other recognized ladies' golf clubs should be invited to co-operate, with a view to forming a Ladies' Golf Union. Circulars were accordingly sent out, and a meeting called for April 19, 1893. To show that this project received generous support from the sterner sex, we must quote from *Golf* of March 24, 1893: "We hear that some of the leading Ladies' Golf Clubs are joining in a movement for the foundation of a Ladies' Golf Union, with a view to the starting of a Championship, and to the regulating of the game, as is done by

Unions and Associations for all important games, excepting Golf. We wish them all success, and trust that a Golf Union will follow. It ought to have led." And Mr. Laidlaw Purves, at the inaugural meeting in April 1893, which was virtually the birth of the Ladies' Golf Union, paid a handsome tribute to our sex when he said, "Your presence here to-day as delegates from Ladies' Golf Clubs throughout the United Kingdom shows an interest in the welfare of present and future golfers, which has not been evinced by the majority of the other sex. In this matter women are certainly in the van." The clubs represented at this meeting were, besides Wimbledon, St. Andrew's, Ashdown Forest, Blackheath, Eastbourne, Minchinhampton, Lytham and St. Anne's, Southdown and Brighton, Holywood, Great Harrowden Hill, and Barnes.

It is, perhaps, hardly necessary to go into the **Formation of details of the actual formation of the the Union.** Ladies' Golf Union. All that need be said on this point is, that it consists of vice-presidents, honorary treasurer, honorary secretary, and a council formed of delegates from all affiliated clubs. Each club belonging to the Ladies' Golf Union is represented on the Council of the **Delegates.** Union by delegates; the number of these **Entrance** delegates being proportionate to the size **Fees.** of each club. Thus, clubs of under 100 **Annual Sub-** members are represented by one delegate; **scriptions.** those of over 100 and under 200 by two delegates; and those of 300 and over by three delegates. The

entrance fee for a club of under 100 members is £2 2s.; for one of over 100 and under 200 is £3 3s.; for one of 200 and over, £5 5s. The annual subscriptions are £1 1s., £2 2s., and £3 3s. respectively.

The Union publishes each year a small annual giving a complete list of all the clubs <sup>The Union</sup> affiliated to it, with the names and "Annual." addresses of the members, the entrance fees and subscriptions, the office-bearers and committee; most of the matches and competitions, a short account of the green, also par and the Union handicaps. The *Annual* contains details of all the rules and regulations of the Union, and a full description of the year's Championship, with a map of the course. In addition to all this host of useful information there are included two or three chapters on topics of interest by golfers of renown. And this handy little book costs only one shilling.

The primary objects of the Union are, <sup>Chief objects</sup> to quote from their *Annual*—<sup>of the Union.</sup>

1. To promote the interests of the game of golf.
2. To obtain a uniformity of rules of the game by establishing a representative legislative authority.
3. To establish a uniform system of handicapping.
4. To act as a tribunal and court of reference on points of uncertainty.
5. To arrange the Annual Championship Competition, and to obtain the funds necessary for that purpose.

This programme seems, at first sight, to be a very comprehensive one, and indeed may be said to

embrace the whole duty of golfers, whether they be men or women. But though the desire of the Union is to act as a friendly tribunal and court of reference on points of uncertainty, it deprecates entirely any wish to dictate to the various clubs affiliated to it; but rather it hopes to encourage a universality of aims among the clubs. Indeed, one of the most important effects that the Union seeks to have is to increase that sense of comradeship which should exist among all true golfers. In all games and sports this is an essential quality if the best results are to be expected. The Union certainly does its best to draw all golfers together, and to give them common aims and ambitions. In every way it is most important to encourage this feeling; for in games, as in most other things, women are prone to lose sight of the *general* good through a certain smallness of outlook. Anything that narrows down a conception, whether of a game, of a theory, or of conduct, must tend to decrease its usefulness; conversely, anything that helps to broaden out that conception is to be unreservedly welcomed.

One of the most practical uses of the Union is shown by the effort it is making to establish a uniform system of handicapping. The question of handicaps is one fraught with many and divers difficulties, and unreasonable and absurd are the views held by many players on the subject. One of the convictions most deeply rooted in the feminine golfer's breast is that handicaps are ordained for the special blessing and



comfort of the feeble players, who are thereby enabled to rake in pots of all descriptions by the dozen. It is impossible to make these people feel that it is a thing to be ashamed of, and not one to glory about, when a twenty-four-handicap player wins with a score of ten strokes below scratch. Any one who has had experience of the heart-breaking work of a handicap committee of an ordinary club, will realize what a herculean task the Union has set itself in trying "to establish a uniform system of handicapping."

Naturally, the main idea of any system of handicapping is that the handicap of each individual member should be some guide to the quality of her play. Hitherto the handicaps of many clubs have been utterly misleading, as managers of open meetings have found to their dismay. Thus some very nearly scratch players send in their handicap as 18 or 19, because that is what they play with on long links, against men. On the other hand, players who would want six strokes from a really scratch player send in their handicap as scratch, because, being the best players in a small club, with short links, their best score is considered the par of the green.

Now the Union scheme is, roughly, this:—

Find the true par of the green as scored by a really scratch player, allowing two putts on each green, and, as a rule, counting <sup>The</sup> Union Handi- a hole under 120 yards in length a 3; <sup>capping</sup> one under 240 a 4; and one under 320 <sup>Scheme.</sup> a 5. Of course the position and frequency of

hazards, and the lies to be found through the green, have to be considered, and two or three strokes allowed for bad luck or misadventure, over and above the actual score for the eighteen holes. The handicap of each member is then arrived at by taking the best score returned by that member and doubling it, adding the next best score. The average of these three scores is then struck, and the difference between it and the par of the green is that member's handicap. The following table explains it exactly :—

Best score	...	...	...	75
Doubled	...	...	...	75
Next best score	...	...	...	81
				231
			3)	77
Average	...	...	...	77
Par of green	...	...	...	72
Player's handicap	...	...	...	5

It is very easy for outsiders to criticize this system and its working. But in common fairness it must be allowed that the result of the first year's trial is, on the whole, a highly satisfactory one, especially when we consider the many initial difficulties in the way. Out of the twenty-three clubs competing for the silver medals offered by the Union for the best aggregate of four scores returned in medal competitions in each club, eleven of the winners' scores averaged within two strokes of the par of the green. Only in two cases did the difference exceed four

strokes. The Handicapping Committee of the Union are perfectly hopeful, that at no very distant date their system of handicapping will have attained its object, and that each individual member's handicap will represent the quality of her play. A player receives the same handicap in every club to which she may belong. No player is allowed to owe; for if a scratch player beats the par of the green, that par is lowered, and all the other members' handicaps are put up in proportion.

The Wimbledon Ladies' Golf Club has recently adopted the Golf Union handicapping and its system for the Club handicaps. And to give keen golfers an extra chance of having their handicap reduced, this club has just started the plan of taking scores made on one specified day in each week for that purpose. Other clubs are about to follow this example, which is an excellent one. Although there are only two Scotch clubs affiliated to the Union, several others do not look with disfavour on it, but write for advice and help to the courteous and energetic secretary, Miss Issette Pearson, to whose untiring exertions, and unflinching tact and kindness so much of the success of the Union is due.

The clubs affiliated to this Union are **Clubs  
affiliated to  
the Union.**  
fifty in number, viz. :—

Aberdeen, Ashdown Forest,  
Bath, Barham Downs, Beckenham, Royal Belfast, Belton  
Park, Blackheath,  
Cheadle, Claygate, Cotswold,  
Didsbury, Co. Down, Dulwich and Sydenham Hill,

Royal Eastbourne, East Sheen, Edinburgh, Eltham,  
Exmouth,  
Folkestone, Formby, Freshwater,  
Hampstead, Hastings, Hoylake,  
Ilkley,  
Kenilworth, King's Norton,  
West Lancashire, Littlestone, Lytham and St. Anne's,  
Maidstone, Minchinhampton, Moreton,  
Northampton,  
Royal Portrush,  
Rochester, Romford,  
Scarborough, Seaford, Southport,  
Wakefield, Wembley, Westward Ho, Wimbledon, Winder-  
mere, Wirral, Woking, Worcester, and  
Great Yarmouth.

## CHAPTER III

### THE LADIES' CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS FROM 1893-98

*By M. Boys*

THE first Ladies' Championship Competition was played at St. Anne's-on-the-Sea from June 13th to 16th, 1893.

The Lytham and St. Anne's Ladies' Golf Course, one of nine holes, had, thanks to the energy of the Committee, been brought into perfect condition, and everything promised well for the success of the meeting. England was well represented in the draw, which numbered 38; while Ireland and France sent a few entries; Scotland, much to the regret of every one, had not a single representative. In the days prior to the actual competition there was much outspoken criticism on the different styles of the competitors, and those who were mentioned as probable winners were Lady Margaret Scott, Miss Pearson, or Miss Starkie Bence, while the local favourites were Mrs. Catterall and Mrs. Hermon. Lady Margaret's fine, full, easy

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swing won universal admiration, and her play throughout the competition was almost faultless. Miss Pearson, who is a remarkably good all-round golfer, appeared nervous, and did not do herself justice, while Miss Starkie Bence won admiration for the apparent ease yet powerfulness of her driving. The local players, Mrs. Catterall and Mrs. Hermon, played a first-rate game, but were outclassed by their opponents.

The course though short was tricky, the lowest score done by a lady being 38. The best returns during the competition were those of Lady Margaret Scott, whose scores showed marvellous steadiness, nearly every round being either 40, 41, or 42. The most interesting match of the meeting was that between Miss Pearson and Mrs. Catterall; tying on the 18th green, Miss Pearson only snatched the match from her opponent by a long putt on the 19th green. The semi-finals between Lady Margaret Scott and Miss Terry, Miss Pearson and Miss Carr were not closely contested, Lady Margaret being 6 up and 4 to play, while Miss Pearson beat Miss Carr by 4 up and 2 to play.

The final between Lady Margaret Scott and Miss Pearson, followed by a large assemblage of spectators, was disappointing. Miss Pearson, who was evidently very nervous, did not play up to her usual fine form, and Lady Margaret, who was playing in magnificent style, was 7 up at the turn; this position she maintained, the match finishing at the 13th hole.

At the termination of the meeting Lady Margaret

Scott was presented with the gold medal, the magnificent challenge bowl presented by the Ladies' Golf Union being handed over to Lady Margaret's club (the Cotswold) to be held for the year. The runner-up, Miss Pearson, received a silver medal, while Miss Terry and Miss Carr were presented with bronze medals.

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In the following year the Championship, held on the Littlestone Links from May 29th to June 1st, was in many respects a marked improvement upon the previous one. The entries—nearly double the number, 63—represented many more clubs, and the play of some of the new-comers was of a distinctly higher standard than that shown among the bulk of the competitors in 1893. This year it had been decided to play over the men's eighteen-hole course, with shortened tees at several of the holes; but this alteration did not affect the character of the course, which remained sporting and quite sufficiently difficult. In spite of the heavy rain the greens were in perfect condition.

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On the first day the more important matches were those between Lady Margaret Scott and Mrs. Catterall, Mrs. Wilson Hoare and Mrs. Willock. Mrs. Catterall played pluckily against Lady Margaret, but the latter's play, as fine as in the previous year, was quite beyond Mrs. Catterall, and the match was soon over. The interest of the spectators then centred on the match between Mrs. Wilson Hoare and Mrs. Willock. Both were

playing extremely well, hole after hole was halved, and it was only at the 20th hole that Mrs. Hoare by a fine putt won.

On the second day, the most interesting match was that between Miss Starkie Bence and Mrs. Hoare; but the latter played an altogether weaker game than in her previous match, and was easily beaten by the Eastbourne player. The best-contested match of the meeting was played on Thursday between Miss Pearson and Mrs. Tennent, who entered from Cannes. Mrs. Tennent, with a full easy swing, drove a good ball; while her iron play was wonderfully accurate, her putting was distinctly poor. Miss Pearson also appeared weak in her putting. After a very ding-dong game, Miss Pearson secured the match on the 18th green by one stroke. Mrs. Tennent's play won considerable admiration, and she quite proved herself the equal of the Silver Medallist, who had to put forth all her strength to win. The semi-finals, as in the previous year, were runaway matches, Miss Pearson gaining an easy victory over Miss May Mugliston, while Lady Margaret Scott had no difficulty in beating Miss Starkie Bence. The Eastbourne player was driving well, and in this respect was quite as good as her opponent, but Lady Margaret's brassy and approach play were magnificent.

Once more Lady Margaret Scott and Miss Pearson, the Gold and Silver Medallists of 1893, were left to struggle for the much-coveted honour. Miss Pearson, though playing a stronger game in



every way, was yet undoubtedly inferior to her antagonist; Lady Margaret, without appearing to exert her powers to any extent, winning on the 17th green by 3 up.

Among those whose play was admired, and who were considered to show promise of becoming future medallists, were Mrs. H. C. Willock, Mrs. Tennent, and the Misses Welch. Lady Margaret Scott was heartily applauded on again receiving the gold medal. Miss Pearson was presented with the silver medal, while Miss Starkie Bence and Miss Mugliston received the bronze medals.

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The Championship of 1895 was held in Ireland on the Portrush Links, from May 28th to 31st.

The course was a stiff one, with many wide bunkers, and the universally expressed opinion appeared to have been that this year the Championship would prove the "survival of the fittest," and in all probability might have a different termination to those of the previous years. The entries numbered 84. The draw was disappointing, as several of the first-class players met in the first or second heat; thus the match between Lady Margaret Scott and Miss M. E. Philips, one of the finest in the contest, was played on the first day, and resulted in the defeat of the latter by two holes. Miss Philips played brilliantly, and to her and Mrs. Ryder Richardson remain the honour of being the only two of Lady Margaret's opponents during the Championship competitions of

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'93, '94, '95, who obliged her to play the last two holes in order to win the match. Miss Pearson, who had not for some time been playing in her usual faultless form, recovered in her match against Miss Graham, going out in the fine score of 39, and eventually won by 5 up and 4 to play. Miss Pascoe made her first appearance at this Championship, and in her match against Mrs. G. S. Clarke played a notable game; she, however, met Lady Margaret Scott in the next heat, and doubtless from nervousness did not play as good golf, and was ultimately beaten by 4 up and 3 to play. In the third heat Lady Margaret Scott and Miss Pearson met, but the latter played by no means as well as in the finals of '93 and '94, and was somewhat easily beaten, the champion winning on the 13th green by 6 up.

Other good matches that day were those between Miss Dod and Miss Whigham, and Mrs. Ryder Richardson and Miss Cox, the Irish champion. Miss Dod and Miss Whigham both drove magnificent long balls, but Miss Whigham's iron play was weak; and Miss Dod, playing a fine all-round game, won by 4 up and 3 to play. Mrs. Ryder Richardson, who was playing with deadly steadiness, won her match from the Irish champion by 2 up and 1 to play. The most interesting match in the fourth heat was that between Lady Margaret Scott and Miss Dod; the latter played a steady game, driving well, though not equal to her opponent in approach play or putting, and finally, after an exciting contest, was defeated by 4 up and 3 to play.

On the last morning a large concourse of spectators assembled to watch the semi-finals between Mrs. Willock and Miss Lythgoe, and Lady Margaret Scott and Mrs. Ryder Richardson. Miss Lythgoe won a victory over Mrs. Willock without much difficulty, being 4 up at the 15th hole. The struggle between Lady Margaret Scott and Mrs. Ryder Richardson was watched with keenest interest; both ladies played faultlessly, and in an easy graceful style; Mrs. Ryder Richardson held the unique position at the turn of being 4 up on the champion, but from that point Lady Margaret played a magnificent game; at the 16th hole the match was all even, and the last two were then won by Lady Margaret.

The final between Lady Margaret Scott and Miss Lythgoe was a runaway match; Miss Lythgoe was distinctly nervous, and the match ended on the 13th green, Lady Margaret being 6 up. The champion met with an enthusiastic reception when she received for the third time the gold medal, the much-coveted blue ribbon of golf. The runner-up, Miss Lythgoe, Mrs. Ryder Richardson, and Mrs. Willock being presented with the silver and bronze medals.

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In 1896 the Hoylake course was selected for the Championship competition. The condition of the course was all that could be desired, thanks to the energy of the committee. The weather was equally perfect, each day being one of brilliant sunshine and cloudless skies. The play was of an even higher class than in '95, and

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many who had come to scoff remained to admire ; in fact, the uniform skill and strength shown by most of the competitors gave rise to much outspoken appreciation. Eighty-two competitors entered. Most of the first-class players of former years were present, but among the absentees were Lady Margaret Scott, Miss Whigham, and Miss Dod. On the opening day, May 12th, fifteen ties were played off ; the most keenly-contested of these being the matches between Miss Mulligan and Miss K. Ball, and Mrs. Willock and Miss E. Young. Miss Ball beat Miss Mulligan, after a tie, on the 19th green, while Mrs. Willock had a more easy victory, as she won by 4 up and 2 to play. The match which drew the largest number of the spectators on the following day was that between Mrs. Ryder Richardson and Miss Pascoe ; it was confidently prophesied that this would prove a hard fight, but unfortunately the local player was off her game, and Miss Pascoe won by 5 up and 4 to play.

Miss Starkie Bence and Miss Cox played a keenly-contested game, the former only winning, after a tie, on the 20th green. The most surprising match of that day was played between Miss Aitken and Miss Pearson ; the former played a splendid game, and after a ding-dong struggle at the 17th hole they stood all even ; Miss Pearson then managed to secure the match on the last green. In the fourth heat the finest match was between Miss Pascoe and Miss Starkie Bence ; both played brilliantly, and it was only on the 19th green that Miss Pascoe snatched a win. In the fifth heat most interest was centred in the game

between Miss L. Thomson and Miss Kennedy; both played admirable golf, Miss Thomson only winning by a fine putt on the 19th green. The semi-finals drew an immense crowd of spectators, and the larger number followed the match between Miss Pascoe and Miss K. Moeller; the latter showed the finer form at the beginning, but Miss Pascoe soon steadied down into her usual excellent game. At the 7th hole Miss Moeller was 4 up, but from there Miss Pascoe never made a mistake, while her opponent's play went off, the game ending on the 16th green, the Woking player being 3 up. In the meantime the game between Miss Pearson and Miss L. Thomson had proved to be a much closer struggle than had been expected, the latter playing wonderfully steadily, while her opponent's play was not as fine as usual. There was some considerable excitement among the spectators when the match ended in a tie, and still more when on the 19th green Miss Thomson won by a brilliant putt. About 3000 spectators followed the finals in the afternoon between Miss L. Thomson and Miss Pascoe. Both players were nervous at the start, but they soon settled down. Miss Pascoe held the lead all through; at the turn she stood 3 up, and maintaining this lead won on the 16th green.

Miss Pascoe was presented by Mr. Robertson, ex-captain of the Royal Liverpool Golf Club, with the challenge bowl and the gold medal, while Miss Thomson, the runner-up, Miss Pearson and Miss K. Moeller received the silver and bronze medals.

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The Championship meeting of 1897 was held at Gullane; thus for the first time the Ladies' Golf Union flag was unfurled in Scotland. The entries, exceeding any of the previous years, numbered 105, and included 55 English, 37 Scotch, and 10 Irish competitors. For the first time the ladies played over an ordinary long course without shortened tees, and the scores during the competition fully justified this innovation. The course, owing to the drought, accompanied by keen winds, was terribly parched and the greens were consequently treacherously fast; however, the rain during the latter part of the competition made them considerably better. The standard of play was remarkably high. The ladies whose play was most admired were, among the Scotch, the Misses Orr, Miss Titterton, Miss A. Maxwell, and Miss M. Aitken; while among the English Miss Pearson, Miss Pascoe, Mrs. Ryder Richardson, Miss B. Thompson, and Miss Nevile were all in excellent form. The feature of the first tie played off on the afternoon of May 25th was the match between Miss Pearson and Miss Pascoe. Both played extremely well, but Miss Pearson played with greater confidence than her opponent, her outward score of 42 being quite up to the male standard. At the turn the Wimbledon member stood 2 up, Miss Pascoe then won the 10th hole, reducing her opponent to 1 up, but from there Miss Pearson steadily increased her lead, winning on the 15th green by 4 up and 3 to play. Other good matches that day were those between Miss Nevile and Miss N.

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Graham, and Miss E. Nevile and Miss L. Lugton. The younger Miss Nevile was beaten by her opponent at the 16th hole, while her sister was more fortunate, winning her match by one hole.

Among the important matches on the third day were those between Mrs. Ryder Richardson and Miss Lugton, and Miss Pearson and Miss Starkie Bence. Mrs. Ryder Richardson at the turn was 1 up on Miss Lugton, but the next four holes she lost; playing pluckily she, however, won the following two, bringing the match to the last hole, which was halved, Miss Lugton thus winning. Miss Pearson playing well in her game against Miss Starkie Bence, stood 2 up at the turn, which advantage she maintained till the 14th green; here, however, Miss Starkie Bence came to the front, and eventually Miss Pearson only won by a long putt on the last green.

In the third heat there were several excellent matches. Miss M. H. Aitken and Miss K. Moeller played a keenly-contested game, the Scotch player only winning by one hole.

Miss Titterton and Miss Aitken had, however, a closer struggle: for the greater part of the round Miss Titterton led, then Miss Aitken pulled up, and on the 18th green they stood all even; three more holes were then played before the match was settled in Miss Titterton's favour. Miss B. Thompson had a close struggle with Miss Lugton, whom she only beat by one hole. Miss Pearson, much to every one's surprise, was beaten by Mrs. H. S. Murray, by 2 up and 1 to

play. The only other close contests of that round were those between Miss E. C. Orr and Miss Philips, the former winning by 3 up and 2 to play; and Miss Dod and Miss Blyth, the latter winning by one hole. On the third day play began at ten o'clock, Miss Titterton and Miss Aitken being the first to play off. Miss Titterton secured the match fairly easily by 3 up and 1 to play. Other successful players were Miss E. C. Orr, who beat Mrs. H. S. Murray, Miss E. L. Kennedy, who proved too strong for Miss A. L. Orr, and Miss Orr, who had not much difficulty in beating Miss L. Smith.

In the afternoon Miss Titterton had a keen struggle with Miss M. Campbell, only winning by one hole, while Miss E. C. Orr beat Miss B. Anderson by 9 up and 7 to play. Miss E. L. Kennedy and Miss Orr both won their matches from Miss Nevile and Miss A. Maxwell.

The semi-finals and final were played in a thick mist and cold wind, with occasional showers of rain. The former were keenly contested, Miss E. C. Orr only securing a win from Miss Titterton on the last green, while Miss Orr had a somewhat more easy victory over her opponent, Miss Kennedy. Although the result of the final was more or less of a foregone conclusion, still a large assemblage of people followed the two sisters; it proved, however, as had been expected, an easy victory for the younger, who won by 4 up and 3 to play. Miss E. C. Orr was presented with the trophy and the gold medal by Mr. B. Hall



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Blyth, the ex-captain of the Gullane Golf Club, while Miss Orr, Miss Titterton, and Miss Kennedy received the silver and bronze medals.

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The sixth Ladies' Championship Competition was played at Great Yarmouth, from May 16th to 19th, 1898. Much disappointment was expressed over the smallness of the entries, only 77, occasioned no doubt by the absence of the Scotch players of the previous year, Miss Titterton, one of the Bronze Medallists of '97, being the only competitor who entered from a Scotch club. The absence of the champion, Miss E. C. Orr, was especially regretted. Among the newcomers whose play was particularly noted, were Miss A. Roberts, Miss C. Morgan, and the Hon. Lois Yarde Buller. The first heat was played off on the afternoon of the 16th, and the finest match of that day, if not of the whole Championship competition, was played between Miss Pearson and Miss Armstrong. Nervous at the start, Miss Armstrong soon steadied down, and the golf played on both sides became faultless. It was only after a tie that Miss Pearson won on the 19th green. In the second heat, Mrs. Ryder Richardson, playing against Miss C. Morgan, only managed to snatch a win at the 19th hole, while Miss K. Moeller was also obliged to play an extra hole in order to secure the match from Miss A. Roberts. There were no other keenly-contested matches in that heat.

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In the following round, played on the afternoon of the

second day, Miss Lena Thomson, the Silver Medallist of '96, had a wonderfully close fight with Mrs. Stanley Stubbs, and it was not until the players reached the 21st green that the match ended in Miss L. Thomson's favour. Another game carried to the 20th green was that between the Hon. Lois Yarde Buller and Miss Parker Smith. On the morning of the 18th, in the teeth of a stiff north-easterly wind, Miss Pearson and Miss Pascoe played a magnificent game; it was a case of give-and-take on both sides, until at the 16th hole Miss Pascoe was dormie 2, but Miss Pearson, playing brilliantly, won the 17th and 18th holes; the 19th was halved, Miss Pearson securing the match by a fine putt on the 20th green. Another match which drew a number of spectators was that between Mrs. Ryder Richardson and Miss K. Moeller, but the former, after playing steadily going out, appeared to become somewhat demoralized after the turn, and eventually Miss K. Moeller won by 4 up and 2 to play. Miss Titterton, much to the surprise of the onlookers, was beaten in this heat by Miss M. Stringer. In the afternoon Miss Dod met Miss K. Moeller, and what was expected to be a stiff match, proved to be a runaway for Miss Dod, who won by 5 up and 3 to play. Miss Pearson, after her severe struggle in the morning with Miss Pascoe, played against Miss E. Nevile; till the 15th hole Miss Pearson appeared to hold an easy win, then with only a half to get to win the match, she began to play short with her iron, the result being that Miss E. Nevile secured the following three holes, and the

match on the 19th green. This defeat of Miss Pearson caused wide-spread dismay, and it was confidently affirmed that had she not been tired out, and also suffering from a severe cold, she would undoubtedly have won the match without any difficulty.

The semi-finals were played off on the morning of the 19th, the bulk of the spectators following Miss Dod and Miss E. Nevile, as it was expected Miss Lena Thomson would have an easy victory over Miss A. Barwell. This proved to be a correct surmise, Miss Thomson winning by 4 up and 3 to play. Both Miss Dod and Miss E. Nevile played well, but the former was not playing in as fine form as she had shown in her previous matches. Still the play was give-and-take, and at the 16th hole they stood all square, the 17th was won by Miss E. Nevile, and the 18th being halved, gave her the match.

The final between Miss Lena Thomson and Miss E. Nevile was a runaway match for the former, who played faultlessly, while Miss E. Nevile played an uncertain, nervous game. Miss Thomson won the match and the Championship on the 13th green, by 6 up and 5 to play.

The trophy and the gold medal were presented by Mr. F. S. Ireland, captain of the Great Yarmouth Club, to Miss Lena Thomson, while Miss E. Nevile, the runner-up, Miss Dod, and Miss A. Barwell received the silver and bronze medals.

## CHAPTER IV

### THE MANAGEMENT OF CLUBS

*By M. Boys and H. Knapping*

IT may be considered irrelevant to preface a chapter entitled "The Management of Clubs," with a few remarks on the "laying-out" of links, but as a club without a course might be likened to a head without a body, I feel that a short diagnosis of the body may not be quite unacceptable. To continue the simile, the one would be non-existent without the other, for though in ancient times our golfing forefathers did without clubs, in these days such a state of things would be impracticable.

A few months ago I was asked for advice on the "laying-out" of a golf course on some <sup>The</sup> "common" in the Midlands. Are there <sup>of golf links.</sup> any fixed rules? was one of the questions sent to me. My knowledge on the subject being somewhat sketchy, I applied to several authorities for assistance, only to be told in each case that, bar the fundamental rule, that each hole must have a *tee* and a *green*, there were no hard-and-fast rules for the "laying-out" of links.

Golf links, for one thing, are of so many varieties. First there is the "sea-shore" links, the king of courses, then come the "common," "down," "park," and "pasture" links. The last two are simply the mushroom growth of a century that seizes on a new idea, and devotes itself body and soul to the new passion it has created, and which it will soon, however, dash to the ground to give place to the next fleeting idol. These "park" and "pasture" links are not worth describing, for they consist of mown pathways between trees and greens, artificial bunkers with daily raked sand bottoms (one wonders the edges are not lined out with garden-tiles), and the hazards for "pulled" or "sliced" balls are invariably the rough grass bordering the mown pathways. The "sea-shore" links are not developed by man's labours, Neptune did the "laying-out" of them; and, like all work executed by Nature with her attendant satellites, it is done to perfection. Where else can one find the short keen grass of the "sea-shore" putting greens? Do they compare unfavourably with the dull, heavy, clay-grown grass of many of the "inland" greens? Then where else can be found the magnificent awe-inspiring sand-bunkers? On these natural links all that man has to do is to choose the spots for *tee* and *green*, level the former if necessary, and cut and roll the latter. The "common" and "down" links, though never as fine as the "sea-shore" course, can be made into most excellent golf links.

Let us take, *par exemple*, a "common," and proceed to lay out one or two holes. Before us stretches a wide expanse of undulating "common" about three miles in length and two in width, dotted with clumps of whin and rushes. The first step to take is to choose a nice flat piece of ground for the first tee, then we pace out to the right towards a group of trees, close to which there is a large smooth plateau which will make an excellent green. It is quite twenty yards square, and with some cutting and rolling will in time become most desirable.

How far is the green from the tee? Two hundred and fifty yards according to the pacing. What could be better? Returning to the tee we mentally drive off; immediately in front is a clump of whins twenty yards wide, a perfect hazard for the tee shot, and an iron as a second ought to "carry" over some thick bent which surrounds our maiden green. A spot for the second tee is more difficult to find, and will want some levelling; the green, too, is less satisfactory, and the hole will have to be four hundred yards. The carry from the tee is a long one; a ditch and some clumps of whins about ninety yards distant, and after that the ball will find no green sward for a good brassy lie. There is altogether too much bracken; a man will have to be constantly employed in the spring and summer cutting it down, etc., etc.; yet still the "laying-out" process continues subject to many ups and downs, but triumphing in the end.

There are some points that are essential to the

success of a golf course. If a ladies' course, it ought not to be less than two, or more than three miles and a half in length, then it should finish as nearly as possible where it began; this is of course a *sine qua non* when the course is a nine-hole one, but in any case it is advisable for the sake of convenience.

Deciding the length and disposition of holes, etc.

The length of the holes must be varied to avoid monotony, ranging from 90 to 400 yards. The distance between tee and green is constantly settled by the suitability of some spot for the green. These may be undulating or sloping, but the turf, if not already of velvet smoothness, should be brought to that condition by care and attention, and the size, if possible, ought not to be less than 20 or 30 feet square, but this must also be regulated by circumstances.

There must, of course, be bunkers between the tee and the green, and if there are not already natural ones, artificial ones should be made.

Bunkers.

Besides these hazards there may be clumps of gorse or bent dotted here and there; but the nature of the hazards will vary according to the character of the course. Sea-shore links have sand-bunkers, gorse, and bent; while on inland courses the hazards may be rivers, hedges, trees, walls, ditches, and even railway lines. There cannot be too many well-arranged hazards; for the secret of a successful golf course is *variety*, and its ultimate destruction will be *monotony*.

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Ladies' golf clubs may be divided into two classes: those managed, or partially managed, by a committee of the men's club, and those managed entirely by women. The experience of six years behind the scenes of two or three big clubs, and the observation of others, has led me to the conclusion that the latter method is most successful. "Homme propose, femme dispose," and it is a misapplication of forces that might be more usefully employed to set men to such a delicate and difficult task as managing a couple of hundred lady golfers. It is like setting an elephant to do embroidery! Wise and tactful women, from the standpoint of inward experience, can best deal with the rules and regulations required by other women.

Let us suppose that an ideal ladies' club is to be started. The links are ready, the club-rooms provided, the limit of members fixed, and the annual income determined. What should be done next?

Code of rules to be drawn up. First of all draw up a code of rules dealing with the number of officials and committee members; the method of their election, and the duties of such officials and committee members. Could not the Ladies' Golf Union draw up such a code, carefully selected from those in force in the leading men's and ladies' clubs, and recommend them for adoption by new and young clubs? How often does one not find in country and seaside links that the management is a chaos, in the hands of one person perhaps, who just does as



she likes without reference to the other members, rules non-existent or inadequate, and muddle supreme ?

One rule that might be beneficially added to those usually in force, would be to limit the length of tenure of any office by the same member. In all the best clubs, members of committee retire two or more at a time in rotation, and are not eligible for re-election till after the lapse of a year. No such rule exists as to the length of reign of a captain or secretary. One has heard of officials who have been in power so long that it becomes a matter of great difficulty to suggest a change without dire offence. How much better it would be if a rule existed limiting the tenure of any office by the same person to, say, two years, with a compulsory break of one year before re-election was possible. Fresh blood and fresh ideas are good for all clubs. The popular official, whom it is a pain and grief to lose, would return to office all the fresher for a year's enjoyment "of greater freedom and less responsibility," whilst the unpopular or less satisfactory one vacates office naturally, without offence being given or taken. Moreover, it is good that as many members as possible should hold office in turn. She who has once experienced the trouble and trials of "the fierce light that beats upon the throne" as captain or secretary, will have far more sympathy and forbearance with the difficulties and mistakes of her successors. The most quarrelsome member is apt to

Limit to the  
tenure of  
any office by  
the same  
member.

calm down on becoming even a member of committee, as she realizes the necessity for that spirit of compromise which is at the bottom of all English institutions, even ladies' golf clubs.

Now as to individual duties.

**The Treasurer.** This important official has to keep all the club accounts, write the cheques, pay the bills, and probably the green-keeper and the house expenses. She should be consulted on all matters involving outlay, and should carefully hold the balance between extravagance and "screwing." She writes to ask for subscriptions, reports defaulters, sends receipts, and draws up the annual balance-sheet, which is usually audited professionally.

The captain's duties are important and responsible.

**The Captain.** She must take the chair at all committee meetings, and is entitled to do so at general meetings also. She is *ex officio* a member of all committees, and in case of an equality of votes gives her casting vote. In some clubs all disputes relating to "play" are settled by the captain or secretary, or both. She is the social head of the club, receives and entertains visiting teams, presides at the lunches, gives away the prizes at "meetings," and takes the lead generally.

One of her hardest tasks is to make up the teams for inter-club matches, a matter needing much tact and good judgment. It also needs infinite patience and good temper, for who does not know how often, on the very morning of an important match, telegrams

of excuse are received from one or more of the team, necessitating a complete change of arrangements at the eleventh hour? In presiding over committee meetings, if the "hand of steel" is sometimes necessary, it should always be covered by the "velvet glove." The happy medium between laying down the law and weakness is not too easy to find; but the ideal captain has a sort of instinct for divining the feeling of the majority and guiding it to wise resolutions. To sum up, she should always "lead," but never "drive."

The secretary, if she does her duty properly, has the hardest work of any official, and the <sup>The</sup> more flourishing and keen the club, the ~~Secretary.~~ harder her work. She conducts the whole correspondence of the club as directed by captain and committee. She writes and posts up the lists of competitions for medals and prizes, and sends duplicates to the papers, and checks all cards sent in. She writes up the minutes of all general and committee meetings, sends out all notices, arranges for the necessary printing, and sees that there is always a good supply of score-cards and requisites in the club-room. She and the captain usually draw up the agenda together for each committee meeting, and she sends the heads of such agenda round to each committee member with the notice calling the meeting. Her least pleasant duty is "to receive all complaints," and many will probably be poured into her ear, some frivolous, some reasonable, all calling for the exercise of tact and judgment.

Above all things a secretary should either have no "temper," or have learnt from childhood to control it. Her handwriting should be at all events legible, and if possible neat. She must be clear-headed, good at arithmetic, patient, and above all full of tact. Happy and successful are the clubs whose captain and secretary are gifted with that inestimable quality.

The members of committee should be, roughly speaking, exclusive of officials, in the proportion of one committee member to every fifteen or twenty ordinary members, so that all sections of the club may be represented. They are chosen by the club, two or more at a time, at the annual general meeting, where alone officials and others are elected. Their duties are to discuss and settle the thousand and one questions that are always arising. Like members of Parliament, they are responsible to their constituents, and must yearly lay before the whole club the results of their labours for confirmation or rejection. They cannot alter rules without reference to a general meeting, but they can make bye-laws temporarily for emergencies. It is usual to make a quorum of three or five or more, according to the size of the committee, so that no business can be done unless this minimum number is present. In all large clubs sub-committees are formed from the committee members, with special duties, such as lunch, house, green, and even handicap committees. These are in their turn responsible to the big committee, to which they

report periodically, and bring their decisions to be confirmed or rejected. Members of committee at meetings should talk of nothing, nay, if possible think of nothing, but the business in hand, and how the honour, glory, and real interests of the club may best be served. They should avoid being swayed in their decisions by any personal feeling, and come to decisions as dispassionately and fairly as possible. In cases where feeling runs high on any matter it will be found useful to vote by ballot. The election of new members should always be done in this way.

One great danger to be avoided in ladies' clubs is that there is sometimes a kind of antagonism between the good and the bad **Members.** players. The cracks are apt to have too little toleration and sympathy for the beginners, and seem to think they ought to be removed from the face of the earth when they themselves are playing. On the other hand, the long handicaps are to be heard complaining bitterly that everything in the club is arranged for the benefit of the few very good players, and that they are not sufficiently considered. To work a club successfully both classes must be considered. The good players must remember that after all it is the subscriptions of the many that make the club possible, and that the many want some fun for their money. The duffers should remember that there is a certain monotony about it, when Mrs. L—— waits shivering on the tee in a cold January day while Miss X—— takes four-and-twenty in the first bunker, and ask her to pass.

Mutual toleration, fair give-and-take, and a strong feeling of *esprit de corps* will bring a club through all its troubles, and raise it to the highest pinnacle of success.

On the cliffs of a fairy island, washed by a summer sea, lie the ideal links. It may not be till  
**The Ideal Club.** the millennium that we play there, but we can try and imbue our own clubs with more of the spirit of this "Ideal Club." Its motto is "Each for all," the badge a pair of scales evenly balanced. The officials are chosen by the club because they are the best loved and the most capable. Once elected they are loyally supported by the members. While in office the one aim of all officials is the furtherance of the real best interests of the club, and they give themselves heart and soul to promote the general good.

*Esprit de corps* ranges all the members round the club banner; they are kind and helpful to the poor beginners, who tread the thorny paths of bunker-land; they rejoice heartily in the successes of their "cracks." They are like war-horses scenting the battle when they go forth to struggle with each other for honour and glory, full of the pure joy of living and love of the game. Yet the losers are not unhappy and the winners are not unduly elated. The bunkers are in the positions best suited to the peculiarities of each one's game. The handicapping pleases all because it is recognized as being absolutely just. The prizes are laurel wreaths, and there are enough for all.

If we catch even a dim glimpse of this fairy isle through the rolling mists, I think we shall find it is in the midst of the *great ocean of Sisterly Love*.

## CHAPTER V

### INTER-CLUB MATCHES

*By L. Mackern*

It is hard to believe, in these days of fierce competition, of struggle and scramble, of storm and stress, that once upon a time the world was a comparatively peaceful place to live in. Of course even then the terrors of monotony were averted by sundry violences on the part of citizens of the baser and more blood-thirsty sort; and the material comfort of the many was often rudely tampered with by the idiosyncrasies of the rowdy few. But, taken as a whole, life was undoubtedly an easier thing then than it is now, when the very babies are offered the prize of a box at the theatre as a reward for the best couplet on the subject of the pantomime to be represented. Poor babies! Poorer couplets probably! And so because we as a race are nothing if not strenuous, we must begin our competitions in the "Golden Age," pursue them doggedly through our prime, till we are shouldered out of the track, later on, by the younger and stronger competitors. These are days of international championships, inter-county competitions, inter-club matches; and

it is on the subject of inter-club matches that I wish to say the proverbial "few words."

The subject may not at first sight seem a very promising one, its limitations being obviously rather narrow, and the keen personal interest in its details being confined to a necessarily small number of golfers. And yet there are one or two very interesting and, I think, important points which certainly call for a fair hearing, if for no lengthened discussion. But before entering on a statement of those points, it would be well to review in brief the alteration that has taken place during the last few years in all the large clubs with respect to inter-club matches. And surely the increasing number of these matches played every year is one of the healthiest signs of development in ladies' golf.

A few years ago these matches were somewhat rare events, the captain's temper and patience being severely taxed in getting the team together. Many and tortuous were the excuses urged; one member would not play if it involved a journey by train; another's husband would not allow her to play if it rained; a third would only consent to play if placed at the tail of the team, so as to avoid if possible the chance of a beating. Then the captain had to appear not to mind when two or three of her team threw her over at the last moment. Indeed, looked at from all points, it was an anxious and wearing business to carry through an inter-club match successfully. But now how different it is; how much more sporting and keen women golfers have become;



how glad all the better players are for a chance to play for their club, and to try their strength on a fresh links! And there is no doubt that to induce steadiness, pluck, and resource, there is no training so good as this playing of inter-club matches. Say you are playing for your club, and are leading by two or three holes at the 15th, how it braces you to feel that by keeping your head, and playing a steady, patient game, you will probably end 4 or 5 up for your club. And if, on the other hand, you are down to your opponent, you can set your teeth hard, and remembering that no match is lost till it is won, do your level best to halve the remaining holes and so avert a crushing defeat. It is a distinct gift to be able to play a losing game well; but the inner meanings and mysteries of this gift lie deep in temperament, and are too subtle for discussion in a mere golf manual.

The captain's work of placing the various members of her team is an excessively delicate and difficult task. So many things have to be considered besides the ordinary hard-and-fast distinctions as indicated by the handicaps. Many golfers who, by dint of plodding industry, have succeeded in returning low scores, and have had their handicaps lowered, may not be nearly as good match-players as those with a higher handicap, but who play a more brilliant and pluckier game. Then again long drivers are at a far greater advantage on long links than on the short tricky courses which demand very accurate play. Some players (generally the nervous irritable temperaments) who are steady and useful on their home

links are almost useless on a strange course if anything ruffles them at the start, or if the luck is against them. Therefore to place the members of a team to the best advantage requires keen judgment, insight, and unlimited tact on the part of the captain. One thing I would suggest, for the help and comfort of any captain in any club, in times of perplexity, that a record be kept of the performances of each member of the team in all inter-club matches. I have seen such a record, accurately and beautifully kept, and it is most instructive and interesting.

Here I would like to introduce one of the points to which I referred above, viz. the system of scoring in inter-club matches. The ordinary way of course is simply to decide the result by the greater number of holes won. Now I contend that this does not necessarily decide the relative strength of the two *teams*, though it obviously decides for the time being the relative strength of each couple of opposing players. To make my meaning quite clear, I will cite an instance in point, which actually happened. The B— Club team played the L— Club team, and the results were as follows:—

B— CLUB.	L— CLUB.
No. 1. . 11 up.	No. 1. . 0
No. 2. . 0	No. 2. . 4 up.
No. 3. . 0	No. 3. . 3 up.
No. 4. . 0	No. 4. . 1 up.
No. 5. . 2 up.	No. 5. . 0.
No. 6. . 0.	No. 6. . 2 up.
No. 7. . 0.	No. 7. . 2 up.
—	—
Total 13.	Total 12.

Thus the B—— Club won the match by 1 hole, though the L—— Club won five out of the seven *matches* played. Now the L—— Club were obviously a better *team*, but owing to the break-down of their first player, they lost the match. Now to prevent such cases, and to preserve a fair balance in the value of matches and holes won, a plan has been devised by a very keen and clever golfer, Mr. H. H. Turner. His idea is briefly this: For every match won add 2 points to the total of holes won. Thus in the match I have mentioned the L—— team would have scored 10 points extra (2 each for the five matches won), thus bringing their total to 22. The B—— team would have added 4 points (two each for the two matches won), bringing their total to 17; and thus the L—— Club would have won the match by 5 points, instead of having lost it by one hole. The Ladies' Golf Union decided to give this system of scoring a fair trial, and it has been found to work well. Of course in many cases it makes no material difference, but until a better system is devised, there is much to be said in favour of this one.

Many golfers think a fairer plan would be to score only the matches won, and not count the holes at all. But this method too has its drawbacks, as it would lead to so many inter-club matches being drawn, and hardly enough importance would be given to the individual play of the different members of the team. Altogether this question of scoring in inter-club matches is a very knotty point, though most golfers dismiss it with the indifferent remark, "Oh! it is scoring well as it is; why not leave it alone?" But

this lazy policy does not seem to me to be the right way to face and grapple with a difficulty. However, let me bring forward another point that deserves attention.

In most ladies' golf clubs it is only the very best players, or at most a selection from the twelve or fourteen best players, who are called upon to play in inter-club matches. Now this seems to me a matter for regret in many ways. There is a large class of players in most clubs, inferior to the best, and yet able to play a fairly good game, very keen, and thirsting for a chance to gain experience, and to meet players of other clubs. With practice many of these golfers would become quite good match-players, and in time might often fill most usefully a place at the tail of the club team. Now why should not this second class form an "A Team" (as in football clubs), and meet other "A Teams" of opposing clubs? This would of course entail more work for the captain and secretary, but it would be work that would reap an ample reward. To ensure a certain equality in these opposing "A Teams," the plan might be adopted of taking the Golf Union handicap of the various players, and arranging the team so that a 7-handicap was opposed to a 7, a 9-handicap to a 9, and so on. One of the objections to be urged against this plan will be, that all clubs do not belong to the Ladies' Golf Union; but the exceptions are fortunately very few. The Golf Union handicaps are not yet perfect, any more than other earthly things, but no one who has thoroughly and dispassionately

studied the system by which they are worked can deny that it is at least moving in the right direction.

This plan of putting players with equal handicaps to play against each other makes the choice of players far less constricted, for naturally there are often several 9's or 12's, etc., in the various clubs. It would be a mistake, I think, to include players with a handicap of over 12 in these "A Teams." For frankly I do not believe it is possible to correctly classify and arrange the handicaps of players beyond that limit. The element of fluking is too substantial a factor in that sort of play for it to be possible to gauge accurately the exact difference between the form of, say, an 18 and a 20-handicap player. But at all events, in the interests of a very large proportion of women golfers, some effort might be made in the various big golf clubs to institute good "second" match teams, who shall have the chance of playing, say, six inter-club matches during the year.

Women golfers may, without conceit, congratulate themselves on the strides they have taken in the last few years, and may take heart of grace for the New Year that has begun. And with the prospect in 1899 of fresh enterprise in the way of inter-county matches, and the essentially dramatic enterprise of an International Competition between the women golfers of England and America, let us end with this greeting to all women who love golf,

"Go on, and prosper!"

## CHAPTER VI

### OPEN MEETINGS

*By A. M. Starkie Bence*

THAT the high standard to which ladies' golf has attained is largely due to those never-to-be-forgotten mortals who first planned the annual ladies' championship, is a statement that I think will not be contradicted. The smouldering sparks of keenness were only too ready to be fanned into flames by the aid of competition.

The novelty of a big gathering from all parts of the United Kingdom, the wild excitement over the matches, the perfect mastery over her clubs, and the grand style shown by Lady Margaret Scott, all helped to make the followers of the royal and ancient game echo Johnson's lines—

“Think nothing gained  
Till naught remains,”

whilst they daily plodded on, with the Championship for their goal.

Perhaps what may be described as the first open

handicap meeting was that held by kind permission of the St. Anne's Club at the time of the Championship, for those players who had not survived the fourth round, Miss Lena Thomson proving the winner with a score of 91—5—86. This appeared to be the herald for a series of gatherings which have become yearly events and are as popular as they are well attended.

St. Anne's  
Club Open  
Meeting,  
1893.

In the May of 1894 the second Championship was held at Littlestone, and here again a competition was held for all those who had suffered defeat in the earlier rounds of the great contest, and once more the handicap competition fell to the steady play of Miss Lena Thomson.

Littlestone  
Open Meet-  
ing, 1894.

In September came an announcement of a large open contest at Ashdown Forest, partly held over the long course—by the kindness of the men's committee—together with endless medal, bogey, and putting competitions on the ladies' course. A fine entry of some 40 players rewarded this enterprise, of which Miss Pearson, Mrs. Wilson Hoare, Miss D. Jeffery, and Miss Birch received honours.

Ashdown  
Open Meet-  
ing, 1894.

In the North at about the same time a good-sized meeting took place at Huddersfield, which was also well attended. Ranelagh, the meeting that still reigns queen of all medal competitions, had yet to dawn upon the golf world, dazzling the players from all

Huddersfield  
Open Meet-  
ing, 1894.

parts by its brightness, combined with business-like precision. The excellent condition of the course, the ample staff of caddies, the splendour of the prizes, all told of the untiring labours of the club committee and Miss Pearson. A more convenient centre for a large meeting, together with complete comfort in the way of club-house accommodation, cannot be found within a twenty-mile radius of the metropolis. Upon the lawn was laid out a by no means too easy putting course of nine holes. Here after luncheon nearly all the 72 competitors might have been found playing in couples for the prizes presented by Mr. Pearson. Miss Philips, Miss Kenyon Stowe, and Miss Pascoe took honours in the eighteen-hole competition, the winning score being 95—7—88.

Such an unqualified success did the whole meeting prove that the committee kindly allowed another two days' event to be held in the following April (1895), when even a larger number of players entered. The silver challenge bowl for competition upon the second day of the meeting, presented by Mr. Pearson for the best aggregate score made by any four members entering from the same club, caused an intense amount of inter-club rivalry. It became, however, an easy win for the Wimbledon Club with the aggregate of 394; Royal Eastbourne being second with a score of 409. The winning team for Wimbledon—each of whom received a

**Ranelagh  
Open Meet-  
ing, 1894.**

**Second Rane-  
lagh Open  
Meeting,  
1895.**



medal — were Miss Philips, 93; Miss Pascoe, 98; Miss Lena Thomson, 99; and Miss H. M. Frere, 104.

Following Ranelagh in about three weeks came the cheery little venture of the Brighton and Hove ladies. Notwithstanding a dense sea fog, Miss Pearson completed a very good round, sharing the prize-list with Miss Pascoe and Mrs. Willock.

Towards the middle of May the general exodus to Portrush took place, where the double attraction of both the Irish and the United Kingdom's Championships proved an irresistible draw to the devotees of the royal game. The entries had still further increased to 84, including the twice champion Lady Margaret Scott, Miss Sybil Whigham, of Prestwick fame—the first Scotch lady to take part in the Championship—Miss Dod, of lawn tennis renown, and many others. On the Monday before the big contest a medal competition was held over the course by way of a preliminary canter, when Miss Whigham returned the grand score of 89 gross; Miss Thomson this time taking the second place with 95. Whilst the small band of ladies who formed the Southern team were playing their matches against the North in the following September, a large gathering was organized by the West Lancashire Ladies' Club. Miss Philips, Miss Thomson, and Miss Dod shared the North and South honours with very good scores, the course

Brighton and  
Hove Open  
Meeting,  
1895.

Portrush  
Open Meet-  
ing, 1895.

West Lanca-  
shire Open  
Meeting,  
1895.

being decidedly tricky and rather rough, not having been finished a great time.

Till March of 1896 nothing very startling occurred, and then with a flourish of trumpets came the Woking, Wimbledon, and Ranelagh meetings all in the same week. Coming in the order named,

**Woking Open Meeting, 1896.** Woking was blessed (?) with a terrific wind, which added many strokes to the otherwise steady scores of Mrs. Wilson

Hoare, Miss Pearson, Miss Pascoe, and others. With an interval of one day, the play began afresh on the Wednesday, March 18th, when in a perfect deluge of

**Wimbledon Open Meeting, 1896.** rain about 89 players mustered at the Royal Wimbledon Club head-quarters, by kind permission of the committee of the gentlemen's links and of the Conservators of the Common, who had graciously permitted an extra day's golf to take place. If ever a golfer was called upon to anathematize casual water it was on this occasion, for not only were the greens miniature lakes, but nearly every brassy, iron, or cleek shot throughout the green had to be taken from out of these casual hazards. However, this amphibious style of golf seemed to suit Miss Philips, for her excellent score of 103 gained the silver bowl for the best eighteen-hole round, 109 being the second best score, returned by Miss K. Walker. The prize for the best last nine holes also went to Miss Philips, whose half-round was only 47.

The following day found the golfing world at Ranelagh, where such a fine list of entries had been

received that it took from 10 a.m. till after 1 p.m. to start the respective couples, giving about three minutes between each. Once more the Pearson Inter-Club Cup became the centre of rivalry, ten clubs sending in teams; but again the Wimbledon ladies held their own against all comers, retaining the challenge trophy with an aggregate of 387, Barham Downs with 430 being the next nearest! Mrs. Worssam, Miss Kenyon Stowe, Miss Pascoe, Mrs. J. Hunter, and Mrs. Willock showed fine form, their steady returns placing them well at the head of the prize list.

The Championship being held at Hoylake was a great chance to the neighbouring clubs of ensuring both a good entry and the presence of the crack players at an open meeting. West Lancashire, Moreton, and the Hoylake ladies clubs, advertised such events with the most successful results. The clerk of the weather too provided real glorious May weather, which added not a little to the comfort and pleasure of all concerned.

At West Lancashire Miss M. Rostron accomplished the good gross score of 88, whilst at Moreton the redoubtable Miss Philips came in first with a 95 round. At Hoylake Miss Pearson's card showed a grand 95, outdistancing the field by several strokes, Miss Kennedy and Miss Kenyon Stowe tying for the second place. This competition the Committee of the Royal Liverpool Golf Club

Third Lancashire Open Meeting, 1896.

Hoylake, West Lancashire, and Moreton Open Meetings, 1896.

most kindly allowed to take place over their links.

During the summer both the Hythe and the Hastings Clubs had successful open meetings, but the great assembly in the autumn was held by the Prince's Club at Mitcham, when on a glorious November day 70 players started to compete for the handsome array of scratch prizes, Mrs. H. Stewart's 72 being run very close by Mrs. Worssam's 73.

Eighteen hundred and ninety-seven dawned with the golf atmosphere redolent of Jubilee excitements. With the prospect of Scotland for the happy hunting-ground of the Championship, every one appeared only too ready to practise from morning to night, so that the meetings held about a month and less before the big event were simply crowded. In

March the long course at Littlestone was very graciously placed at the disposal of the ladies for two days for an open meeting. A good entry was the natural sequel, and Miss Pearson in fine form won the eighteen-hole prize with 99 on the first day, Miss H. L. T. Drake winning on the second day with 109—7—102. Ranelagh followed soon after with 104 entries, Mrs. Ryder Richardson doing the then record of 79, while Mrs. Hunter, with 90—11—79, carried off the handicap prize; Miss K. Walker and the last-named tying also for the nine-hole prize with the splendid score of 38.

**The Hythe  
and Hastings Open  
Meetings,  
1896.**

**Prince's Open  
Meeting,  
1896.**

**Littlestone  
Open Meet-  
ing, 1897.**

**Ranelagh  
Fourth Open  
Meeting,  
1897.**

The Pearson Cup became rather more of a fight, although the Wimbledon ladies still retained possession with the aggregate of 365, Mid-Surrey being 369. A meeting at Prince's took place soon after, and here the entries mounted to 106. Miss M. J. Armstrong of the home club won in 91, tenaciously followed by Miss Philips with a 93. This meeting was held over the only just completed eighteen-hole course, and loud were the praises heaped on Miss Langley for her sporting and welcome enterprise.

Gullane now became the password of every golfer, some 104 players entering the lists. Preliminary canters in the way of meetings were held at Archerfield and Gullane. At the former Mr. Law dispensed hospitality to all comers, throwing open the beautiful old grounds of Archerfield House. Of all meetings this and Gullane will bear the palm for many a long year, by reason of the *crème de la crème* of players who assembled to carry off some of the gorgeous prizes. The return of 83 by Miss Annie Maxwell of Dumfries proved far above the efforts of any of the other players, 90 being the next score, for which there were three ties between Miss Lugton, Miss Pearson, and Miss L. Smith of Minchinhampton. A Queen's Birthday meeting was held over the Gullane course on May 24th, when Miss Orr did the wonderful round of 87, closely pressed however by Miss Maud Aitcheson with 88, and Miss Annie Maxwell with 91. Had not Miss Orr taken a 6 at the first hole

Second  
Prince's Open  
Meeting,  
1897.

Gullane and  
Archerfield  
Open Meet-  
ings, 1897.

her record would have been a still greater marvel of absolute steadiness. For England, Mrs. Ryder Richardson and Miss Bowness of Windermere returned the lowest gross scores with 92 each, Miss Philips being 94 and Miss Pearson 95.

In September very successful meetings were held **Seaford and Hastings Open Meetings, 1897.** by kind permission of the gentlemen's clubs over the Seaford and Hastings long courses. The autumn finished with a grand gathering at Prince's. The **Third Prince's Open Meeting, 1897.** Surrey Ladies' Challenge Cup, a great centre of interest, was won by the home club by 17 strokes. Miss Philips with 83, Mrs. Worsam with 84, and Miss Pearson with 85, being the chief winners of the other prizes.

Eighteen hundred and ninety-eight opened with a two days' meeting on April 18th and 19th at Romford in Essex, over a gloriously sporting and well-kept course. Here Miss Pascoe was well to the fore with her usual steadiness, returning the best gross score of 98; Miss Pearson being second with 103. The 20th and 21st of the same month saw an enormous attendance at

**Romford Open Meeting, 1898.** Ranelagh, some 120 entries being received. **Fifth Ranelagh Open Meeting, 1898.** Miss Pascoe was again in grand form, taking the scratch prize with 78—a record, the nine-hole scratch being a tie between Mrs. Ryder Richardson and Miss C. Morgan with 39, in playing off of which the former won. The Pearson Cup was taken by Prince's Club with an aggregate of 358, Wimbledon for the first time

having to play second fiddle with 364, Littlestone being third with 370.

Early in May came the most successful meeting of Prince's Club, where the great attraction proved to be the Inter-County Cup, for which each county entered four representatives, whose gross scores for thirty-six holes were added together. Surrey became the winner, thanks to grand scores from Miss Pearson, Miss Pascoe, Miss Lena Thomson, and Mrs. Gordon Robertson—a total of 736, as against the 757 of Middlesex.

**Fourth  
Prince's  
Open  
Meeting,  
1898.**

Following on the heels of this came the Ladies' Championship at Great Yarmouth, with meetings both there and at Norwich; the latter an especially pleasing inland course at Hellesdon, some two and a half miles west of the town. Miss Pearson here proved in great scratch form, whilst at Yarmouth Miss Pascoe was several strokes ahead of the field with the good score of 86. Miss Kennedy also proved a winner over the ladies' course.

**Yarmouth  
and  
Norwich  
Open  
Meeting,  
1898.**

In June a very good meeting was held by the Barham Down Golf Club, when Miss Sybil Whigham, who was in her usual fine form, romped home for the Scratch Cup. Beckenham, Bushey Hall, and Barton-on-Sea all held successful meetings in October. At the two first-named Miss Philips and Miss Pascoe were respectively first with soundly good scores.

**Barham  
Downs Open  
Meeting,  
1898.**

**Beckenham,  
Bushey Hall,  
and Barton-  
on-Sea  
Meetings,  
1898.**

November 11th saw a great assembly at Prince's for the Open Scratch Competition, which was won by Miss Pascoe with the record of 81, Miss Philips and Miss Pearson following next in order with 85 and 86. The home club had little difficulty in retaining the Surrey Challenge Cup with an aggregate of 346.

December 1st, at Surbiton, saw a cheery little meeting in progress, where Miss Pascoe again asserted her superiority with another scratch record, viz. 85, Miss Sparrow, who came second, being 15 points behind. The list of fixtures for 1899 undoubtedly justifies our expectation of many cheerful gatherings; and the most important of these is the Open Championship to be played in May at Newcastle, Co. Down—that choice golfing centre of the Sister Island.



## CHAPTER VII

### ASPECTS OF THE GAME

*By M. Boys*

WITH but limited space we must be content to deal with a few only of the "Aspects" of this royal and ancient game for the text of this chapter.

First let us therefore turn our attention to "driving," of which there may be said to be two distinct styles; the full circular <sup>Driving.</sup> swing and the half or three-quarter swing. <sup>The</sup> <sub>full swing.</sub>

Miss Pascoe has kindly contributed the following on the merits of a full swing—"The desire of every beginner is a full swing, and an efficient coach will teach it. The further the club is drawn away from the ball the more time is given to quicken the downward and forward stroke. Thus women drive longer with a full swing because greater momentum is obtained, and it is the rate of speed the club is travelling when it meets the ball which gives length to the drive. Quickness and clear hitting will get a long ball without the influence of physical strength, although muscular force is a powerful multiplier of

the other two factors. It will be remembered that boys, and girls too, are often better off the tee for their age and vigour than their elders. When played in this style the drive itself will more probably be a 'swing' than a 'hit,' and the swing is the base of the golf stroke.

"Points to be considered are—

"I. The trueness of the circle described by the club-head.

"II. The accuracy of the timing to meet the ball.

"Thus evenness and precision mean straightness and length."

Practically then the idea of a full swing or sweep is that the player in the downward stroke will have the longer distance for concentration of speed and power.

Without accuracy, however, these are worthless, and unless the club in the upward swing performs a perfect circular sweep with the arms at the correct angle to the body, in the downward stroke it will be pulled and the ball struck wildly.

The position engendered by a full swing does not appear to be easily acquired by our sex. When the club arrives at the nape of the neck, the body is in a strained attitude, and when swinging the club downwards the player involuntarily draws her arms in, changes the position of her feet or dips her right leg, any of which errors it is almost unnecessary to say

<sup>The</sup> are fatal to the driving of a "clean" ball. <sup>half swing.</sup> Into the half or three-quarter swing, many players think, as much strength and speed as a

woman is capable of can be concentrated with also far greater accuracy. The eyes do not become strained, as is so frequently the case during the "slow back" of the full swing, the player remains in a natural position, and the club will follow through after the ball is hit, without being pulled across the body.

It is principally in the follow-through that the half swing shows its superiority. A straight follow-through will increase the distance the ball travels on the ground by

The  
follow-  
through.

twenty or thirty yards. Constantly in the downward sweep of the full drive the ball gets pulled, for the inclination of the arms is to complete the circle and finish the drive with the club almost over the left shoulder, instead of in a direct line above the head, the normal position of the club at the termination of the follow-through of the half swing. Balls played in this style have also a much longer "carry," as they are never so much "skied," and with a woman's limited strength it is obviously a disadvantage to loft a ball more than is required for the carrying of hazards, for a lofted ball has so much less run than a low hit ball. A player who has mastered the technicalities of a full swing can out-distance a player who drives with a half swing, but on the other hand the former probably fails to hit the ball absolutely "clean" in the majority of her drives, while the latter will succeed more often than she fails, with the result that at the end of a round the half or three-quarter swing will have covered quite as much ground as the full swing.

The two styles found able exponents at last year's Championship at Great Yarmouth. Among the first-class players who used the half or three-quarter swing, were Miss M. Armstrong, Miss Dod, and Mrs. Ryder Richardson. Miss Armstrong in her match against Miss Pearson drove magnificent long balls, with admirable grace and ease, and outdrove her opponent, who uses a full swing, ten times out of the nineteen drives (the match resulted in a tie, so an extra hole had to be played), the other nine being equal. Miss Pearson, who drives a very long ball, may possibly not have been up to her usual form, but if so it is only another instance of the uncertainty of the full swing.

Miss Dod is popularly supposed to be one of the longest drivers in England, and her follow-through is perfect. Mrs. Ryder Richardson's style is so well known that it is needless to comment on it.

Considering the two styles of driving purely from the point of elegance, the most purblind must allow the three-quarter or half swing to have the advantage. *Badminton on Golf*, after devoting twenty pages to the technicalities of elementary instruction in driving, condenses the remarks on ladies' driving into one short paragraph, and advocates the half swing for ladies solely on the hypothesis that "the posture and gesture requisite for a full swing are not particularly graceful."

Undoubtedly very few ladies look graceful while driving with a full swing, for ninety-eight out of a hundred exaggerate the swing grotesquely. I have

seen small women attack a drive with such vigour that after striking the ball their bodies swing right round with the impetus of the stroke; others will twist their arms and legs into weird and wonderful positions; in fact peculiarities in driving in this style are too numerous to mention, while with the half or three-quarter swing there is no scope for individual eccentricities.

Too many women are imbued with the idea that driving is the more important part of the game, and consequently they do not pay sufficient attention to their play through the green. **Play through the green.** Once off the tee, their brassy and cleek **Brassy and cleek.** shots are often disappointing. They either press with their brassy out of unsuitable lies, so topping the ball, or they do not play really cleanly with the cleek, but hit the ground behind the ball, with the usual ineffective result. Their muscular strength is not equal to forcing the ball out of a bad lie with a brassy, yet they will not use their better judgment and take the iron. But it is particularly in approach play that so many women show such a want of judgment. A first-class golfer who plays a fine brassy game will often take this club to approach when it is obvious to the onlooker that it is a cleek or iron stroke. No player can ever become so accurate with a brassy that she can use it for approaching. Even if she is "off" her iron clubs, it is wiser to persevere until recovery rather than use a brassy for this purpose. Nor is sufficient attention given to short approach play; many golfers who

can play an otherwise strong game fail utterly at **Approaching** approach shots when at a distance of forty **the green.** or fifty yards from the green. In fact it is by no means uncommon on inland links to see a lady approaching from this distance with a putter. By particularizing "inland" links, I mean no disparagement; but on "sea-shore" links greens are more constantly placed on grassy knolls, guarded by natural sand-bunkers, and these of course render approaching with a putter quite out of the question.

There is a hole on a certain sea-shore links well known to many golfers, where the green is on a small plateau which slopes gently from the centre and is entirely surrounded by deep sand-bunkers. Such a hole presents no difficulties to good golfers, for an expert at approaching can lay the ball dead on the green by a cut, which prevents it rolling off into the bunkers. On the other hand, it is on occasions such as these that slovenly players come utterly to grief. Undoubtedly there is no part of golf so difficult to master, but when mastered there is nothing repays so fully. A fine approach player saves a stroke on the green by laying the ball dead, while with a putter it is impossible to do more than run the ball on to the green, for when sending it through rough grass, the player is quite unable to regulate the strength of the stroke, and it is only by chance that the ball is in this way ever laid dead.

There is a theory extant that the "weaker sex" is (if one may use such a paradox) the stronger at

putting, but like all theories it is open to criticism. No doubt the comparison arose from the fact that it is solely in putting that the average woman can compete with a man. From personal experience I have found women quite as erratic in putting as men, but of course there are brilliant exceptions. The few really good putters are curiously enough generally weak in their play through the green or in their driving; one rarely meets a player who is proficient in all three. "Putting is an Inspiration," we are told, but I am more inclined to agree with the man who so sapiently said, "Putting is the devil." On days when every putt goes down, no matter how remote you may be from the hole, you are ready to say proudly, "Putting is an Inspiration," but on other days when you are losing hole after hole through atrocious putting you would fain proclaim aloud, "Putting is the devil." Practising putting on a lawn is very little assistance, except possibly in improving the aim; every putting green is (or ought to be) different from the last. Inland putting greens with their heavy clay soil and constant worm cast, require to be negotiated in quite a different manner from the short crisp grass of the sea-shore greens. There is much difference of opinion as to the relative merits of wooden or iron putters, but when putting badly with one club it is often efficacious to change your putter for that day.

In conclusion, I should like to try and impress upon all golfers the necessity of possessing suitable clubs. It is so important a point

that it is extraordinary that tyros are not made to realize it more than they appear to do. They constantly learn to play with cast-off clubs of their male relations. This is an egregious mistake, with iron clubs more particularly, as a bad iron will suit no one. With driving clubs there is more scope for individual taste, but no beginner should use discarded clubs. Let her go to a professional club-maker and request him to select for her the necessary clubs. Do not, however, be led astray and have too many, as others can be added later when the novice becomes educated to their different spheres of usefulness. But above all do not get heavy clubs. Women are too apt to think that with heavy clubs they will drive a longer ball, play a better iron shot, and putt with greater precision, than with a light weapon. But almost all professionals, as well as amateurs who have coached women, agree in advising them to avoid heavy clubs. Of course they have the best possible reason for this advice, for the heavier the club the more difficult it is to be quite accurate in the downward swing, and therefore the more likely the ball is to be sliced, or pulled, or topped. There is possibly more excuse for playing with a heavy iron club than with a heavy wooden one, as in some of the short shots, chopped out of the rough woolly grass, or a very heavy lie, the weight of the club to a certain extent helps to project the ball. But even in lies of this kind it is far better style to pick the ball cleanly out with a lighter club, with the stroke carried well through. Then in the case



of putters, whether they be wooden or metal, it is certainly possible to be more accurate and delicate in touch with a light club. In a straightforward putt on a level green the difference probably does not tell much. But when there are subtle little hills and valleys to negotiate, a light putter holds its own against any of the sledge-hammer make. The reader cannot do better than read what is said on this point in the *Badminton Golf* (p. 57), and she will be a wise woman if she "mark, learn, and inwardly digest it."

## CHAPTER VIII

### SCRATCH LADY PLAYERS

The following descriptions are written by Miss Issette Pearson, Miss H. M. Frere, Mrs. Mackern, and Mrs. Boys.

#### MISS BLANCH ANDERSON.

MISS BLANCH ANDERSON is a member of the North Berwick and Prince's Ladies' Golf Clubs, and holds the record of both courses. At North Berwick in July 1897 she established a record for both single and double rounds; for the single 26, and for the double 55. The record of Prince's was only achieved in the beginning of this year, when she beat Miss Pascoe's 81 by one stroke; but this will doubtless be improved upon, as she is constantly practising on these links, and there is no reason why they should not be done in the seventies. At the Championship competition of 1897, Miss Anderson was not in her usual form owing to a recent illness, yet notwithstanding this disadvantage remained in to the last eight, and was only defeated by Miss E. C. Orr. At North Berwick in August 1897, Miss Anderson won the Ladies' Scratch Medal; the other prizes she has

won at different competitions are too numerous to mention. Her golf is practically self-taught, as she only received three or four lessons from David Grant at North Berwick, most of her play having been done on the long links there, which she prefers to any other.

Miss Anderson does not use a full swing when driving, but gets away a very fairly long ball; the strongest point of her game is, however, her iron play, which is considered magnificent, more especially her approach shots, which she pitches with deadly accuracy. If hardly a player of such uniform steadiness as the Misses Orr, she is a golfer of great dash and brilliancy, and has a thorough command over her clubs.—M. B.

#### MISS STARKIE BENCE.

The second Ladies' Championship, held at Littlestone in 1894, saw Miss Starkie Bence a Bronze Medallist, having only succumbed to Lady Margaret Scott, before whom she again fell at Portrush just before the semi-finals were reached. At Hoylake she was beaten by Miss Pascoe at the 19th hole, and at Gullane by Miss Pearson at the 18th. Such a record speaks in itself for Miss Starkie Bence's capabilities as a match player, while the records she holds—at Littlestone (ladies' course) 73; Brighton and Hove (ladies') 73, made twice; Eastbourne old course 70, also made twice; and Folkestone (ladies') 67, for the old thirteen-hole

course—prove that she is equally good at medal play (which she professes to “hate”), and the fact that she was the winner of eighty-eight prizes between 1892 and 1898 hardly contradicts. Miss Starkie Bence is a decidedly powerful player and a long driver, and indeed is good all round. She has a full and very pretty swing, and although she stops at the top of the swing it does not interfere with the length of her drive. She declares that niblick play in sand-bunkers is really her favourite part of the game as well as her strongest point; next in preference follow a good drive and a long putt, and although she professes that carelessness is her weakest point, she is considered a careful player by most people. Her keen interest in the game is shown by her successful organization and management of the Kent and Sussex County Challenge Competition, which entails a great deal of responsibility and work; and also by her success and method as one of the handicap managers of the Ladies' Golf Union.—H. M. F.

#### MISS HELEN COX.

Miss Helen Cox began to play the game in 1890, and won the Irish Championship in 1895. She has never received any instruction, professional or otherwise, except from Mr. Gilroy during her first year of playing golf. She is best in her play with wooden clubs through the green, and is a good putter. She

is a capital match player, and much prefers a friendly game to a competition for score.

Her clubs are, Portrush, Portstewart, Bushfoot, and Killymoon.—L. M.

#### MISS DOD.

Miss Dod's reputation as one of the finest lawn tennis players of the United Kingdom is so well known and richly-deserved, that it caused no surprise, though much admiration, to find her taking first rank as a golfer. She only played golf for a few weeks each autumn between 1887 and 1893, and it was not till the latter date that she took the game up thoroughly. Her chief instructor has been her brother, Mr. Anthony Dod. The first Championship in which she played was at Littlestone in 1894. Last year, at Great Yarmouth, she played a very fine game throughout the Championship, and was one of the Bronze Medallists. She is a very brilliant player and a magnificent driver. She is also very strong in playing out of difficulties that would dismay most golfers. She holds the record (74) of the Moreton -ladies' links. She has also holed the *full* course of the Hoylake men's links in '90, which is the best score ever made by a lady.

Her club is Moreton.—L. M.

## MISS N. GRAHAM.

Miss N. Graham was Lady Champion of Ireland in 1896 and 1897. Driving is her strong point, but her play is steady throughout. Miss Graham is a very pleasing player to watch, her swing is easy, and she gives you the idea that she knows exactly what she can do, and is not going to attempt anything more. Winning the Irish Championship twice in succession proved that it was no stroke of luck, but if more proof were wanting, we have only to mention that in 1894 she was in the final, in 1895 in the semi-final, and in 1898 she was put out by the winner. Miss Graham first played golf at North Berwick in 1889, but did not take it up seriously till about 1893. She has never had any professional lessons, and is quite self-taught. She is a member of the Co. Down and of the Royal Belfast Clubs.—I. P.

## MRS. JILLARD.

Mrs. Jillard is perhaps better known in the ladies' golfing world as Miss K. Walker. She is a member of the Woking, Thames Ditton, and Esher Clubs, and formerly a member of the Ilkley Club. Mrs. Jillard is such a quiet player, that when watching her you wonder what it is that makes the ball go such a distance; the club swings well round and follows through, but there is no apparent exertion, yet there are few ladies that drive a longer and straighter

ball. As Miss K. Walker, Mrs. Jillard entered for the 1896 Championship, and was only beaten by the Silver Medallist of that year, Miss Lena Thomson (Mrs. Lyndhurst Towne). Mrs. Jillard has rarely entered for open competitions, but in club matches she has distinguished herself, and is considered a most formidable opponent.—I. P.

#### MISS KENNEDY.

Miss E. L. Kennedy, who first attained notoriety in the golfing world by her brilliant and plucky play at Hoylake in the Championship of 1896, is a member of the Rhyl Club (of which she has been captain for two years), where she holds the record with 75, and also of Formby and West Lancashire, and holds the record of the latter club, jointly with Mrs. Ryder Richardson, with the excellent score of 77. At Gullane in the 1897 Championship, Miss Kennedy's play was again greatly admired, and she was the only lady from the south who managed to make one of the last four. Always a long driver, the nature of the Gullane links suited her admirably, and she outdrove all her opponents—in fact, she is quite one of the longest drivers among ladies. She has a very full and easy swing, and is a decidedly brilliant player, though occasionally nervous on the putting greens. Learning golf at Chester and Rhyl, she has now only played about four years. Her chief instructor was W. D. More, the Chester professional. The St. Andrew's Challenge Cross of the West

Lancashire Club was held by Miss Kennedy in 1896 and 1897. She plays golf chiefly in the spring and autumn.—H. M. F.

#### MISS MAGILL.

As Lady Champion of Ireland, Miss Magill takes the premier place in that country this year, and she thoroughly deserves the position, as the first year, 1896, that she competed in the Irish Championship she got into the semi-finals, and in 1897 she was runner-up to Miss Graham. Co. Down is Miss Magill's home green, and as the ladies play on the long links with shortened tees, it is little wonder that Miss Magill is a long driver and good through the green; her swing is long, the club describing a perfect circle, and throughout her play is free from stiffness. Miss Magill has won the Co. Down Challenge Cup three times; the scratch prize by holes three times; and the scratch prize by strokes twice. She also holds the record of the Co. Down Ladies' Golf Club.—I. P.

#### MISS K. MOELLER.

Miss K. Moeller of Ilkley is the Yorkshire Lady Champion for the second year in succession, and at the Championship at Hoylake in 1896 was one of the Bronze Medallists. At Gullane and at Great Yarmouth she also gave a good exhibition of golf. A pupil of Tom Vardon's, Miss Moeller shows his



teaching in her play. She is a long driver and a powerful player, but is of an excitable disposition, which is occasionally apparent during a match. Having as a rule only short links for practice, it is remarkable that it is in the long game that Miss Moeller excels, putting being her weakest point. She began golf in 1892 at Ilkley, and will not rest content till she has attained to highest honours. Miss Moeller holds the record for the old and the new ladies' course at Ilkley with 82 and 79 respectively, and has won scratch prizes at most of the open competitions for which she has entered, notably at Great Yarmouth and Norwich in 1898 before the Championship meeting, winning prizes at each of these meetings from a field consisting of most of the Championship competitors.—H. M. F.

#### MISS E. NEVILLE.

Miss Elinor Nevile, who plays at the Worcestershire Ladies' Golf Club at Malvern, is the Midland Counties Lady Champion for 1898, as well as being Silver Medallist at the Championship held at Great Yarmouth in the same year. Miss Nevile had held the Bronze Medal in the Midland Counties Championship in 1897, but had never previously been among the last four in the Open Championship. Her style, as well as her plucky play in an uphill match, called forth much admiration during the 1893 Championship. Miss Nevile plays in a very pretty, quiet style, with a full and genuine

St. Andrew's swing, and through the green is decidedly steady, her driving also being especially strong. Miss Nevile began to play golf in 1893 on the Worcestershire ladies' links, her game being chiefly learnt from her father and eldest brother, though she had a few lessons from David Brown and from Tom Lewis, a caddy. Miss Nevile's favourite links is Gullane; but she was unfortunate in meeting a strong Scotch player in the first round of the Championship held on those links.—H. M. F.

#### MISS ORR.

Miss Orr, who is a member of the North Berwick Club, and a pupil of David Grant's, may be said to have almost a full swing, and one evidencing no little power. She has a very accurate approach game at her command, and plays altogether in a thoroughly accomplished and business-like manner. She is also equally at home on the putting green. The sisters are very well matched in a single, and it would be difficult to say which is the better player. Neither of them can point to a record of successes in competitions simply because they hardly ever compete. Outside the Championship meeting at Gullane, where they both so signally distinguished themselves, they have probably only once taken part in a competition. This was at North Berwick, some time after the Gullane meeting, and the winner proved to be Miss E. C. Orr, her sister being defeated by Miss Blanch Anderson. It was not

until 1897, when the Misses Orr entered for the Championship Competition, that they joined the North Berwick Ladies' Club; till then they had not been members of any golf club.—M. B.

#### MISS E. C. ORR.

Miss E. C. Orr, the Champion of 1897, is a member of the North Berwick Ladies' Golf Club, and received her tuition from David Grant. She has a full round swing, which gives the impression of ease, although the downward part of the swing exhibits something of an effort, which has aptly been described as "a push forward," but at the same time her style is perfectly graceful, and she can drive an exceptionally long ball. It is hard to say which part of the game is Miss E. C. Orr's specialty, for she has complete command over all her clubs; but her approach play is extraordinarily accurate, the ball invariably being well up, and once on the putting green, she appears able to hole out in one from almost all parts of it.—M. B.

## CHAPTER IX

### SCRATCH LADY PLAYERS (*continued*)

#### MISS PASCOE.

THE Champion of 1896 has proved that her play on that occasion was not a mere "flash in the pan," as although she has not again been a medallist, her wins at the various open competitions during the last two years prove that she is in all respects as good, and in many points better, than she was then. At Hoylake her drives were considered the better part of her game, but now I think it is her iron play that attracts the greatest admiration, as there is not any other lady player who understands that part of the game better, and few who can play it as well.

Miss Pascoe is a member of the Woking, Prince's, and Wimbledon Clubs, but besides holding the records of Woking and Wimbledon with 96 and 73 respectively, she holds those of Ranelagh, 78, Great Yarmouth, 86, Bushey, 88, and Surbiton, 88, all of which were made in 1898.

Although considerably stronger in medal than match play, Miss Pascoe thinks the latter preferable

from a sporting point of view. Being "down" has no deteriorating effects on her play, as she considers that the match is never lost until it is won. Miss Pascoe's prizes are too numerous to mention, but I hear she has won six scratch prizes at open competitions during the last year.—I. P.

#### MISS ISSETTE PEARSON.

Since the first Ladies' Championship in 1893 the name of Miss Issette Pearson has been a word to conjure with in every ladies' golf club. Taking the keenest interest in everything connected with the game, Miss Pearson is always ready to help or advise any who go to her for information, and it is her continuous hard work (the extent of which is known by few) over the affairs of the Ladies' Golf Union that has so increased its membership and popularity. As a player, Miss Pearson has again and again been within reach of the Gold Medal at the Championship Meetings, and by some untoward chance has failed to attain to it. In 1893 and 1894 she was Silver Medallist, beaten on each occasion by Lady Margaret Scott; in 1896 she was off her game, and only obtained a Bronze Medal; in 1897, after playing brilliantly in the first round, she went off in her iron play; and in 1898 she had a series of matches with some of the best players who had entered, and succumbed at last in the semi-finals through sheer physical exhaustion from the rough weather and her own ill-health. Miss Issette Pearson

began to play golf about twelve years ago, having lessons on Wimbledon Common from Alexander, the London Scottish professional. Later on she had lessons from George Fernie and from Willie Fernie. It is interesting to note that she is probably the only lady who has always played from scratch. Miss Pearson's style is exceptionally good: with a full easy swing she drives a long and very straight ball, and there are few ladies who so thoroughly understand the use of the iron; while her putting is at times very brilliant, though at others it is her weakest point.

In an important match Miss Pearson suffers from nervousness, and nothing tends to put her off her game more than playing against an opponent who cannot take a beating cheerfully.

Miss Pearson's home club is Wimbledon, and until lately she belonged to no other; now she is an honorary member of two or three clubs.—H. M. F.

#### MISS M. E. PHILIPS.

Miss M. E. Philips is celebrated as one of the steadiest players in either match or medal play among lady golfers. She has played for about seven years, with a period of rest during each summer, and has taught herself the game almost entirely. Having played a great deal of cricket, Miss Philips' style at golf is that of a cricketer. With a short half swing she drives a long straight ball, and her approaching and putting are most deadly. She plays a very

strong approach from a longer distance than most ladies, and always concentrates her attention so thoroughly on the game she is playing, that she is apt to be disconcerted and put off her play if interrupted. Miss Philips is a member of at least six clubs, at most of which she holds, or has held, the record. At Beckenham, where at an open meeting in October 1898 she won the prize for the scratch twenty-seven hole aggregate, her score of 36 was a tie for the record for the nine holes. The first nine holes at Prince's in 39 is also a record. Scratch medals and prizes at club or open meetings very often fall to Miss Philips, and as a rule the stronger the field against which she is playing, the better are the returns made by her.—H. M. F.

#### MRS. RYDER RICHARDSON.

Mrs. Ryder Richardson was a well-known golfer in the south of England long before she settled at Hoylake. She first played golf at Eastbourne in 1890, and her career has been one of many successes. She holds the record of the Hoylake Ladies' Links (63), and also that of Scarborough (85), both of which are very fine performances. She also holds, with Miss E. L. Kennedy, the record of the West Lancashire Ladies' Links (77). Mrs. Richardson was Bronze Medallist in the Championship at Portrush in 1895. She has won, among many other prizes, the Challenge Bowls of the Royal Eastbourne,

Brighton and Hove, West Lancashire, Hoylake (twice), and Scarborough clubs.

Mrs. Richardson drives a good ball with a half swing, and is very steady on the green. She is a member of three clubs—Hoylake, West Lancashire, and Formby.—L. M.

#### LADY MARGARET HAMILTON RUSSELL.

Lady Margaret Hamilton Russell, better known in the golf world as Lady Margaret Scott, was considered during 1893, '94, '95 to tower head and shoulders above all other golfers of her sex. This was certainly proved by her winning the Ladies' Championship three times in succession from '93 to '95. Lady Margaret belonged at that time to the Cotswold, Cheltenham, and Westward Ho clubs, but two years ago resigned her membership of all three. In 1894 she held the record for the best single round of nine holes done by a lady on the Cotswold course with a score of 42. At Lytham and St. Anne's, immediately after the first Championship competition, which was held on the ladies' course, playing in a match against Mr. Dolman, she established a record of 80 for the eighteen holes. On May 3, 1893, at a club competition of the Bath Ladies' Golf Club, Lady Margaret Scott returned the best scratch score of 70, which was at that time the record of the green. Lady Margaret's style is immensely admired, and vainly imitated. She has a splendid full swing, graceful yet power-



ful, long brassy strokes, and deadly approach play. Her perfect swing is by no means the greatest point in her favour; the repose and ease of her play is considered wonderful, each stroke is played with deliberation, no pressing, no anxiety visible, and the deadliness of her approach shots shows the accuracy of her judgment in making due allowance for wind (if necessary) and distance from hole. It is a matter of general regret among lady players that Lady Margaret Hamilton Russell, since 1895, has not entered for any of the subsequent Championship competitions.—M. B.

#### MISS SPARROW.

Miss Sparrow, who is already fairly well known in the south, will probably rise to the front among lady golfers before very long. During the last few years she has been rapidly improving, and is able to hold her own among scratch players both in match and medal play, of which she prefers the former. At Great Yarmouth, in the Championship, Miss Sparrow beat Miss Nevile of Worcester, but fell to Miss K. Moeller. She holds the record for the South Staffordshire gentlemen's course and for the Tenby course; also for nine holes on the Mid Surrey course, of which she is captain. The South Stafford Challenge Cup is also in her possession, and at open meetings at Beckenham and Surbiton in 1898 she returned some of the best scratch scores from a large entry, comprising several

scratch players. It is on long links that Miss Sparrow is at her best, as her driving and brassy shots are the strongest point in her game. Her style is decidedly stiff, but it has been remarked that it greatly resembles Miss Pascoe's style when she was coming to the front, and Miss Sparrow gives promise of becoming an equally good player. It is remarkable that Miss Sparrow plays a good deal off her left leg, even when putting.—H. M. F.

#### MISS GILLIES SMITH.

Miss Gillies Smith is a scratch member of the Ladies' North Berwick Club, and a pupil of David Grant's; she is also a member of the Montrose Ladies' Golf Club.

The feature of her game is splendid driving; her style is free, full, and very powerful. That she is also an adept with her iron clubs is evidenced by the fact, that her name is inscribed no fewer than six times on the Scratch Medal of the North Berwick Club, five of these being in succession. Her putting, when at all in form, is remarkably fine, and as she is always a player to be reckoned with, it was unfortunate that she did not take part in the Championship Competition at Gullane; but for the last three years Miss Gillies Smith has played little or no golf.—M. B.

## MISS MAUD TITTERTON.

Miss Titterton, who worked her way into the semi-finals, and was one of the Bronze Medallists at the Championship at Gullane in 1897, is really an Englishwoman, although she is claimed by Scotland, Musselburgh being the only club to which she belongs. Miss Titterton has a full and very easy swing, driving a long, straight ball, though at present she is brilliant rather than steady, which is possibly owing to nervousness. She is still very young, but promises to make one of the best lady golfers, as she is most keen. Her brassy shots are very fine, and her approaching and putting, which she considers the strongest part of her game, is very steady; she uses longer clubs than most players of her height, which appears to add to the length of her swing. Miss Titterton holds the ladies' record on Musselburgh and other gentlemen's courses. At the Championship at Gullane, Miss Titterton had some very close matches, and curiously enough met only Scotch players; she was beaten by the eventual winner, Miss E. C. Orr. At Great Yarmouth she was knocked out early, but in all probability she will be to the fore on a future occasion.—H. M. F.

## MRS. C. LYNDHURST TOWNE.

Mrs. Lyndhurst Towne, better known in the golfing world as Miss Lena Thomson, has worked her way gradually to the front in golf. She has

competed at all the Championships. At Littlestone she was one of the last sixteen; at Hoylake, by quiet, steady play, she won her way into the finals, where she was beaten by Miss Pascoe; and at Great Yarmouth she became Lady Champion for 1898. Although she learnt to play at North Berwick from Ben Sayers, Mrs. Towne, who always enters from the Wimbledon Club, claims to be an English player. Her style is remarkably quiet, and her swing so deliberate that one is hardly prepared for the long straight ball that follows. Her approaches are very deadly, and she plays a longer cleek shot than almost any other lady. But the fact of her having won driving, approach, and putting prizes in open competitions is a guarantee that she is a good all-round player, though perhaps her steadiness and her ability to play her best against her most brilliant opponents are the means by which she most often wins her matches. With the exception of Portrush, Mrs. Towne has a memento of each of the Championship meetings, as at Lytham and St. Anne's, and at Littlestone, she won prizes for medal competition, played for during the meeting, and the "consolation" prize at Gullane. Mrs. Towne has carried off many scratch prizes at open meetings—Gt. Yarmouth, West Lancashire, Minchinhampton, Prince's, and Ranelagh being among the number. At Wimbledon, where she was captain in 1892, she has also won scratch prizes, including the medal for the aggregate scores of two days at the spring and two days at the autumn meetings.—H. M. F.

## MISS WHIGHAM.

Though Miss Whigham is one of the most brilliant lady players in Great Britain, it has been somewhat difficult to obtain detailed accounts of her golfing career, as she is now absent, travelling in New Zealand. Her play is well known and immensely admired in Scotland and the north of England. She very seldom plays in public, but last year, playing at Barham Downs in the open meeting, she scored the record of that green, 78, which was a very fine performance. She is a very long driver, and plays a most brilliant game in excellent style. "She is a somewhat conservative golfer, and has a holy horror of the modern pot-hunting, involving score-keeping. She belongs to only one club, 'The Elysians,' at Prestwick."—L. M.

NOTE.—Owing to the difficulty of obtaining information at first hand, we are forced to omit accounts of one or two players who would otherwise have been included.—THE EDITORS.

## CHAPTER X

### LADIES AS GOLF PROFESSIONALS

*By M. Boys*

THERE are not so many professions open to ladies that the suggestion of a new one will be received with indifference. So few of us can attain to the level of the intellectual qualifications necessary for doctors, authors, lawyers, or other professions of a like distinction, that to the remainder of the sex it should be welcome intelligence that a career is open to those who are willing to develop their muscular rather than their intellectual powers, and it is to these that golf as a profession ought to appeal most strongly. But do not imagine that all the golf tyro requires is muscle; the technicalities of golf tax a brain of no mean calibre, and for those who aspire to become professionals, the science of the game must be minutely studied and completely mastered.

Being interested in the question as to whether lady golfers could be professionals, I endeavoured to get to the real root of the matter, and so put the following question to a professional :—

"Do you think a first-class lady golfer could instruct her own sex as thoroughly as a qualified professional?" "Undoubtedly," was the concise reply, "and in many ways even better." "How better?" "Well, a lady must understand more fully than a man the limitation of her own sex in strength, and also in the nature of 'stance.'"

Views of a  
golf "pro"  
on the  
subject.

Here was a practical "pro" giving his direct opinion in favour of ladies pursuing his own profession. Obviously the first point for our consideration is, how to become a professional?

Ladies cannot rise from the sphere of caddyism, as the male "pro" does; that is absolutely impracticable. On the other hand, it is not necessary to be a scratch player in order to be a first-class exponent of the game. How then can a golfer of medium ability, though with perfect knowledge of the game, gain admittance into the ranks of professionalism?

How are  
ladies to  
become pro-  
fessionals?

It is difficult to suggest a scheme which can be at the same time simple and practical; it is, however, necessary that candidates should be put to some test to ascertain their real qualifications for the position. Who then is to decide such a question? The Ladies' Golf Union is undoubtedly the body in whose hands the duty should be, but this Union is a scattered body, and the Council, composed of delegates from the associated clubs, only meet three or four times a year, and it would be quite impossible for it on those

Suggested  
test of their  
qualifica-  
tions.

occasions to undertake the necessary test. Besides, it would be impracticable to expect the would-be professional to travel to the metropolis, perhaps from a remote part of Great Britain, solely to attend the meeting of the Union Council.

The difficulty might be overcome by the Golf Union delegating their authority in the matter to various persons throughout the country, not necessarily members of the Council, but scratch players of the Ladies' Golf Union, and those with a handicap of six or less. They should be appointed authorized inspectors to whom a candidate could apply, and they would be bound to put the applicant through her paces in every branch of the game. If satisfied as to her proficiency, they would present her with a certificate; these certificates might be in degrees, a first or second, according to the merits of the player. A player furnished with a certificate would be able to apply for the post of professional to a ladies' club. Ladies, however, must realize at the outset that, once

a "pro," they are no longer on the same par as their amateur friends. Some time ago a letter appeared in *Golf* signed "A Lady Golfer," asking whether, in the event of a lady becoming a professional, she would be disqualified from entering for amateur competitions? The Editor was considerate, and spared the feelings of the writer by only adding a footnote, suggesting that the question was one for the Ladies' Golf Union to answer. But the Hon. Secretary was not to be drawn so easily. Why recognize a question



when, from the terms used in it, the answer is self-evident? How could a *professional* enter for any *amateur* competition?

This point is one which is likely to deter some who might otherwise seriously consider the advisability of becoming a professional. Still, it can hardly be expected that a lady will undertake what will certainly prove arduous duties from a mere love of the game, and a desire to improve the play of her fellow-golfers. There will be some more solid reason behind her desire, and it will be much the same in this as in many other professions, the wish to increase an income which is probably a mere pittance, and barely sufficient by itself to enable her to live among her "kith and kin."

The payment which a "pro" receives for the instruction of tyros would be more or less ~~The payment~~ fluctuating, but there is no reason why she of "pros." should not combine the duties of green-keeper with that of professional. Many clubs would be willing to appoint a lady green-keeper, with a boy as assistant to do the rough work of cutting the grass, etc. In some cases she might also act as housekeeper and caretaker in the club-house. The emoluments of so many duties would not amount to much in the year.

As green-keeper she would probably be paid £52 (£1 a week); then, if caretaker of the club, she would naturally have lodgings free, and as professional instructor it would not be unreasonable to put the fees between £30 and £40 a year. But who among us could live on £90 a year?

Would there be no other means of enlarging this somewhat diminutive sum? The sole remaining employment open to a professional club-maker is that of club-making, but I fear no lady could face the hardship and drudgery of learning club-making, for it necessitates a dreary apprenticeship as a journeyman working eight hours a day for five years, and receiving only 5s. a week at the beginning, rising by slow degrees to £1. But there is no reason why in a few months she should not gain sufficient knowledge under a practical club-maker to be able to "prepare" and "repair" clubs.

As regards the latter, "any fool could do that!" the afore-mentioned "pro" declared. "Some men," he added, "learn the work in a few weeks, it is purely mechanical; in fact, supposing such a thing was possible as that a man could be born without brains, I could teach him club repairing." Reckless man! suppose one collected all the "brainless" people one knows and sent them to him, what would the sequel be?

There was one obvious point in all his remarks which ought to have tended to humble me. Possibly the reader may have discovered it for herself; how, while agreeing with me that women could follow the minor branches of his profession, he persistently dwelt upon the fact that part of the work was purely mechanical. All through our conversation the old adage rang in my head, "A man's a man for a' that," and a woman—well, a woman's but "a puir fool." To show what these minor branches of the profession

which women might follow consist of, it will be as well to give a few details.

In these days many club-makers do not really make clubs (excuse the Irishism), but receive them in the rough from the large manufacturers; bought by the gross in this way wooden heads cost about 1s. 4d. each, when you take into consideration that many have flaws which render them useless; while iron heads vary from 1s. 10d. to 2s. or even 3s. These wooden heads have then to be shaped, and the lead poured into the hollow at the back; and a most difficult matter this is, for the least drop too much or too little destroys the balance. Strips of ram's horn have to be affixed to the bottoms, and this also is an anxious part, as the horn is very brittle, besides being expensive; bought in bulk it costs £5 a hundred-weight. Though this work requires skill, there is no reason why a woman should not be able to successfully accomplish it. Then as regards shafts, they have to be selected with great care from the bundles of square sticks sent from the manufactory, and have to be planed to the desired thickness. This part of the work a woman probably could not carry out, but it would be quite feasible for her to obtain from an experienced club-maker shafts already shaped, after which there is nothing to prevent her being able to complete the club. The remaining work consists in winding on the grip and fixing the shaft to the head. It is in this fixing of the shaft to the head that an expert can at once trace whether it is the work of

an experienced hand or not, for in the latter case the club is apt to have curious angles, while in the former it is one long graceful line. Delicate though this operation may be, there is no reason why two or three months under an expert club-maker should not suffice to teach a lady how to do it. The work of re-facing, putting new horn on heads, and also re-gripping shafts is by no means so intricate, and therefore could be more easily acquired. One of the most important points I have found, when having clubs made, is to impress upon the maker the exact weight you require the club to be. All golfers know how necessary it is for the club to be to a fraction the right weight, and it must be difficult for a man to realize the lightness which ladies—more particularly those who play with a half or three-quarter swing—find absolutely essential to the accuracy of their game. There are besides many minor points in the matter of shape and length as found desirable by her sex, of which a woman could appreciate the importance far more than it is possible for a man to do.

No doubt the pioneer lady professional will meet with many difficulties and considerable opposition at the start, but, as in all cases of similar innovations, time will smooth over the strangeness, until it is a recognized thing for each lady's golf club to have its own woman club-maker and professional duly certificated by the Ladies' Golf Union. I can imagine few more enjoyable professions for a girl who is obliged, as the children say, "to make bread-and-butter" for her-

self. Of course, if she has a sufficient income to supply the actual bread-and-butter, she might only utilize her technical knowledge of the game, and instruct tyros. A small flat in town, *par exemple*, with daily visits to the different ladies' golf clubs within a twenty-mile radius. Pupils who require teaching are numerous in every club, and if they do not show the necessary zeal about seeking instruction, I should recommend the professional to visit the club-houses on winter medal days, when shivering scratch players have been kept waiting on "tees" in a cold nor'-easterly gale, while duffers have been fozzling in front of them, and I could almost guarantee these shivering mortals raising a subscription on the spot to pay for the instruction of the fozzlers. "It is an ill wind that blows no one any good," and from a professional's point of view I should especially commend a nor'-easter.

We have only considered the question of ladies becoming professionals, and not entered into the abstract point of *women* taking golf up as a trade. In that case, doubtless, they would have to begin as the ordinary biped man does, as caddies, and rise by degrees to notoriety and championships.

But if women take up golf in this way, they will no doubt advance still further, and become jockeys, cricketers, and football players. My brain reels at the mere supposition; but take comfort, my golfing sisters, ere then we will have played our game, spread our wings, and gone in search of "fresh fields and pastures new."

## CHAPTER XI

### WAYS—MANNERS—DRESS

*By L. Mackern*

WHY do women play golf? To answer this question satisfactorily seems to be a large order, and one which will bring down on the head of the unfortunate answerer many indignant protests and revilings. But in this age of criticism and specialism what mortal can hope to escape? I will only urge in my own defence, that in writing a chapter of this kind it is difficult to avoid falling into one of two very obvious errors—viz. dogmatism or vagueness. We are all of us, even golfers, miserable sinners, so I cannot expect to avoid both these pitfalls, but must pray to be delivered from the first and greater of the two.

Among the many reasons why women play golf are the following: (1) A desire to be in the fashion; (2) Idleness; (3) Pot-hunt-women playing; (4) A real and innate love of sport.

When the great revival of golf began in England

some years ago the game was rapidly taken up by women, and within two or three years hundreds of golf clubs were formed, many of which are now thoroughly established, splendidly managed, and "going strong." At the first start every woman felt that to keep up her reputation for being "in the swim" she must play golf, or try to play *The fashion-* it. Many and appalling were the attempts *hunters.* made. What did it matter if the fair enthusiast missed the globe five times running, topped her iron shots, or fozzled her putts? Was she not able to answer proudly, when asked if she played golf—"Oh, yes! I belong to the Bunkerdown Club!" Far be it from me to undervalue this remarkable enthusiasm, for if it were not for this burning desire of my admirable sex to be in the fashion, it would be financially impossible to keep our golf clubs going. Quite fifty per cent. of the members support our club only because it is the correct thing to do. So they fill their niche in the general scheme of things nicely, pay their subscriptions, wear fascinating golf costumes, "built" by fashionable tailors, please themselves, and do comparatively little harm.

The women who are prompted by idleness to take up golf are a far more exasperating set. Many of them if they would stick to *The idlers.* the game might become good players. But they only take up golf because they are not for the moment interested in anything else. They have always been potterers, so they potter at golf for

a time before they go off to potter at bicycling, having potted at lawn tennis, or palmistry, or district visiting in the past. Unhappily the captain of the club is not up in the previous history of what they are pleased to call their characters, so she fondly hopes that two or three of these idlers, whose play she has watched approvingly, will be a source of future strength to the institution. They are put in the team for an inter-club match, and promise to play, but if they afterwards receive a more fascinating invitation for the same day they unhesitatingly throw the captain over and so cause the loss of the match. The honour of the club is nothing to them, *esprit de corps* a mere myth. But the rest of the chronicles of these evildoers, are they not written in the memories of the harassed captains of all ladies' clubs? Yea, and are writ large too (for those who have eyes to read) in the purposeless faces of the idlers themselves who have "given up" golf and taken up some other object on which to fritter away their time.

Of the pot-hunters—those abject products of a dying century—I can only say, in the words of the famous judge, when moved to righteous wrath and rebuking the defendant's counsel, "Sir, you cannot conceive the strength of the language which I am *not* using!"

In every golf club they are rampant, and I feel sure that all golfers will agree with me in saying that the present system of playing for prizes, or rather pot-hunting, will, unless modified and checked, slowly but



surely ruin the game. Why cannot women's clubs confine their prize-giving to two meetings a year, spring and autumn, as so many men's clubs do? This is a much fairer way, as far as the handicaps are concerned, for they can all be carefully revised beforehand by reference to the lists of the monthly medals and to the match books, in which members' matches should be regularly entered. Fortunately for women's golf, some of the best clubs are cutting down the number of their prizes; but if they could be still further reduced by about fifty per cent. it would be a good thing for the game.

It is with a feeling of sincere relief that I now turn to consider those women who play golf The sporting from a real love of sport. few. The elect few who are to be found in every club have proved to the world at large, that golf is a game which some women, with all their disabilities, can play well. But to the query, "Are women fitted by nature to be golfers?" I must reluctantly give a carefully *qualified* affirmative in The suitability of golf reply. For golf, more than any other as a game game I know, seems to demand that quality for women. which for want of a better word I must call "sportingness." This is not merely pluck, or a cool head, but it is made up of these and many other things; quick perception, a sensitiveness of eye and nerve, a rapid judgment, and the power of recognizing and seizing the psychological moment! These faculties are, I believe, more essential to the production of a good golfer than the possession of great muscular strength.

But given a rational physical training in childhood, a natural love of games, and good health, I believe golf is a game suited to women.

Of course it is useless to deny that in women this quality of "sportingness" is far less general than in men. The training of a boy from the very beginning tends always in the direction of fostering the instinct of sport; whereas girls, unless brought up under peculiarly sensible principles, must to a very great extent depend for the development of this instinct on their own innate love of games and sport, coupled with the hardening, but often extremely painful, training of a host of brothers. Happy are the girls, therefore, who have known what it is to field out for hours, even in the heat of an August morning, for the big brother who is home from school and intent on keeping up his "form." Though the small sister's only visible reward is a short and perhaps inglorious innings of half-a-dozen balls, who can say what germ of pluck and endurance has not been fostered by those toilsome hours? And so in after life, when childish stoicism has ripened into earnest endeavour, women as well as men have cause to be thankful for their early training in games. It is just this training which seems to me to be of such value in playing a game like golf. Having missed it, many women thus start to play golf heavily handicapped. The few succeed, the many settle down into the comfortable mediocrity of a 15-handicap, and live happily ever after.

In the last few years, however, there has been an extraordinary improvement in women's play. The game is taken up much more thoroughly and seriously. Of course the earnestness displayed by some very in-different players over their utterly feeble performances would move even the grimmest cynic to a smile of pity. But we have it on the highest authority that the population of these islands consists mostly of fools, so how can even the ranks of the elect (*i. e.* golfers) hope to escape a few stragglers from the great army of idiots? Thus a fool, hot and weary in a bunker, calls faintly to a fellow fool—"How many strokes have you played, dear?" "Twenty-seven, I think." "Oh! then I give up the hole." Then there are the lesser fools who can play a little (*a very little*), yet who enter cheerfully for every open meeting within a hundred miles, and who trip off gaily to the Championships, dragging unwilling husbands or other relations to witness their discomfiture. But apart from these self-deluded mortals, how good it is to see the thoroughness with which so many women now play the game! They go at it resolved to do their level best, to play golf as it should be played, to funk nothing, neither long carries nor difficult hazards. The standard of first-class play has wonderfully advanced. There is a far greater steadiness and sureness of play, less fluctuation in the form shown, and even greater brilliancy. There is also a large class of players, just slightly inferior to the very first flight, who play a very dashing game,

Great improvement in women's play.

but who are wanting in the thoroughness and nerve which go so largely to make up really first-class golf. For it is in the soundness of judgment, and in the perfect nerve of the first-class players, that their superiority lies. The best players know always just the right club to take, when to make a plucky bid for the hole, and when to refrain and play for a certain half; they understand the exact line to take in a difficult putt. In short, they have learnt by experience and observation what is still lacking in the play of their brilliant but unfinished rivals.

Let us now consider the question of dress! Any woman worthy of the name must always wish to present as neat and pleasing an appearance as possible. And that it is possible for women to do this and yet play golf well is clearly proved by the smart and yet business-like "turn-outs" seen at many an inter-club match, and on many a medal day.

Yet I grieve to say there are some women golfers who bring our sex into ridicule by wearing as "mannish" clothes as possible. They are to be seen with soft hunting ties, loose red shapeless coats, and the shortest and narrowest of bicycling skirts. Why bicycling skirts for golf? the reader may be moved to ask. Why indeed! After giving the subject much thought, the only obvious explanation is, that bicycling skirts are made to open at the sides, and are thus very adaptable for side pockets. To show the use of these pockets I must endeavour to draw a thumb-nail sketch of a golfer of this

description, attired in complete armour. Her hair is dragged up into a knot on the top of her head, on to which a man's cap is fixed "mannish" (how is not apparent); underneath is a face tan-coloured from constant exposure to the elements, without any of the protection which an ordinary sailor-hat affords. A soft white hunting-tie, fastened with a pin (an emblem of the game in some form or other), a loose red coat, and a narrow bicycling skirt, into the aforesaid pockets of which the wearer rams both hands when they are not required for golfing purposes; then, as a fitting climax, a pair of thick, clumsily-made boots. It is needless to add that the attitudes and manners are quite as "mannish" as the clothes.

Now as no picture of this kind can be thoroughly appreciated without its antithesis, let me draw another. A neat sailor-hat, surmounting a head beautifully coiffured, every hair of which is in its place at the end of the round. A smart red coat, a spotless linen collar and tie, an ordinary tailor-made skirt, and a pair of well-made walking-boots with nails or Scafe's patent soles.

And now in conclusion I must appeal to the æsthetic sense of women golfers. The truest enjoyment of the game is not hampered, but rather enhanced, by the appreciation of its often curiously beautiful surroundings. What can be more delightful on a fine April morning than to start for a day's golf with a

congenial companion, on the loveliest of the West-country links? The sea lies spread before us, blue as a sapphire; the flat, green marshes stretch away far to the right, dotted with cattle grazing drowsily in the sunshine. Behind us the hill rises against the sky, with the little village nestling under its crest. The wind blows softly in from the sea, where, later on, in the evening, the sun sinks in a haze of golden mist. Our play passes through the many vicissitudes to which mortals' golf is subject, yet we stroll home only pleasantly tired, feeling that it is good to live, and good to play golf on that perfect turf, where you may safely use your driver right through the green, so short and even is the grass, so clean the lies. And now as I hole out on the last green, let me say this: golf is, I believe, the finest athletic game that a woman can play. Then let her always play it pluckily and generously, so that it may help and not hinder the development of her character. "A counsel of perfection," you will say. Yes, a counsel of perfection, but one that, in this case, is well within our reach.

## CHAPTER XII

### WEST LANCASHIRE, PRINCE'S, BURNHAM, LEVEN, AND ROYAL PORTBUSH LINKS

*By A. Bennet Pascoe*

THE term Ladies' Links is a comprehensive title, and is graciously bestowed on the small nine-hole course where you putt from tee to green, while it is the name of the two and a half mile round, whose eighteen flags float among terrors of whin and sand, and over whose length and breadth we use every club in our set. It includes those links belonging exclusively to women, and laid out for their game, and the extemporized course with shortened tee on the long, or the *hors d'œuvres* of assorted line, tee, and hole, concocted from the men's game. Thus when challenged by some remote and unknown club, the visiting team awaits in Micawberian mood for anything "to turn up." There may be furious driving, mighty smiting on the field of war, as when at Woking the ball carries heaths, vales, hills, and water, or the contest may prove a putting competition, where friends and foes never lose sight of each other, until it is time to T with an A! In this case it is possible, holing out on No. 3, to leave

our coat in safety on No. 1, our hat on No. 2; watch Miss Short lose on No. 4; hear a dispute on No. 5; a gown gossip on No. 6; be referred to for a rule from No. 7, and while in the direct line from No. 8 be hit dead by a ball from No. 9! These are extremes, but some one, Solomon perhaps, has said "extremes meet." We therefore see there are links and links, but to hole out over even the best of these would take more time than I am allowed on the green. Besides, the editors have only put me down for five, and I must go the short round as it is, to send in MS. *golfeè* my score with the others! Let us start on the West Lancashire

**West Lancashire Ladies Links.**

Course at Blundellsands. It is entitled to the honour from its length of eighteen holes, and the well-planned distance between tee and green. There are no better links in England, certainly none which possess such a supply of natural golfing hazard. A good head and stout heart are wanted to clear the carry and be up by the flag. A brilliant burst of a few holes will not score here, steadiness is required to keep on the line and run home a winner. Situated close upon Hall Road Station, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire line from Liverpool to Southport, the train service is good, the journey from Liverpool occupying about half-an-hour. Thus its position secured from the first a big membership, which means money for upkeep and improvement. Far and away beyond all monetary considerations, the course owes much to the energies and influence of the Honorary Secretary,



Mrs. Alsop, whose indefatigable efforts to make her links first class are rewarded by the acknowledgment on all sides that success has here exceeded the cost. I see more plainly every month that officials—secretary, captain, and committee-women—have more effect on their club's well-being than the nature of the links and the strongest membership. It is theirs to lead and manage; slackness, indifference, self-interest, will cause an important club to go down, while a knowledge of the game, courtesy, and a true sporting spirit will raise a small one to first-class rank.

West Lancashire numbers 400 members, 254 ladies and 136 gentlemen associates. The scratch players are noted for their good long game and ability to hole a Championship links. The home hazards, natural sand-bunker and a species of willow—*Salix caprea*—termed by golfers "scrub," have insisted on their learning the way out of difficulties. The subjoined distances of the holes, the Bogey and Scratch par of 81, show that the course affords real golf. As I have said, it is the best I know, and J. H. Taylor agrees with me on its many merits.

1st hole	. 260 yards	10th hole	. 280 yards
2nd "	. 200 "	11th "	. 170 "
3rd "	. 196 "	12th "	. 260 "
4th "	. 285 "	13th "	. 260 "
5th "	. 238 "	14th "	. 200 "
6th "	. 260 "	15th "	. 140 "
7th "	. 240 "	16th "	. 140 "
8th "	. 195 "	17th "	. 240 "
9th "	. 196 "	18th "	. 190 "

"Prince's" is the cardinal point of London golf. **Princes' Ladies' Links, Mitcham.** Its eighteen holes offer the widest choice of lies and hazards. There is a capital club-house, any amount of lunch, and plenty of pleasant company. The best sport on ladies' links is certainly to be had here, and it would be hard to find a better managed green, or near Town one more conveniently and healthily placed. Here on a large common, in unlimited cubic feet of air, it is possible to play a quiet, connected game, unbroken by passing "prams," postmen, paupers, parsons, puppies, pork!

When first laid out, in 1894, the course had nine short holes on ground in front of the club-house. In 1896, immediately the links passed from the hands of Mr. Hippisley Cox into those of a few members, eleven new holes were planned over a large area of common, on the other side of the railway line. Though the extension chosen was at first crowded with whins, and swampy, the turf is good and the collection of true hazard complete to inconvenience. The varying and natural locale for greens which now spread on undulating oases, or challenge approach from restricted plateaux, are topographic features. The course is individual. Impossible to get such from a park, or the Park! It is not stock size, nor regulation cut, but Nature's own handiwork. A twenty-minutes run from Victoria transports the West End to Mitcham Junction, and in four minutes more May Fair is on the tee.

No. I. DIAMOND hole.—Is short and easy, on the

right principle that the first few holes should allow the field to scatter quickly and not make too great demand on the player before eye and hand are well in to their work. So a good drive from a high grassy mound, a loft over the Guardian ditch, with a couple of putts should halve with Bogey 4 and allow others a turn at the flag.

No. II. POND.—Unless the swiipe here be very straight we begin to sample the ditches, there being little room for “run” and none for a slice or pull, but with a well-placed drive and full iron shot we pencil another 4 on our card, but a more difficult one.

No. III. RAILWAY.—Is an easy 4. On a billowy large green, the first so far which allows of a running approach. As a rule on these links a loft is nearly always necessary to carry the ball over some sentinel hazard.

No. IV. CHASM.—Affords good lies. An iron clears a growth of whin and the shot alights on another green pleasaunce. Number and Bogey are the same.

No. V. GORSE.—Here the more difficult part of the course commences. The green is on a natural plateau, below and around are ditches. A long straight drive, the best we make, will lay the ball on a level with the flag, perhaps on the green; anyhow, after a good tee shot the approach is simplicity and suggests a 3. Bogey, however, never holes in less than 2, so his score is 4.

No. VI. ROAD.—One of the longer holes. A slight slice places the ball on a road; indeed slicing and heeling are invariably more punished at Prince's than

pulling, although this fault finds also its just penalty. But if the first shot be "Far and Sure," another full drive carries the Blackwells among us to the flag. Most of us know how to be contented with a 5.

No. VII. RUSHES.—A 3 is useful, because although we can all reach the flag with iron or wood, if we don't, "Green grow the rushes, Oh!" The distance also affords good forethought, when winds are blowing fore or aft.

No. VIII. TRIANGLE.—A flat stretch without anything much to guide the eye and the way is thick with hazard. The worst country on the course. A good test of your game.

No. IX.—From this we turn to assail the "Langley Fortress," so christened in compliment to its discoverer—Prince's Secretary. Roods of ground here for a swipe and its longest run. The second shot is the crux. The green lies behind ramparts left by gravel-diggers of old days, and those who would take the hole in 4 must carry the fortifications with a long strong loft. To be unintentionally short is—foolishness and figures; intentionally—*finesse* and 5.

No. X.—Has the longest carry on the links and will want another shot with cleek or iron before Sullivan pull out our putter. A good 4, requiring perfect play. Gog and Magog is its name.

No. XI. EXCELSIOR.—The last hole on the new ground, possessing a ready solvent power on a hitherto immaculate score. The going is certainly rough, wild and heavy, but time improves it. With a good drive we should be able to play short beneath

the high plateau on to which we loft for holing. A carry with a wooden club in our second is not advisable; if weak we roll under the overhanging ledge, if up but to the side, descend into an abyss, where the odds for *lofting* versus *picking* up are laid at ten to one.

No. XII.—To play this green we cross the bridge over the railway line and start from the first tee of the old course, under the club windows. A straight drive may run down into the hollow where the flag waves. Simplicity is holed in 4 by the Colonel.

No. XIII. BUNKER.—Can be played in two ways, either with cleek to lie short of the hazard, after which it is named, or a full drive to the left on to ground hole high, whence an open approach. Bogey 4.

No. XIV.—A good golfing hole. The further the drive the easier the approach. A weak shot from the tee may have to be followed up with the cleek or brassy. The green encircled by high white hawthorn bushes is known as Thorns.

No. XV. POT.—A drive and short loft on to the second cup green. This hollow is longer and more beautiful than the cup of No. XII. It is the best green on the old course and makes the prettiest hole.

No. XVI. VALLEY.—The green may be driven and a 3 snatched. Bogey has 4.

No. XVII. TRAP.—A short hole. An iron from the tee. It is uneventful unless the ball be topped.

No. XVIII.—Now we drive for HOME. A wrist shot drops the ball over a high bunker on the

green which lies in front of the club, and if on adding up we find our score totals 80, we tie with the record.

Leaving the radius of metropolitan golf to go westward we stop in Somerset, at a town **Burnham Ladies' Links** on the estuary of the river Parrett. Since 1896 between the sea and the Berrow Links are eighteen holes (in 1892 only nine). Quiet and capable and complete is this course of the Burnham Ladies. Go early mornings when the untrodden flowers are gladdened with the song of birds. Go when midday heat bathes the air and sands in deep sunlight, or go evenings when the ruby and coral lie tremulously in the fires of sunset. In summer stillness, the breezes of autumn, the shine of spring, it never disappoints the sportswoman. Drives must have a raking pace, irons no check, putts keep on the line to finish well over the two-mile run of sand-hill and *pampas*. The ball is hunted from copse and covert to open fields, over vale and mound and cop we follow—a point-to-point chase, with sunken pitfalls and big banks and doubles.

We start to the left of a meadow with the red flag, a whitewashed wall of a private residence to the right, and forge ahead to a cop, behind which cowers the green. Coming out to the left, we negotiate a wire fence and fall in safety on to another sward. Pushing through the trees, we gain the opening where we view the line for our third point; we run between parallels of sea and wood, over the home of conies, to ground. Our backs to the sea, we next

make for the range of hills crossing the turn inland. At their base lie the only grasses on the line; here we hole, and mount the range to strike across a still higher one, an Alp, to our 5th flag. A flying country this! We must *soar* above those sandy tops if we would not remain buried in them. More wire fencing and we land safely. We face now the open meadow-land, a hedge and we are in the field with an uninterrupted run to our 6th flag. Again we sweep across the plain to the 7th, and now back on our tracks to the 8th. Execute a flank movement, and skirting a hedgerow finish the nine holes. Quietly leaving this part of the country we walk behind the house mentioned before and find on its other side the club.

Turning our backs on its wide verandah, we follow the lead given, and clear a high cluster of sandhills, among whose roots is a small square of soil. Sand and slope and green vales keep the rectangle—this heart of the hills! We leave its quiet depth, ascend the height, and drive for the sea, shining, shimmering, a piece of silver, on whose view rock the boats going up to the town. We tee and turn, swiping along the shore, protected by a low bent-covered dune.

Retracing our steps a few yards, we then make for the left-hand corner, where, alas! two or three spots of scarlet brick betoken the eruption of building! For the 14th flag we cross to the right, and skim once more over the same landscape to a perfect sloping lawn on a raised mound. Yet again we turn to front more sandhills. Their silvery grasses, the

stiff strong bent, will clutch us in all powdery fastnesses, unless we send the ball into the air, when it falls behind—on the prairie—in the open.

Nothing stops us now from reaching the 16th flag, occupying a square between the wall and the hedge. We leave it, and dodge off to the left, down to the border of trees at the bottom of this ground. From here we take our last turn, facing for the grass at the foot of the first hills. By crossing we have compassed a two-mile round, whose record is held by Miss May Armstrong with 77.

It is a long cry from Burnham to Leven Links, **Leven Ladies' Fifeshire**, but as this is the only **eighteen-Links** hole Scottish course for lassies, we maun not pass it over. Queen Mary used to come down this way when staying at Lundin Castle, but like all of us who can drive a wee bit and get the opportunity, she played on the long links. The braw ba' that bonnie Queen sent over Scoonie Burn nicht be ane pattern to all other Maries.

The ladies' green we now tee off for is on these Leven Links, within five minutes' walk of the station. It was laid out at considerable cost by Alexander Patrick, formerly of Wimbledon, who is kind enough to extend supervision over it.

The 1st hole is a cleek shot over an excellent natural green; whins and the railway ought not to prevent a 3 here.

At No. II., if the tricky angle formed by the railway and upland and the whins and bunkers are properly negotiated, we score another 3.



Our next shot must be followed up by an approach with the iron, then only do we hole out.

At No. IV. we again use the wooden club, carefully avoiding a bunker to the right.

Going to No. V. we must not overdrive the good putting green, or it will be woeful work!

No. VI. we turn westward, and with lofting iron try to lay the ball dead.

No. VII.'s flag dances in the breeze, and we drive for it—a long one; there is dangerous ground on either side—whins, tussocky bent land.

Facing No. VIII. we cleek the ball up the wee ravine to the green.

No. IX. is a blind hole.

No. X. is guarded by a bunker, and the green is a capital one.

For No. XI. we again take the cleek. We now pass to the best seven holes of the round. This one is another "blind" over billowy ranges to the flag, behind which at times stands a temporary pond. The next point is a plateau; we should alight from an iron shot, and with luck secure a 3.

No. XIV. is a full drive: the green is good. At Leven the natural contour of the putting greens is religiously preserved. No sacrilegious hand has levelled and devilled their beautiful undulations to a billiard board.

No. XV. requires great straightness—it is rough off the course.

No. XVI.—An iron shot with many a whin to southward stretching.

No. XVII.—A beautiful hole this, although "blind." The small and very pretty green covers a plateau.

We have traversed all the billowy upland and hollow, and hole out our last putt on a large grassy space. After we have gane hame, there is muckle to think aboon Leven Links. The morning breath o' heather bells, the laverock's song, the gowan foine, the buds of white haw. There is the never-failing charm of the bonnie Largo Bay. Memories of Scottish song and story are borne inland from the boisterous waves of the Firth outside; they come to us mid the play frae brae to bank. Unquestionably Leven is a good course. Its eighteen holes, a number wonderful for Scotland, afford good practice in irons, and now water-pipes are laid on greens improve every season. Their smoothness of texture, says an excellent authority, compares favourably with any links in the North. The record is 60, and held by the Secretary, Miss Marjorie Young. Kinnell, the professional, has holed in 54 or 55.

We have finished our round of four greens: three in England, one in Scotland, and now take our last divot from the links of the **Royal Portrush Ladies' Links.** Instituted 1891, this club flourishes, and counts among its members the good Irish players, Mrs. Inglis, Miss Graham, the Misses Hezlett, Miss Cox, Miss Adair, and Miss Brownrigg.

It is the only eighteen-hole ladies' course in Ireland. The turf is excellent. The distances between tees and flags vary from 110 to 323 yards. The

round extends nearly two miles. Par play is 64.

An ideal ladies' links should not be shorter than two miles, have eighteen holes on light, springy soil, in an open, bracing air. The carries long, 90 to 100 yards, as such brace one up to drive more carefully. There must be three tees for relief, and head or following winds; these will be guarded in front and at the sides, but every long, straight shot will find its reward, and have open ground for run. There must be a way round for shorter players. Two holes should be reached by an iron club from the tee. Another requires three full shots. The fewer holes there are which only want a drive and short approach the better; these are the levellers, where as a rule a weak stroke goes unpunished, and scratch cannot give the handicap. Approaches should differ and afford opportunities to loft, run, or even putt. Greens must be large; cups, plateaux, inclines, make for variety and skill. It should always be possible to play out of hazards. Trees, ditches, quarries, are not characteristics of the game. Such an ideal course would have its concomitant, a comfortable club-house, with drying rooms, inexpensive luncheon, and staff of good regular caddies.

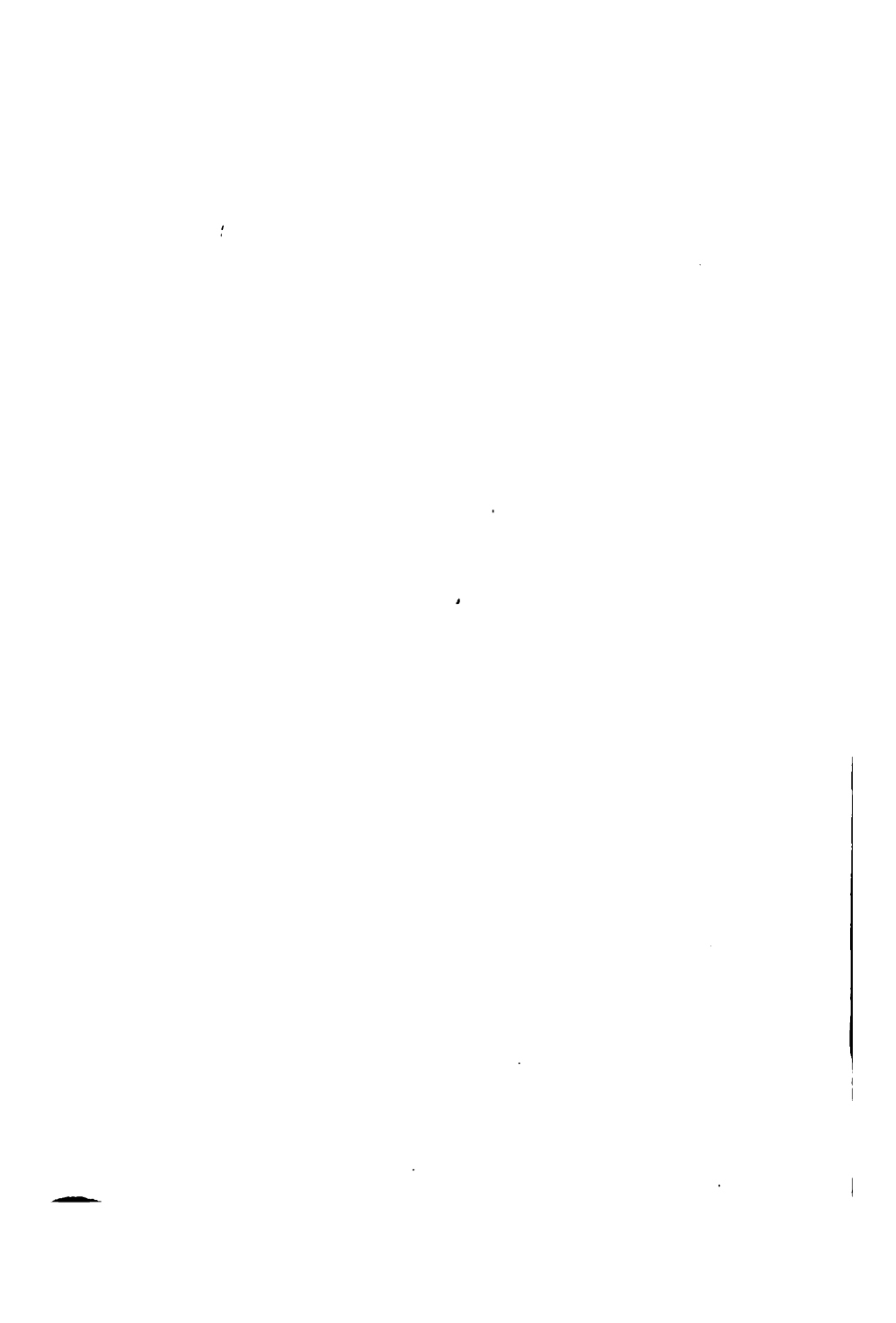
We have all, alas! found the *revers de la médaille*. Carries which swallow our best balls, greens we must approach *over*, or to stay *on* play a patent prehensile putt. Hazards *behind*, not *out* of which we rise to higher—scores! And oh! the caddies!

who look as if they wish they had never seen us, or we them.

Golfers are like horses, for when they have done well over a course they will frequently put in a fine score afterwards, while on ground where they have failed they are likely to bungle again. The truth is, certain courses suit the game of certain players, and short links are less uniform in character than men's, while women in general are more susceptible to local considerations. The length, drive, style of approach, capacity for getting out of difficulties, tell powerfully on some greens. There are courses where long driving is no great advantage, because the greater number of holes are what are known as levellers, requiring only one full shot and an iron to reach the flag; but on links which afford scope for cleek and brassy play, the extra yards covered make a difference. The same with approaches: a shot, half-loft and run is all that is wanted to arrive at some flags, but there are others so placed, that to reach them it is necessary to make the ball rise as suddenly, and stop as dead as possible. There are golfers who never funk bunkers or sandy lies, but who, when the ball is lying heavy on sticky ground or thick grass, hesitate, and the woman who hesitates has always been lost!

Many players, who on home links can hold their own with any one, when performing in public get into trouble and are quite unable to show their true form. Some golfers again with an inferior game often win in open competition, because they are

familiar with differences and can collect themselves. The better the player the easier all courses are to her; and as we watch the long, straight drive, avoiding the hazards, the skilful, well-judged approach, laying the ball well up to the flag, and guess the instinctive delicacy of touch and appreciation of distance which holes the putt, we realize that her game does not depend on physical strength, continuous practice, a gift of birth, but is formed from knowledge, which is power; determination, which is strength.



**PART II**  
**THE LADIES' CLUB DIRECTORY**





## ABERDEEN LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1892.*)

*Annual Subscription, 15s.; Number of Members, 124; Hon. Sec., Mrs. J. M. Ferguson, 48A Union Street, Aberdeen.*

The course, which is a private one, lies immediately to the north of the Balgownie Golf Course, belonging to the Aberdeen Golf Club. It is situated on a plateau just beyond the point where the river Don enters the sea, and is about two miles from the Aberdeen Railway Station. Tramcars run to within five minutes' walk of the club-house.

The course is a short one, consisting of nine holes, but they are so placed and guarded that very expert play is required in order to return a good score.

The tee for the 1st hole is in front of the club-house, and the green can be reached from the tee. Bogy 3.

The 2nd hole is a short one, a mashie shot being sufficient to get on the green, but the hole is so protected by a road on the far side, and by

bunkers and broken ground between the tee and the green, that very accurate play is necessary. Bogey 3.

The 3rd hole is longer, but a drive and an iron shot should reach the green. The tee shot, however, must be very straight to escape a road on one side and bunkers and whin hazards on the other.

Bogey 4.

The 4th hole is a very sporting one; it is possible to reach the green from the tee, but the player has to carry a large bank of sand. Bogey 3.

The 5th hole is plain sailing, after the rough ground just in front of the tee has been carried. Bogey 4.

A drive and a short approach should be sufficient at the 6th hole; the green is well guarded by bunkers. Bogey 4.

The 7th hole is another good one, the green being guarded by bunkers, and bordered at the back by whins, which catch over-strong approach shots. A well-judged drive, however, should reach the green. Bogey 3.

The 8th hole is longer; a drive and an iron shot will be required to reach the green. Bogey 4.

The 9th hole is a more difficult one, and a missed tee shot is fatal. Bogey 3.

## ASHDOWN FOREST LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1889.)

*Entrance Fee, £2 2s.; Annual Subscription, £1 1s.; Members within ten miles of Forest, £1 1s.; beyond that distance 15s.; three sisters in one family, 15s. within ten miles, and 10s. 6d. beyond. Number of Members, 132. Hon. Sec., Miss H. Andrews, 6 Linden Park, Tunbridge Wells.*

This club was started in the autumn of 1889, some few months after the gentlemen's club. The course consists of nine holes, with all natural bunkers and hazards, the lies being heathery, very little real grass growing on the Forest. The lengths of the holes are as follows, but vary slightly for Bogey and Medal: 1st, 120 yards; 2nd, 140 yards; 3rd, 200 yards; 4th, 114 yards; 5th, 110 yards; 6th, 118 yards; 7th, 132 yards; 8th, 320 yards; 9th, 125 yards. The club-house stands on half-an-acre of freehold land, and is the absolute property of the club; about fifteen minutes' walk from the Forest Row Station on the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway line between East Grinstead and Tunbridge Wells. There are several lodgings to be had near the links and in the village, and a new hotel is just opened next the ladies' club, and two others in the village.

Starting from the 1st tee, which is opposite the club-house, the player has to avoid the cricket-ground pavilion on the right, a pond with deep banks on the left, and two lines of wooden railings. Having done this, a putt or mashie shot lands her on the green, which is rather small, with bunkers on each side. Bogey 5.

At the 2nd a good drive carries all difficulties, and the hole should always be done in 4, though a too fast approach down the steep hill sends the ball well over the green, or a pulled drive may reach the gentlemen's club-house, which in match play is a lost hole. A topped drive remains in old ruts or stiff heather. Bogey 4.

The lies to the 3rd hole are generally uncomfortable, as the player stands rather below the ball, and unless the drive is up the slope in wet weather, the ball may pitch and remain in the marsh to the left. A deep narrow bunker guards the approach to the green, which has just been entirely re-made, and should soon be one of the best on the course. Bogey 5.

A really good drive ought to carry the far bunkers on to the 4th green, but it is not often possible, as the banks on the lee side are rather high and catch the carry, sometimes sending the ball well into the depths of the bunker, and sometimes stopping it completely. A well-aimed shot will, however, easily run through rather to the right of the green, and is always the safest part to play for. Bogey 4.

To arrive on to the 5th green only requires a good lofted cleek shot; the deep sand-bunker being within fifteen yards of the tee, and well up over the guiding flag, the ball should be found not ten yards from the hole. Bogey 3.

The 6th green is easily reached with a good shot, but a tiresome bunker close to the green has caused many a medal card to be torn up, as the distance is one just to catch a "well-intentioned" stroke. Bogey 4.

Although the 7th hole is Bogey 4, it requires a *straight* drive; to the right may result in the ball being found in the roadway, and to the left in a grassy bunker with steep banks, and then a sudden descent on to the green, the least bit too hard a stroke in dry weather sending the ball over the ridge into the same roadway just below the green.

The 8th is by far the longest hole; three very well-played strokes ought to reach the green; and if players keep well in the course the lies are not bad. All balls played into the roadway down to the gentlemen's club are lifted without penalty. Another road has to be carefully negotiated with a short iron or mashie shot before the green is finally reached; but if the third stroke reaches the green, which rarely happens unless there is a strong wind behind, the player might enjoy the pleasure of securing the hole in 4. Bogey 6.

The tee to the 9th hole brings the player just within sight of the club-house again, and a good drive straight on the red-tiled roof ought to be the

best line to the hole, and well over the heather and two sand-bunkers, which punish a topped shot very severely. Bogey 5. This green used to be the gentlemen's 18th, and is not far from the ladies' 1st tee.

The scratch score is 80, the handicaps at present being taken from 82, as the record for a lady remains at 83, though this score has only been recorded three times—twice by Miss Birch, once by Miss D. Evans. The prizes to be played for during the year, besides the challenge cups and medals, are both numerous and valuable.

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#### BARHAM DOWN (LADIES') GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1890.*)

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s.; Annual Subscription, £2 2s.; Family Subscription, £3 3s.; Number of Members, Ladies and Gentlemen, 100; Hon. Sec., Mr. F. W. Morris, Oswalds, Bishopsbourne, near Canterbury.*

The club-house is a picturesque cottage, which though small meets the requirements of the Club, the members of which are not as yet very numerous. The route from London is by the South-Eastern Railway to Bishopsbourne Station, which is close to

the links, and only a few minutes by train from Canterbury. The links, which consists of nine holes, are situated on a large stretch of chalk downs between Canterbury and Folkestone. The ladies play over the same course as the men with shorter tees; it is a most sporting course, and can certainly rank among one of the best inland links, the lies being exceptionally good. The soil being chalk is such that in the driest weather the turf continues green and springy.

The 1st hole (70 yards) is a short and sporting approach shot on to a difficult and undulating green, over a most terrifying bunker in the shape of a deep cutting forming a road, and woe to the golfer who samples this road, as she may take an unlimited number of strokes before reaching the green.

At the 2nd hole (190 yards) the road has to be faced again at a long and difficult angle, requiring a good carry, but once over this, it is a short iron shot on to the green, and the whole may be done in 4.

The 3rd hole (320 yards) requires a most sporting shot from the tee, as not only has the road to be carried, but the corner of an adjacent cornfield; however, once over this, a well-hit brassy puts the ball just short of a bunker guarding the green, and if played correctly it should be holed in 5.

The 4th hole (280 yards) is quite straight forward, and a good 4 hole, with only an artificial bunker guarding a very fine and undulating green.

The 5th hole (295 yards), although shorter than the 3rd, has the same bogey allowance, the two bunkers being so placed that the second shot must be played

short; therefore the player takes three strokes to reach the green. This hole is named the "Sea-serpent," on account of the tortuous and large dimensions of the second bunker.

The 6th hole (130 yards) is a full cleek shot, which must have a good carry over the bunker to land the ball on the green, which well deserves its name of the "Punch-bowl." This hole has been done in one!

The 7th hole (365 yards) is the longest hole on the course, and from the tee there is a stretch of very heavy and coarse grass which must be carried, and even when this is accomplished it requires very good straight play to do this hole in 5, as the lies are sloping and difficult.

The 8th hole (230 yards) is again over long grass, with a cart track at the end of the carry. This green may be reached in two, but the approach shot must be very accurate, as the green is particularly well guarded, having a bunker in front and deep ruts beyond.

The 9th hole (95 yards) requires a difficult approach shot, over the road once more, which at this spot is only to be described as a yawning chasm of stone-heaps, ostensibly placed there for the ultimate mending of the road, but obviously for the destruction of golfers' temper and clubs! The bogey for this hole is 3, but it shares the distinction with No. 6 of having been done in one.

The par of the green is 80, but the record as done in June 1898 by Miss Sybil Whigham at the open meeting is 78. Many scratch players have played



over the links, but few have equalled the par, the course being much more difficult to negotiate than appears at first sight, as, in addition to artificial bunkers, the greens are surrounded by long and heavy grass, and the whole course bordered by it; therefore it is essential to play a straight and accurate game in order to bring in a good score.

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#### BECKENHAM LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1893.*)

*No Entrance Fee; Annual Subscription, £2 2s.; Two of the same Family, £3 3s.; Associates, £2 2s.; Family Subscription, £5 5s. Number of Members, 50; Associates, 34; Families, 22. Hon. Sec., Miss Stephenson, Elmston House, Beckenham.*

This nine-hole course is of sandy soil and very dry in winter, and in summer the grass being very luxuriant it does not dry up too much in the hot weather. The greens never become too fast, though there is a great difference in their keenness between their winter and summer condition.

The 1st hole (155 yards) is comparatively easy, with a grassy slope guarding the green, which is surrounded by deep pits to inflict condign punishment on a crooked or over-strong approach.

The 2nd hole, "The Trap," though a midget in length (74 yards), is most sporting. A loft of 70 yards is required to clear all the hazards, to wit, rough ground, deep pits, and the stream running close to the green, which is a very sporting one (lying in a gravel-pit) but very true.

The 3rd hole, "Gravel-Pit" (156 yards), has a gravel-pit, the stream, and another pit, and to carry all these requires a drive of 80 yards, after which all is plain sailing to the green. A sliced ball is provided for by a sunk bunker on the right of the green.

The 4th hole, "Half-Moon" (76 yards), has a semi-circular raised bunker 50 yards from the tee, and there is a stream just beyond the green which is on a slope, and a high ball is necessary to lay it dead. This hole and No. 2 provide excellent practice for good approach shots, as a topped ball is badly punished at both.

The 5th hole, "The Stream" (152 yards), is a drive and a short approach on to the green, but it is essential to keep straight, as there are a deep ditch and a wood on the left. The bunker in front of the green is difficult to negotiate, as the slope of the ground causes any ball going over the ridge to roll into it, and if the approach is too strong the result is a lie in bad ground, or in the ditch to the left of the green.

The 6th hole, "The Pond" (220 yards), has a pond and wide road as hazards for the drive, a carry of 90 yards being necessary to clear both. A wood

and a ditch on the left catch pulled balls, and a sliced one drops into long grass. The green standing rather high and sloping away in all directions makes the approach very difficult, and there is also a ditch beyond the green.

The 7th hole, "The Long" (290 yards). A straight drive is required here, a sliced or pulled ball dropping into very long tough grass, and being often difficult to find. A good drive followed by a good cleek or iron will clear the road, which lies about 170 yards from the tee, and then there is a tolerably high hedge to be cleared before reaching the green, which is one of the best on the course.

The 8th hole, "The Hedge" (230 yards), requires a good drive to carry a raised bunker 90 yards from the tee, and provides for a brassy or a good long iron shot to reach the green, which is not guarded in front, though the stream runs behind it.

The 9th hole, "The Last" (210 yards). This hole allows the player to drive where she pleases without punishment, but the second shot is most difficult. The green is guarded by a raised bunker which takes a very good iron shot to clear it, while a brassy is apt to go too far into rough ground beyond. Bogey score is 39, made up as follows—4, 4, 4, 3, 4, 4, 6, 5, 5.

## OUR LADY OF THE GREEN

### BLACKHEATH LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1889.)

*Entrance Fee*, £2 2s.; *Associates*, 13s.; *Annual Subscription*, 13s.; *Associates*, 5s.; *Number of Members*, 110; *Associates*, 45; *Hon. Sec.*, Mrs. L. Edwards, Woburn Park Road East, Blackheath.

The course, a nine-hole one, is situated on the north side of the club-house (1 Montpelier Row) and the entrance being five minutes' walk from the Blackheath station on the South-Eastern Railway. The holes vary in length from 70 to 214 yards, the total length of a single round being three-quarters of a mile. The holes consist of roads, rides, whins, and rail-roads. The scratch score and Bogey are the same, 68. The longest hole (154 yards) if played straight presents difficulties, but a pulled ball will be punished by a sandy ride which runs the entire distance to the tee and green. Bogey 4. The second hole (79 yards), though short, is most difficult, a ride and a road having to be carried before the ball reaches the green. Bogey 3. The third hole (70 yards). A short approach shot must be made on to one of the best greens on the course, a topped ball will probably run into the water. The fourth hole has a low bank on either side. Bogey 3. The fifth hole (211 yards) requires a long drive

and iron ; there are no hazards, but the lies are bad, and the green is on a triangular corner of the Heath with a road on two sides. Bogey 4.

The 5th hole (132 yards). A cleek shot from the tee (which is on the top of a bank) if straight will reach the green, but if pulled will be caught by the bank which runs practically the entire length of the hole ; a sliced ball may get into some whin or be bunkered by a tree, while too powerful a shot will overrun the green, which lies in the hollow, into the road beyond. Bogey 4.

The 6th hole (97 yards) is an extremely sporting one ; the tee shot, an iron, has to carry a path, ditch, and several clumps of whin, and if the ball falls into the whins it *must* be picked out with the penalty of one stroke. The green, a large undulating one, is hidden from the tee by a hillock covered with whin. A topped ball if slightly sliced will fall into a deep ravine, out of which it is extremely difficult to play. Bogey takes 4, but this hole is often done in 3 ; still the difficulties on every side, if the tee shot does not reach the green, are the cause of many a medal card being torn up.

The 7th hole (176 yards) runs parallel with a road which has a deep ravine on the left ; a pulled ball therefore gets severely punished in these, but otherwise, if played straight, there are no further difficulties, except that a too powerful approach may over-run the green, which is in a corner bordered by the road on two sides. Bogey 4.

The tee shot for the 8th hole (184 yards) has

to carry a road and the ride ; a topped ball will be badly bunkered, as if it escapes being caught by the bank at the far edge of the road it will be probably almost lost to sight in the deep hoof-marks in the soft ground of the ride. These difficulties successfully negotiated a short approach will reach an excellent green. Bogey 4.

The 9th hole (214 yards) runs parallel with the ride ; it is safer therefore to drive slightly to the right, and if the tee shot be good a short approach is sufficient, but the player must judge the distance accurately, for the ride is very adjacent to the green. Bogey 4.

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#### BURNHAM LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1892.)

*Entrance Fee*, £1 10s. ; *Annual Subscription*, £1 1s. ;  
*Number of Members*, 125 ; *Hon. Sec.*, D. B. Macdougall,  
Berrow Road, Burnham, Somerset.

A description of the course is given in Chapter XII.

## CARNOUSTIE LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1873.)

*Entrance Fee*, 10s.; *Annual Subscription*, 6s.; *Number of Members*, 124; *Temporary Members* can join for 3s. for the first month and 2s. for each succeeding month. *Hon. Sec.*, Mrs. G. C. Dickson.

The club-house contains every accommodation that a golfer can require, and is only ten minutes' walk from the station.

The ladies have the privilege of playing over the men's nine-hole course, and also possess an excellent putting green of their own. The nine-hole course is one of the most sporting in the country, and boasts of seven burn (water) hazards, besides many natural bunkers.

The 1st hole is 250 yards, and a burn hazard awaits a badly played ball at 30 yards, and at 170 yards in direct approach to the hole there is a ditch.

The 2nd hole (200 yards) is comparatively easy, being over hard ground on to an excellent putting green.

The 3rd hole is 290 yards, with two burn hazards which only a long driver can carry in one stroke; after these are safely negotiated long grass lies in wait for a pulled or sliced ball.

The 4th hole (130 yards) has a burn at 50 yards from the tee and a made sand-bunker just in front of the green, which is very keen.

The 5th hole (now lengthened to 420 yards) is the longest hole on the course, and the line is chiefly over very uneven ground, with an extensive ridge of natural sand-bunkers to cross and some more of them close to the green, which is an excellent one.

At the 6th hole (250 yards), providing the drive is straight, all is plain sailing, but sand-bunkers abound on either side to trap the pulled or sliced ball.

The 7th hole (340 yards) is beset with bunkers on all sides, but a perfectly straight driver will escape them all.

At the 8th hole (290 yards) a topped drive is bound to come to grief amongst small sand heaps and rabbit scrapes, and the ground is rough and unequal up to the hole, which is in a cup or hollow, a difficult approach but an eminently sporting one. The green is small and surrounded by long grass.

The last hole (300 yards) is a sporting one. At 130 yards from the tee a high, deep, and extensive sand-bunker has to be carried, and further on the burn hazard crops up again, the last difficulty being a sand-bunker at the end of the green in a line with the hole.



## COUNTY DOWN LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1894.)

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s.; Annual Subscription, £1 1s.; Number of Members, 100; Hon Sec., Miss M. Tyrrell, Newcastle, County Down.*

There is a ladies' club-house quite close to the course which lady visitors can have the use of on payment of one shilling per week. There is also a ladies' nine-hole course, mostly flat and uninteresting, but any lady member who can do two rounds of this course in 100 or under is qualified to play on the gentlemen's course at any time except Saturdays and match days. Much interest is centred on the Long Course this year, owing to the fact that it has been selected by the Ladies' Golf Union as the course on which their Championship Competition will be played. Therefore a description of it will be more interesting than one of the ordinary short ladies' nine-hole course.

The most striking feature of the links is the great height of the sand-hills and the immense bunkers.

The tee of the 1st hole, "The Corner" (211 yards), is situated on the top of a hill; the drive has to carry a mound and a small artificial bunker. A straight tee shot ought to clear all these difficulties,

and leave the player with an easy approach to the green.

At the 2nd hole, "Alps" (233 yards), the drive must clear a bunker thirty or forty feet high, some 100 yards distant from the tee. On the other side of this bunker there is a valley, at the top of which lies the green, a difficult one owing to its keenness.

The 3rd hole, "MacCormac" (400 yards), has no difficulties, excepting that the green is well guarded by sand-bunkers.

The 4th hole, "Southdown" (336 yards), requires a good drive to carry some rough ground and an immense sand-bunker. The green, which is undulating, is guarded by another bunker. This is one of the most difficult holes on the links.

At the 5th hole, "St. John's" (280 yards), the green is also guarded by a bunker, and it is therefore safer to play to the left, making a slightly longer approach shot necessary, but if straight the ball will meet with no difficulties.

There is no distinctive feature about the 6th hole, "Douard" (430 yards), and a lady should easily reach the green in 4.

At the 7th hole, "Pitch" (314 yards), the player gets severely punished if the ball is sliced. There is also rough ground on both sides, and the green is a difficult one to negotiate.

At the 9th hole, "Deception" (340 yards), the drive is from a hollow over a hill covered with bracken and bent. The green is hidden by another

hill, the length of which often deceives the player—hence its name.

At the 10th hole, "Chasm" (225 yards), a good drive should carry a sand-bunker, and if this is successfully accomplished an iron should reach the green.

At the 11th hole, "Sheepfold" (400 yards), the drive has to go over an enormous hollow, and this is a somewhat difficult drive for a lady. The green is guarded by a ditch.

The 12th hole, "Old Dundrum" (460 yards), is long and rather uninteresting, and the approach must carry a low bank before arriving on a saucer-shaped green.

At the 13th hole, "Railway" (230 yards), a drive and a short iron should reach the green, which is large and sloping.

The 14th hole, "Punch-bowl" (476 yards), is the longest hole on the course, and there are no definite bunkers.

At the 15th hole, "Field" (332 yards), the drive must carry a crater-shaped hollow, but the green should be easily reached in 3.

At the 16th hole, "Saucer" (460 yards), there is only one bunker, an artificial one faced with wood. The green is one of the best, and is prettily situated in a hollow.

The 17th hole, "Matterhorn" (160 yards), is a hopeless one, if the tee shot fails to carry the sand-bunker in front of the tee; if this is successfully negotiated, however, the ball should reach the green.

At the 18th hole, "Home" (350 yards), the green is guarded by a high mound which is somewhat difficult to negotiate. The record of this course is 71 by H. Varden.

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### COVENTRY LADIES' GOLF CLUB

*(Founded 1892.)*

*Entrance Fee, 5s. ; Annual Subscription, 10s. 6d. ; Number of Members, 70 ; Hon. Sec., Miss M. F. Verrall, The High House, Coventry.*

The Ladies' Coventry Links are situated about one mile and a half from Coventry Station on Whitley Common. It is a nine-hole course and of a very sporting character, there being any number of hazards in the shape of gorse bushes, either to the right or the left, and at some holes guarding the green. The course is bounded by a road on one side and a river on the other, and is fairly dry even in very wet weather, as it is on a slope, and the turf is very short. The ladies' club-house is situated in the garden belonging to the gentlemen's club-house, whose links are on the other side of the road.

At the 1st hole (190 yards) the drive is along a narrow piece of grass, edged on the left by the road

and on the right by a perfect jungle of furze ; a long drive will land the player within a short approach from the green, which lies out in the open.

The 2nd hole (122 yards). The tee shot has to carry a small hill ; the green is in a hollow not far from the river, so unless the line is very straight the ball gets punished ; this is an easy 4.

The tee of the 3rd hole (120 yards) is placed so that the player has her back to the river, and the drive must go over a row of thick gorse bushes ; but a good shot will reach the green.

At the 4th hole (129 yards) some gorse has to be carried from the tee, and the green is surrounded by a dry ditch ; this is a 4 hole.

At the 5th hole (140 yards) the drive is over the dry ditch, and the green is partly guarded on one side by gorse and on the other side by the road.

The 6th hole (95 yards) requires a short iron shot, and this ought to land the ball safely on the green, which is guarded by a bank and gorse on the left ; 4 is allowed for this hole.

The tee shot for the 7th hole (127 yards) has to carry some four or five thorn trees, and if these are successfully negotiated the hole is an easy 4.

The 8th hole (220 yards) is the longest hole in the course ; the green is well protected by about twelve or more feet of gorse and thorn bushes. This is a 6 hole.

The tee of the 9th hole is close to what is called the "Precipice," viz. a long slope covered with bushes, and the green is 106 yards distant. A

straight iron shot will reach it, but if sliced or pulled the player may take 5 or 6, as it is almost impossible to play out of the "Precipice," and if lifted the penalty is the loss of 2 strokes.

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DULWICH AND SYDENHAM HILL (LADIES')  
GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1894.)

*Entrance Fee, Men, £5 5s. ; Ladies, £2 2s. ; Annual Subscription, Men, £3 3s. ; Ladies, £1 1s. ; Hon. Sec., Mr. F. C. Nunn.*

The links over which the ladies play are those of the Dulwich and Sydenham Hill Men's Club, the tees being shortened. They are prettily situated on the northern slope of Sydenham Hill, overlooking the village of Dulwich, and are undulating in character. The course consists of nine holes, with both natural and artificial bunkers.

The 1st hole is a little under 200 yards, downhill, and a good drive will put the ball on or near the green in dry weather.

The 2nd hole is difficult, a good tee shot uphill leaving the player a long carry over a row of trees to the green, and it is not often done under 5.

The next three holes take a zigzag course over a small ravine.

The 7th is not an easy hole, as a corner has to be turned, and in doing this the ball is liable to be hit out of bounds. Having negotiated the corner, there is a long approach shot downhill over an artificial bunker, which often catches the ball or frightens the player into over-running the green.

The 8th is a level hole, well guarded by hazards, and the 9th returns uphill to the club-house.

The ladies' club-rooms form a wing of the men's club-house, and include a very pretty sitting-room, from the balcony of which can be obtained one of the finest views of London and its surroundings.

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## DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1897.*)

*Entrance Fee, 10s.; Annual Subscription, 10s.; Number of Members, 142; Hon. Sec., Miss M. J. Hamilton, Menshill, Maxwelltown.*

The Dumfries and Galloway Ladies' Golf Course is situated at Cassalands, about a mile from Dumfries. The course, which only consists of six holes, is over

undulating fields, and the holes are so arranged that a hedge running across has to be played over three times.

The view is magnificent, and embraces the Moffat Hills, Galloway, Criffel, and Cumberland.

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#### ROYAL EASTBOURNE LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1888.*)

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s.; Annual Subscription, 7s. 6d.; Number of Members, 205; Hon. Sec., Miss M. C. Reid, 9 The Avenue, Eastbourne.*

The course is a nine-hole one—only half-a-mile from Eastbourne Station—and is situated on “the Links” at the foot of the Downs. The turf is very good, but there are no natural hazards, though a good deal has been done by making artificial bunkers in addition to the clumps of whins. The greens are particularly good, and some being sloping are very tricky.

The 1st hole is a drive of about 130 yards, at which a topped ball can be caught in a bunker, but otherwise the hole is an easy 3.

The 2nd hole (220 yards) has a bunker close to the tee, but if this is successfully carried, a good brassy shot should reach the green. Bogey 5.



The 3rd hole (158 yards) has three bunkers to catch badly pulled or sliced balls. Bogey 4.

At the 4th hole (192 yards) there is a long carry over a ditch and whins, after which an approach should reach the green, which is a very sloping one. Bogey 4.

The 5th hole (220 yards) has two bunkers and whins to catch sliced and pulled balls. Bogey 5.

There is a bunker near the green of the 6th hole (160 yards), and two others have to be carried near the tee. Bogey 4.

The 7th hole, only 115 yards, is a clean shot on to a sloping green. The bogey for this hole is 3; but often a good score gets ruined here, owing to the trickiness of the green.

At the 8th hole (170 yards) a long carry over a bunker should land the ball nearly on the green, which has been levelled, and is very good. Bogey 5.

The 9th and last hole (150 yards) has three bunkers, which, however, only catch a very badly pulled or sliced ball. This hole has also a good level green.

## EDINBURGH LADIES' GOLF CLUB

*Entrance Fee*, 10s.; *Annual Subscription* (ladies and gentlemen), £1; *Number of Members*, 375 ladies and 150 gentlemen; *Joint Hon. Secs.*, W. G. Bloxson and H. L. Lindsay.

Visitors may play, if introduced by a member, at a charge of 1s. per day.

The course, which consists of twelve holes, is situated in a park facing the Blackford and Braid Hills, and has two entrances—one from Oswald Road and the other from Morningside. The course is very accessible from Edinburgh, being only about five minutes' walk from two stations on the Suburban Railway. Tram-cars and omnibuses also run to within seven or eight minutes' walk.

The club-house consists of club-room, kitchen, ladies' room, gentlemen's room, committee room, etc. The whole ground is kept constantly cut with a horse-machine, thus rendering the turf very playable.

The lengths of the holes are as follows:—

1st hole	. 116 yards	7th hole	. 114 yards
2nd "	. 224 "	8th "	. 91 "
3rd "	. 132 "	9th "	. 139 "
4th "	. 99 "	10th "	. 114 "
5th "	. 207 "	11th "	. 129 "
6th "	. 209 "	12th "	. 138 "

Total 1712

In front of green No. 9 there is a wall to cross, and the same hazard is re-crossed, going to the 10th hole. The course is surrounded by walls, and there is some danger of players driving into the adjoining grounds at one or two of the holes.

The fourth part of the course, containing holes 9, 10, 11, and 12, lies on a fairly steep slope; the north part is more level. The artificial bunkers are filled with sand and banked up.

The record score is 45, which was returned by Miss Lugton and Miss M. H. Aitken.

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### ELTHAM LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1893.*)

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s.; Annual Subscription, £1 6s.; Two or more members in one Family, £1; Number of Members, 150; Hon. Sec., Miss Richardson, Rookwood, Eltham.*

The course, a nine-hole one, adjoins that of Eltham Golf Club, and is situated in the fine old park of Eltham Lodge, which has been adapted as the men's club-house. A large club-room and dressing-room have been set apart for the ladies, and there is

another club-room where ladies can take their men friends for luncheon or tea. The club-house is only a few minutes' walk from Eltham Station on the South-Eastern Railway.

The 1st tee is about 100 yards to the left of the club-house, and a cleek or iron shot should reach the hole, which is only 117 yards in length; sliced balls will be punished by long grass and trees, and there is a bunker at the rear of the green which is disastrous to over-strong approaches. A 3 hole.

The 2nd is a short sporting hole of 50 yards; the tee shot must be pitched high, otherwise it will overrun the green into rough grass. In front of the tee is a terrifying bunker, and if the player tops her ball into it, there is generally no alternative but to pick out; a pulled ball will be out of bounds in a fenced-in paddock. This hole ought to be done in 3.

The 3rd hole (210 yards) is the longest in the course; a long drive must carry a low bunker, and the second, an iron shot, has to negotiate a more formidable bunker which practically guards the green. A 4 hole.

The 4th hole (125 yards) has no hazards; the drive ought to reach the green, but the ground is so heavy that there is no run on the balls except in the height of summer. This hole is an easy 4.

The tee at the 5th hole (125 yards) is placed about twenty yards behind a raised bunker, but this once carried a long drive may be up on the green; it more often, however, requires a short approach as well, for the green is on a higher level than the

tee; a sliced ball will be bunkered by trees. This is also a 4 hole.

The 6th hole (180 yards) has about fifty yards of rough grass to be carried, but if the drive is straight there are no other difficulties; if the tee shot is pulled it will be caught by a pond, and a too vigorous approach will overrun the green into a bunker. A 4 hole.

The 7th hole (87 yards) has a group of small bunkers about fifty yards from the tee; a lofted cleek or iron shot will reach the green. This is considered a good 3 hole.

The 8th hole, about the same length, has a raised bunker guarding the green, and an over-strong shot will run into rough grass. A 3 ought to be done, but there are great possibilities for evil about this hole.

The 9th (180 yards) is the most difficult hole on the course, as there is a raised bunker guarding the green; and the approach may overrun the green into the carriage drive in front of the club-house, or if sliced or pulled will fall into beds of shrubs which flank the green on either side. This is a 4 hole.

## FOLKESTONE LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1892.)

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s.; Annual Subscription, £1 1s.*  
The Club is managed by a Committee of the Folkestone Golf Club. *Hon. Sec., Mr. E. T. Ward, 5 The Lees, Folkestone.*

The course, a nine-hole one, is situated on the meadow-land of Broadmead Farm, about fifteen minutes' walk from Folkestone Central Station on the South-Eastern Railway.

The hazards are numerous and nearly all natural; only in one or two places has it been found necessary to supplement them with turf bunkers. The greens are excellent, large, and undulating, with grass of a fine quality.

The 1st tee is immediately in front of the clubhouse. The chief hazards of this hole (243 yards) are a roadway with deep ruts, ready to receive a topped ball, and if the tee shot is pulled or sliced an out-of-bounds penalty is the result.

The 2nd hole (112 yards) is a most sporting one; a good cleek shot from the tee ought to carry the thick grass and hurdle-guarded rivulet, dropping on to the green. This hole has been done in one!

The 3rd hole (307 yards) requires a good drive over a broad ravine, which is well hidden from view

except for the hurdles which protect the top bank. A very first-class drive and brassy would reach this green; but it is safer (and nearly always done) to take three shots, as there is an enormous bunker guarding the green.

The 4th hole (134 yards) has only a dyke to be carried midway between the tee and hole; the green is one of the best on the course, the natural undulations being especially good.

From the tee of the 5th hole (181 yards) a topped ball is well punished by rushes of a very thick growth, while frequently the drive is caught by the wire railings which cross the line of the hole at about thirty yards from the green, which is also guarded by a sunken grass dyke.

The 6th hole (97 yards) requires only a short iron shot to carry a turf bunker and a nest of rushes.

At the 7th hole (203 yards) the tee shot has to carry a wire fence and a bunker. The dyke crossed at the 4th hole has to be negotiated at this hole also, and if the wind be behind the player the drive may get caught under it, in which case the penalty is to lose one and drop behind; a short approach will then reach the green.

The 8th hole (412 yards) requires a long drive to carry the ravine, which has already been crossed at the 3rd hole. If this is successfully accomplished two good brassy shots should follow. The green is guarded by a high turf bunker.

The 9th hole (117 yards) is a most sporting hole. The tee shot can be either a brassy or cleek stroke,

but it must carry a deep water ditch directly facing the tee. The player then has to negotiate a chasm of rushes and a road before the ball reaches a splendid green, which is surrounded on two sides by a bank. If the wind be behind the player at this hole, care must be taken not to drive from the tee too powerfully, as in that case the ball may overrun the green into a field beyond which is out of bounds.

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#### FORMBY LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1896.*)

*Entrance Fee, £2 2s. ; Annual Subscription, £1 1s.* Visitors are introduced for six days free during the year ; after that on payment of 5s. a week, or 10s. 6d. for three months. *Number of Members, 140 ; Hon. Sec., Miss M. Bushby, Trap Hill, Formby.*

The club-house consists of the usual committee and dressing-rooms. Luncheon and teas are provided.

Freshfield Station on Lancashire and Yorkshire line from Liverpool to Southport is three minutes' walk from the club-house. The course, which consists of nine holes, is situated on the sea-coast of Lancashire, seven miles from Southport and fourteen from Liverpool, and adjoins those of the Formby



Golf Club. The eighteen-hole round is about two and a quarter miles in length. The putting greens are excellent. The length of the holes is as follows:—

1st hole .	230 yards	6th hole .	223 yards
2nd " .	184 "	7th " .	296 "
3rd " .	172 "	8th " .	108 "
4th " .	173 "	9th " .	187 "
5th " .	357 "		

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#### GRANTOWN-ON-SPEY LADIES' GOLF CLUB

The fee for membership is 3*s.* 6*d.*; but special arrangements are made for families, as the men's course is adjacent, and as membership (10*s.* 6*d.*: 7*s.* 6*d.* per month, 3*s.* 6*d.* per week) admits to the ladies' course, the majority of the ladies join the men's club. *Hon. Sec.*, Mrs. Barclay.

The ladies' course is one of nine holes, and is within a few minutes' walk of the town. The green, although it is well patronized in the season, does not present much difficulty or variety. The hazards consist mainly of fences, and the longest hole is only 130 yards. The ground is undulating and the grass is kept short.

The ladies have the right to play over the men's

links, also only nine holes, but with much variety of hazard. The longest hole is 400 yards.

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THE HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARD'S LADIES'  
GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1895.*)

*Annual Subscription, £1 1s.; Number of Members, 70. Visitors can play on payment of 1s. 6d. a day or 5s. a week. Hon. Sec., Mrs. Frith.*

This club was started in a humble way little more than three years ago, but it has continued to make steady progress, until it is now established on a firm basis. A finer situation it would be difficult to find; the links, situated some 400 feet above the level of the sea, command extensive views round the coast. The course has many natural hazards, and affords a thorough test of sound golf. It is an ideal ladies' course; straight and good play are always rewarded, while slicing and wild driving are punished. The ladies have comfortable rooms in the club-house, where luncheons and teas are provided at a moderate cost.

The tee of the 1st hole (250 yards) is some 50 yards distant from the club-house, the only hazard

at this hole being a sand-bunker which guards the green.

The 2nd hole, "Hill," is a short one, as a full iron lands you on the green, but woe to the player who fozzles the stroke, for the way to the green is up a steep ascent.

The 3rd hole, "The Dyke," is about 150 yards in length, and the green is protected on all sides.

The 4th hole "Tackleway," has a hazard in the form of a deep gully, which must be crossed before the ball lands on the green.

The 5th hole, "Cliff," is a short hole, but the player must not over-drive it, or she will find herself in difficulties.

The 6th hole, "Camp," the longest hole on the course, over 300 yards, requires a fine tee shot to carry the ball over the pond, and the green is nicely guarded by a sand-bunker, which catches many a fozzled approach.

The 7th hole, "Ecclesbourne," boasts of the loveliest view on the course, and is a very tricky hole, the green being in a nook.

The 8th hole, "Rock lands," is about 150 yards in length, and a straight drive reaches the green.

The 9th hole is the most tricky of all, and spoils many a medal card; the green is immediately in front of the club-house.

Little fault can be found with the greens throughout the course.

The present bogey for the eighteen-hole round is 90. This year the club won the Kent and Sussex

Counties Challenge Cup with an aggregate of 1759.

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### HOYLAKE LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1895.)

*Entrance Fee, £1 10s.; Annual Subscription, £1 1s.* Visitors admitted free two days in every year; thereafter 1s. per day or 5s. per week. *Number of Members, 69 ladies, 26 gentlemen, 14 non-players.* *Hon. Sec., Mr. J. H. Edwards, West Hoyle, Hoylake.*

The links are situated about half-a-mile from Hoylake Station on the Wirral Railway. There is a very comfortable club-house where teas are always to be had, and luncheons are provided upon notice being previously given. The course consists of nine holes laid out on the Dale estate, from which can be obtained a fine view of the Lancashire, Cheshire, and Welsh coasts. The chief hazards are sand-hills and star grass, the latter proving a most serious obstacle to any player off the line. Although the course is short, it requires most accurate play, and trouble awaits the golfer on all sides unless he or she is playing well.

The greens are all natural except one, and are

well guarded; some are on undulating ground, and require very careful approaching.

The tee of the 1st hole is just in front of the clubhouse, and it requires a very fine drive to reach the green, which is seldom done by a lady, unless there is a following wind: the green is protected by a sand-hill and grass-covered roadway, and a 4 at this hole will be a good start for any medal round.

The 2nd hole is only an iron shot, but that must be very accurate, as a road and railway have to be carried, and loose sand runs all along the left of the line.

The tee at the 3rd hole is on the top of a high sand-hill, and the green is on another some 60 yards away with a chasm in between; woe to the player who tops into the gulf, or who slices or pulls, as trouble awaits her on all sides; once in the chasm she may take many shots to reach the green, whereas a good iron shot from the tee on to the green will be rewarded by a 3; this hole is responsible for many torn-up medal cards.

The 4th hole is one of the easiest on the course, but a stranger is often deceived in the distance, as it is simply a shot some 50 yards below, but owing to the tee being at a great height the player thinks the hole farther off than it really is.

The 5th is another rather short hole, being only about 110 yards, but it is very sporting, and requires an accurate tee shot, as the green, besides being protected by a sand-hill, is placed on a plateau beyond which trouble awaits the unwary.

The 6th hole is quite one of the best on the course, about 150 yards; here the drive must be straight and long, as the green is placed on a plateau at the end of a ravine in the sand-hill.

A wrist shot from the tee lands you on the green at the 7th hole.

The 8th hole is the longest on the course; a drive of 140 yards will carry two sets of hills, but more often after playing the tee shot the player finds the ball only over the first hill; from there a good iron shot will, however, land her on the green.

The 9th, or "Home Hole," is reached by a good drive and iron, but a pond, a couple of roads, and some outhouses have to be successfully negotiated.

## ILKLEY LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1896.)

*Annual Subscription, £1 1s.* Visitors may join the club temporarily on payment of a small weekly subscription. *Number of Members, 40; Hon. Sec., Mrs. MacCarthy.*

The ladies' club is a branch of the Ilkley Golf Club, an eighteen-hole course, situated on the south side of the river Wharfe. The soil is of a sandy nature, with good lies and large undulating greens, the river forming a hazard for pulled balls on the outward journey.

The ladies play over a nine-hole course, using the first three greens of the full men's course, and crossing to the 13th play the last five holes home, the tees being slightly shortened. The length of the course (nine holes) is a little over a mile, and the hazards consist of cop bunkers and a tributary of the beautiful river Wharfe, which has to be crossed twice, and two hedges.

A portion of the recently-erected club-house has been allotted to the ladies, where tea and luncheon can be obtained.

The 1st hole (275 yards). The green is guarded by a cop bunker to trap a bad second.

The 2nd hole (190 yards). A fine undulating

green situated on an island formed by an arm of the river, which can be reached with a cleek, but a topped ball will be lost in the river, as also balls that are pulled or sliced.

The 3rd hole (162 yards) is also on the island, and quite easy to reach as long as the player keeps straight, but the course is not much more than 60 yards wide, and requires careful play.

The 4th hole (130 yards). This is on the mainland, and the river must be carried again.

The 5th hole (185 yards). A bunker and cop 85 yards from the tee have to be cleared in the drive.

The 6th hole (218 yards) is an interesting hole, with a road as a hazard 30 yards from the tee. The green is situated on a plateau, from which a good view of the links and moors can be obtained.

The 7th hole (277 yards). A hedge and small stream have to be carried from the tee, but after that no difficulty presents itself, and the green is a good one.

The 8th hole (260 yards) much resembles its predecessor, as in both wild hitting is apt to send the ball out of bounds. The green is one of the best.

The 9th hole (270 yards). Rough grass has to be cleared from the tee, and there is a cunningly-devised bunker guarding the green.



## ISLE OF WIGHT LADIES' GOLF CLUB

*(Founded 1893.)*

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s. ; Annual Subscription, £1 1s. ;  
Number of Members, 90 ; Hon. Sec., Mrs. Tabuteau.*

The course, situated on the Harbour Links, Bembridge, consists of eighteen holes, measuring 3121 yards. The ground was reclaimed from the sea about seventeen years ago. The hazards are sand-bunkers, whins, and a stream running nearly the whole length of the course, and which is crossed six times. Owing to the position of the hazards great accuracy of play is required, and the scratch of the green is placed rather high, viz. 83. The greens of the shorter holes are in most cases small, which makes a three for them uncertain. The lengths of the holes are as follows :—

1st hole .	235 yards	10th hole .	90 yards
2nd " .	175 "	11th " .	237 "
3rd " .	90 "	12th " .	110 "
4th " .	200 "	13th " .	140 "
5th " .	220 "	14th " .	119 "
6th " .	120 "	15th " .	275 "
7th " .	80 "	16th " .	75 "
8th " .	230 "	17th " .	250 "
9th " .	175 "	18th " .	300 "

## LEVEN LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded* 1891.)

*Entrance Fee, 5s.; Annual Subscription, 5s.; Associates, 5s.; Family Tickets, 12s. 6d.; Number of Members: Family Ticket-holders, 38; Ladies, 45; Associates, 32; Hon. Sec., Miss M. P. Wilkie, 8 Mitchell Street, Leven, Fifeshire.*

Special terms are offered to visitors.

A description of the course is given in Chapter XII.

## LITTLESTONE LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded* 1891.)

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s.; Annual Subscription, 10s. 6d.; Number of Members, 100; Hon. Sec., Miss Stringer, The Elms, New Romney.*

The course, which consists of nine holes, is situated on the coast of Kent about eight miles to the west of Folkestone, the nearest railway station being New

Romney on the South-Eastern Railway. The hazards are numerous, and consist of bent, rabbit-holes, sand-blown lies, loose shingle, a dyke,—which has to be twice crossed,—and many well-planned bunkers.

The 1st hole (157 yards) is one of the most tricky on the course; it is guarded on the right by the coastguard station with its surrounding cabbage and potato garden, on the left by a mass of broken ground intersected by rabbit-holes, while in front of the green rises a deep sand-bunker with overhanging edges. A little to the right of this bunker there is a narrow strip of good turf, where a ball is sure of a good lie if the nervous player is not equal to driving straight on to the green.

The 2nd hole (106 yards) is a blind one; an iron shot should reach the green, which is in a hollow.

The 3rd hole (151 yards) requires a good straight drive to carry some rough grass and stones, but if the tee shot be too powerful the ball will overrun the green on to the beach below.

The 4th hole (100 yards) requires a half-iron shot to carry over the canal on to a green which is hidden from sight by the canal banks. This hole varies in length by 10 or 15 yards, according to which part of the green is in use.

The 5th hole (275 yards) requires a long drive to carry an alarming sand-hill before reaching the level ground beyond, which bristles with bunkers and bad lies, then a short approach will land the ball on the green some 100 yards beyond.

At the 6th hole (240 yards) the player turns and

commences playing home, keeping to the right of the route already traversed. The drive is from a high tee, and the ridge of sand-hills has again to be crossed; a very fine cleek or three-quarter brassy as a second may see the ball on the green.

At the 7th hole (295 yards) the tee is immediately on the top of the canal bank, where at high tide several yards of water stretch in front of the player; a pulled ball is punished by rough ground, and a sliced ball may be caught by a bunker; if the drive be straight the ball will find an excellent lie, and a good brassy should carry it over a big sand-hill to the level beyond where the green lies.

The eighth (87 yards) is a sporting little hole; an accurate cleek or iron—according to the wind—ought to pitch on to the green, which is guarded by a deadly sand-bunker.

The 9th hole (140 yards) is not interesting; a long straight drive will reach the green, which is flat and large, with little to guard it except rough ground.

The Bogey score is 40, made up as follows:—4, 3, 4, 4, 5, 6, 6, 4, 4; the record, which was done by Miss Starkie Bence in 1897, is 73.

LYTHAM AND ST. ANNE'S LADIES' GOLF  
CLUB

(Founded 1886.)

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s.; Annual Subscription, 10s. 6d.; Number of Members, 250; Hon. Sec., Mrs. E. Catterall.*

The course, a nine-hole one, is close to St. Anne's-on-the-Sea Station, on the London and North-Western and Lancashire and Yorkshire Joint Railway, sixteen miles from Preston.

The Lytham and St. Anne's Ladies' Club removed on to their new links in the autumn of 1897, and since then practically nothing (beyond the ordinary mowing and rolling) has been done to the course owing to the many alterations required to complete the long links. In the course of a year, if the present plans are carried out, it will be made most interesting and sporting. At present its flatness is its greatest drawback. The ladies have a wing in the new club-house, which was opened by the Marquis of Lorne in March 1898.

Ladies are allowed to play on the long links on Tuesdays, but on other days only if accompanied by a member.

The scratch of the ladies' course is 90.

The 1st hole (156 yards) requires a carry of fifty yards to clear the bunker.

The 2nd (330 yards) is one of the longest holes on the course.

The 3rd (285 yards) is a most sporting hole, the green lying in a hollow surrounded by sand-hills.

The 4th hole (255 yards) requires a good drive to clear the sand-hills, leaving an easy run up to the hole.

The 5th (135 yards) is an interesting hole; a sliced or pulled ball is punished, but a good straight drive lands the player nicely on the green, the far side of which is guarded by a brook.

The 6th hole, 280 yards.

The 7th hole (240 yards), with a cop in front of the tee and the green guarded by sunk sand-bunkers.

The 8th hole, 310 yards.

The 9th and longest hole (360 yards). Several cops running across the course are the only hazards to be met with in playing the last four holes.

## MACHRIHANISH LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1890.)

*Entrance Fee*, 10s. ; *Annual Subscription*, 7s. 6d. ;  
*Number of Members*, 100 ; *Hon. Sec.*, Miss Mackelvie,  
Jeaniefield, Campbeltown, Argyllshire.

The ladies' course, which adjoins the long course, is five miles from Campbeltown. It is in the form of a triangle, and borders the main road from Campbeltown to Machrihanish. Although short (only nine holes) the course is a sporting one ; the holes vary in length from 50 to 120 yards, and the hazards are all natural.

The club-house is a one-storey building, with a verandah in front, and commands a lovely view of Machrihanish Bay. Besides a large room containing lockers and other requisites, there is a cloak-room and kitchen behind, and a small house has been erected for the accommodation of bicycles.

The 1st hole, for which bogey is 4, can be reached by a long drive, but a pulled ball is punished by rabbit-holes, and a sliced one is caught in a ditch which borders the first three holes.

The 2nd hole, although only an iron shot, is on a plateau, and requires very accurate play. Bogey for this hole is 3.

The 3rd hole is another long drive, and a ball falling

short is apt to be caught in a small sand-bunker directly in the line. The hole, however, should be done in 4.

The 4th hole (bogey 3) is the shortest on the course, and lies straight to the left. A small ditch on the edge of the putting green is the only hazard.

The 5th hole, for which bogey is 4, is a long drive, but otherwise presents no special difficulties.

At the 6th hole the player again turns to the left and faces homewards, and although the hole is short, approaching is made difficult by a ridge near the putting green. Bogey for this hole is 3.

The 7th hole is the longest, but if the drive be straight the hole is not difficult to negotiate.

The 8th hole is the most sporting, as the green lies hidden behind a small hill, and on either side of the course are innumerable rabbit-holes, which make approaching difficult. Bogey takes 3 for this hole.

The 9th hole is a long one, and also beset with rabbit-holes on both sides of the course. Bogey 4.



## MID-SURREY LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1892.)

*Entrance Fee*, £1 1s. ; *Annual Subscription*, £2 2s. ; *Number of Members*, 162 ; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. C. Montgomerie, the Club House, Old Deer Park Cottage, Richmond.

The course, of nine holes, is situated in the Old Deer Park, Richmond, and is only three minutes' walk from Richmond Station. It possesses the great advantage, from a golfing point of view, of a soil of a sandy nature, a feature far too uncommon among inland golf courses. The original nine holes laid out at the commencement of the club were short and uninteresting, but in 1894 the course was completely altered and very much lengthened and improved, and it is now one of the longest ladies' courses in existence, being 2 miles 660 yards round the eighteen holes.

Good scope is afforded for brassy play (a feature which is conspicuous by its absence in most ladies' courses); the bunkers are well placed to catch badly-played shots, and the greens are excellent. The fault of the course is that it is monotonous, and therefore somewhat uninteresting; all the hazards are artificial bunkers, and they lack the variety of the natural

obstacles. The course is mown during the summer months, and once off it, the long grass ensures a sufficient punishment for wild driving.

The 1st hole has lately been lengthened, and is now 265 yards, and requires two good shots to reach the green.

The 2nd hole is about the same length, and a formidable bunker catches a fozzled second shot.

The 3rd hole (370 yards) is the longest on the course, and requires both long and accurate play to hole out in the bogey score of 5. There is a bunker to be carried 100 yards from the tee, and then a brassy and long cleek shot will reach the green.

The 4th hole is 250 yards, but being a little on the slope, a drive and good iron should be up on the green, which is, however, a difficult one to stay on, being very fast.

The 5th hole (140 yards) is only a drive on to the green, but there is an awkward bunker to carry, and a tree catches a pulled ball.

The 6th hole (205 yards) abounds in bunkers; if correctly played, a drive and short mashie will find the green.

The 7th hole (105 yards) is only an iron shot, but the green is closely guarded by bunkers.

The 8th hole is 215 yards, a drive and a mashie shot. This green is somewhat slower than the others.

The last hole (250 yards) is a difficult one; 100 yards must be carried from the tee, and then there

is a long shot over bunkers on to the green, with a spinney beyond to catch a too energetic approach.

Bogey score for the nine holes is 40, made up as follows :—5, 5, 5, 5, 4, 4, 3, 4, 5.

### MINCHINHAMPTON LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1889.*)

*Entrance Fee, 10s. 6d.; Annual Subscription, 12s. 6d.; Number of Members, 115; Capt. and Hon. Sec., Mrs. Davies, Amberley Court, Stroud.*

The course, a nine-hole one, is situated on a spur of the Cotswolds and commands an extensive view. The turf is good and springy, and the hazards consist of stone quarries, deep and wide, roads, and Danish entrenchments. The nearest railway station is Nailsworth (Midland), one mile, and Stroud (G.W.R.), three miles.

Starting from the 1st tee, the drive is over rough ground, then an approach should be sufficient to reach the green, as the hole is only 194 yards.

The 2nd hole is 170 yards; a good straight drive is imperative to avoid small hazards which surround the green, while an over-strong approach will run into the road beyond.

A trappy and sporting hole of 180 yards is the 3rd; the drive must be over the flint road, then an iron shot should land you on the green.

The shortest hole on the course (130 yards) follows; the carry from the tee is over a Danish entrenchment, somewhat of a novelty, and there are ruts also to be negotiated before reaching the green.

The 5th hole is 290 yards, and here the ball must be lofted to carry a Danish entrenchment and a small quarry, and then only small mounds intervene between the player and the green.

The drive from the 6th tee has no hazard, save a stone quarry, twenty feet or so deep, for a sliced ball. The green being just above the quarry requires careful approaching if the drive is to the left. Bogey takes 4 for this hole, which is 189 yards.

The 7th (195 yards) is the most sporting hole on the course, and the despair of beginners. The tee is on the edge of the quarry, which has to be carried, and a good driver, playing straight, must cross the new workings, into which it is fatal to get.

About 147 yards is the 8th hole, driving once again over the entrenchment, in which lurk hollows with stones, etc., and long grass. Two small grips guard the green, and a pulled ball may run into a pond or road.

The 9th hole (193 yards) has a road to be driven over, and a small bank and ruts to catch the approach.

When repeating the nine holes to make the eighteen-hole round, the first tee is different, the

drive being over broken ground and ruts, this alteration making the hole 260 yards.

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### MORETON LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1894.*)

*Entrance Fee, £2 2s.; Annual Subscription, £1 1s.; Number of Members, 120; Associates, 60; Hon. Sec., Miss B. J. Laird, Oakhurst, Birkenhead; Visitors, 1s. a day or 5s. a month.*

These links are at Leasowe, fifteen minutes' walk from Moreton Station, on the Wirral Railway. The course is a nine-hole one, and the hazards are bunkers, whins, and ditches.

The 1st hole (240 yards) has a ditch to be carried from the tee.

The 2nd hole (220 yards); bunker about 50 yards in front of tee.

The 3rd hole (170 yards) has more difficulties, as a ditch has to be carried by the drive, and a bunker guarding the green requires a well-lofted ball for an approach.

The 4th hole requires a long drive to carry some clumps of whins and a bunker 90 yards from the tee.

The drive from the 5th tee (160 yards) has only to carry some whins, but the approach stroke must be accurate, as the green is guarded by two bunkers, while the ground beyond is rough.

At the 6th hole (220 yards) a bunker 40 yards from the tee has to be negotiated, and also another close to the green.

The 7th hole (250 yards) has only a bunker guarding the green, but the play must be straight, or the ball will get into rough ground.

At the 8th hole pulled balls will be caught by whins, but if on the line, there is only a bunker to be carried by the approach shot.

The 9th hole has a bunker just short of the green, which is in a corner surrounded on three sides by hedge and ditch, and if the ball goes over the hedge it is out of bounds.

ROYAL PORTRUSH LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1891.)

*Entrance Fee, £2 2s. ; Annual Subscription, £1 1s. ; Hon. Sec., Mrs. W. H. Mann, 7 Lansdowne Terrace, Portrush.*

The course is one of eighteen holes, about two miles and a half in length, the holes varying from 110 to 323 yards. The railway station is only about two minutes' walk from the ladies' club-house. The hazards consist of sand, bunkers, streams, and ditches, and are very sporting.

The 1st hole. Starting from the ladies' club-house, a straight drive should carry almost on to the first green, but the road to the right or the bunker to the left will catch either a sliced or pulled ball. This hole should be done in 4.

The 2nd hole. A good drive, carrying the first ditch, with a fine iron, should reach the green. A good 4 hole.

The 3rd hole. A long iron pitch on to a plateau green. If well played may be holed in 4.

The 4th hole. A fair drive from the tee should clear a sand-bunker, and the hole should be done in 4.

The 5th hole. This hole requires straight driving.

A high ditch fronts the tee within about 40 yards, and a sliced ball would be out of bounds and a pulled one on the road, while the green is protected by a deep brook. Possible 6.

The 6th hole. A good drive at this hole will almost reach the green, but a topped ball will cost two or three strokes. A 4 hole.

The 7th hole. The tee at this hole is fronted by a ditch; a good second, however, carrying a deep brook, should make the hole a 5.

The 8th hole. Two long drives and a short iron should reach the green, which is the old "Feather-bed" of the men's course. A 5 hole.

The 9th hole. By driving over a hillock in front of tee the green may be reached, and the hole should be done in 4.

The 10th hole. A long drive from a raised tee and a brassy. A good 4.

The 11th hole. With a fair drive and an iron the hole may be done in 4.

The 12th hole. A long drive and a good brassy may reach the green, but the hole is a good 5.

The 13th hole. A missed drive here is severely punished, but after a well-driven ball, a good mashie will reach the green, one of the finest of the course.

The 14th hole. A brook should be negotiated by a fair drive, then an iron shot should clear another difficulty, and reach the green. A 4 hole.

The 15th hole. A long drive might reach this green, which, however, is protected by a road and



embankment, and it would be more judicious to try for the green in two. A 4 hole.

The 16th hole. This hole is the longest and most difficult. A fozzled drive will be caught in the brook Kidron, while, after a good second, a deep valley still has to be negotiated to reach the green. A 6 hole.

The 17th hole. A long drive may reach the top of a high hill, whence the hole, being in a deep valley beneath, may be reached by a short approach. A 4 hole.

The 18th hole. This green is situated in front of the club-house, and requires a long drive from a deep hollow to carry the steep hill in front, while the green is protected both by a sand-bunker and a ditch. A 4 hole.

The above description of the course has been taken, by kind permission, from *L. G. U. Annual*.

THE PRESTWICK ST. NICHOLAS LADIES' GOLF  
CLUB

(Founded 1893.)

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s. ; Annual Subscription, 10s. 6d. ;  
Number of Members, 190. (In summer the visitors  
often increase the membership to 240.) Hon. Sec.,  
Miss M. J. Alison, U. P. Manse, Prestwick.*

The present course—which is frequently described as the finest ladies' course in Great Britain—was originally the men's course, but when the men's club became so numerous that it was found advisable to procure an eighteen-hole course, the nine-hole one was handed over to the ladies.

The 1st tee is immediately in front of the clubhouse. This hole is one of the longest; the tee shot must be long and straight to carry a formidable wall, then it requires two long brassy shots and an iron to reach the green, which is guarded at the back by whins and a ditch. This hole is considered a good 6, but as a sliced ball will go out of bounds or land in an unplayable position at the foot of stone walls, this score easily runs into double figures.

To reach the 2nd green a long drive is necessary to carry a sandy ditch and fence, and most ladies prefer playing safe, carrying the hazard in their

second, and then an easy iron shot on to the green and the hole should be a 5.

The 3rd hole requires a drive, brassy, and iron, and if the player keeps straight and does not get into the sand on the right, another 5 should be the result.

The 4th is a most interesting hole. The drive should carry the ball to the bottom of what is called "The Hill," and then a mashie or iron shot should land it on a pretty little green on the other side. Care must be taken not to play too strong, as there is danger at the far side of the green, but the hole may be an easy 4.

The 5th hole is most appropriately named the "Wilderness," as like the ancient people the player may take 40 to get out of it, but with a straight true drive, two good brassies, and perhaps a short iron, according to the wind, the ball will arrive at the promised land and get the hole in 6; but the hazards, consisting of bunkers, whins, heather, and ditches, are so numerous that every stroke must be perfect golf.

The 6th is rather a tricky hole, as the ball must clear two stiles and a bunker with the tee shot; but having done that it lands on as fine a piece of turf as the most fastidious golfer could wish to see, then an easy cleek will reach the green, and a 3 be the result.

The 7th hole is one of the best on the course. A straight drive, a good second, and the player may hole out in 4, and feel that something has been

attempted and something well done on that round, but woe to her who approaches that green too hard, for a yawning bunker is ready to receive the ball.

The 8th hole is a most sporting one. After a long drive from the tee a brassy will reach the foot of a chain of bunkers guarding the green; the finest golf is required here, and many are the balls arrested by those sand sentinels. A well-lofted iron shot and the ball may get down in two more strokes, but if the approach be too strong the ball will over-run the green into the road. If this hole is done in 5 the player may be proud of herself, but she need not be ashamed of a 7.

The 9th hole is plain sailing, with the exception of a hollow of whins; a good straight drive, a brassy, iron, and two putts, and the golfer will finish a delightful round of close on two miles.

Miss Fanny Lamb and Miss Maud Matthews conjointly hold the record for the full eighteen-hole round, viz. 96.

PRINCE'S LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1894.*)

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s. ; Annual Subscription, £3 3s. ; Number of Members, 220 ; Hon. Sec., Miss Langley, 81 Queen's Gate Terrace, S.W. Visitors may play on payment of 5s. a week, or 10s. a month.*

A description of the course is given in Chapter XII.

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RANELAGH GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1890.*)

This club has no branch for ladies, but they are permitted to play on obtaining a voucher from a member, but in all cases must when playing give way to members.

Annually the Ranelagh Golf Club organizes a most popular open meeting for ladies. Competitors must be either known personally by a member or nominated by the Golf Committee of the club.

The course is an eighteen-hole one, and lies midway between Hammersmith and Putney Bridges on

the banks of the Thames. The greens are good and large and well protected by artificial sand-bunkers, the hazards being a lake, ponds, roads, and trees. It is a course that requires straight driving. The regular golf season lasts from November 1st to April 30th, but the course is available for play during the remaining part of the year, though during the polo season golf has to be suspended after two o'clock each afternoon, as far as the eighteen-hole course is concerned, and play is confined to a nine-hole course.

The club-house is about a mile from Barnes Station on the L. and S. W. Railway, and just under two miles from the District Railway Stations of Hammersmith and Putney. Omnibuses run frequently from the Broadway, Hammersmith, and pass the gates of the club. Cabs can be obtained at both the other stations. Dressing-rooms are provided for ladies in the club-house.

The following are the names and lengths of the holes, but at the ladies' competitions the tees are slightly shortened.

	YARDS.		YARDS.
1st. "Farm,"	164	10th. "Plane Tree,"	186
2nd. "Elms,"	156	11th. "Polo,"	444
3rd. "Towing Path,"	287	12th. "Cedar Tree,"	306
4th. "Lodge,"	182	13th. "Beverley,"	210
5th. "Racecourse,"	366	14th. "Mushroom,"	93
6th. "The Chutes,"	102	15th. "Beech Tree,"	300
7th. "Long Water,"	232	16th. "Sun Dial,"	324
8th. "Gate,"	262	17th. "Avenue,"	200
9th. "Gravel Pit,"	296	18th. "Kit Cat,"	215

## RHYL LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1890.)

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s.; Annual Subscription, 10s. 6d.;  
Number of Members, 50; Hon. Sec., Mr. H. G. Stock,  
Golf Club, Rhyl, North Wales.*

The Rhyl Golf Club claims to be the oldest in North Wales. The links, which are very picturesquely situated, are almost a quarter of an hour's walk from Rhyl Railway Station, on the north side of the town. The ground occupied by the course is a somewhat narrow strip of land lying parallel to the sea-shore, but separated from it by a range of sand-hills. The course was originally laid out by Jack Morris, the well-known Hoylake professional, and consisted of nine holes. It however was soon extended to eighteen, but afterwards reduced to nine again, the additional holes proving so uninteresting, and the lies and putting greens so bad that the Committee came to the wise conclusion that nine good holes were better than eighteen indifferent ones. Since then alterations and improvements have been continually going on, till now only two of the original holes laid out by Morris remain, the 2nd and the 3rd.

This long course, though of excellent length for a scratch (man) player, is yet particularly suitable for

first-class lady players, there being only one hole, the 6th, at which a good lady player finds herself unable to clear the hazard from the tee, and then only against a head wind.

The ladies' course may be described as a miniature edition of the men's, many of the holes being identical, while others are the longer ones divided into two. The record, 75, is held by Miss E. L. Kennedy, who figured so prominently in the Ladies' Championship at Gullane in 1897. This score represents almost perfect play.

As a whole the links have been described as very like what Hoylake was before the rushes for which the latter course was noted had been mown down by play, but on a smaller scale. The putting greens are all good, as are the lies through the green. If it has a fault it is its flatness, there being few of those undulations and hills which make many courses of inferior merit so interesting.

The scratch for the green is 82, and the record, 78, was made by Mr. Frank Woodhead, the Welsh Champion, in October 1898.

As a centre for a golfing holiday Rhyl and its neighbourhood is an excellent place, Conway and Llandudno, both good courses, lying within easy reach by rail. There is an exceedingly fine clubhouse with separate accommodation for lady members. In the men's club-room there is a collection of framed *Vanity Fair* cartoons which is probably unique.

The 1st hole is about 360 yards long, and like most



of the others requires careful and accurate play. A sand-bunker fronts the tee, and another half-way between tee and green must be carried or avoided, while a sliced or pulled tee or second shot will be punished by bent and hummocky ground on either side of the course.

The green is guarded by a sand-bunker which catches a sliced approach, and another at the back waits one played too strongly.

The 2nd hole is about the same length as the first, but is totally different in character; the drive is over a deep sandy lane which also guards the approach to the 8th green, and there is also a large bunker to the left of the line to the hole to catch a pulled ball. The green, which is beautifully undulating, is guarded by a sand-bunker to the right and heavy bent to the left.

The 3rd is quite a short hole, yet much longer than it looks. In reality the carry from the tee is some 120 yards, but for some reason it seems much shorter, consequently unwary players are taken in by it, and find their balls bunkered in the thick black rushes which stretch from tee to green.

The 4th is a very fine hole, as nothing but a good straight drive will land clear of hazard, bunkers, and bent which lie on either side of the course, and in front of the tee; the green is capitally guarded on every side by similar obstacles.

The 5th may be described as an excellent short hole. It is some 200 yards in length, and the green lies in a sort of punch-bowl with a hill in between it

and the tee. A bunker to the right catches a slice, and on the left are bunkers and bent galore.

The 6th hole is perhaps the most difficult on the course, especially to a short driver, for if the wind is against the player, and the tee back, nothing but a fine tee shot will carry the wilderness of gorse in front of the tee, and there is no way round. There is a formidable rush hazard to carry with the second shot, once over which the green is practically unguarded unless the ball overruns it.

The 7th is a somewhat plain hole, provided the player keeps straight, a bunker in front of the tee and another 60 yards from the green being the only hazards.

The 8th hole is the longest on the course, 440 yards. The principal hazards are bent and rough ground to the left and in front of the tee and the sandy road, which was crossed at the 2nd hole, in front of the green. It is, however, a very difficult hole, as the sward where a good second shot should land is extremely narrow, and once off it, it is almost impossible to get back without the sacrifice of a whole stroke.

The 9th and last is more like a good hole on an inland course. The bunkers in front of the tee and green are both artificial, and the lies through the green have sometimes to be mown in summer. The putting green itself is far and away the best on the course, being very large and beautifully true.

ROCHESTER LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1891.*)

*Annual Subscription, £1 1s. ; Non-players, 10s. 6d. ;  
Number of Members, 51 ; Hon. Sec., Mrs. Budden,  
The Precincts, Rochester.*

The course is situated at the village of Higham, about three miles and a half from Rochester by road, and one mile from Higham Station. The hazards are composed of dug-out bunkers, trees, and wire fences, and the road, which has to be crossed three times. By the courtesy of the gentlemen, the ladies are allowed to practise on their course, excepting on match and medal days. The club-house is shared between the ladies and gentlemen, each having a club-room, dressing-rooms, and kitchen. Luncheons and teas are provided at the club-house.

The tee of the 1st hole (113 yards) is close to the club-house ; a cleek should reach the green, which is guarded by a low bunker.

The 2nd hole (180 yards) has a dug-out bunker, 150 yards from the tee, which often catches a long drive ; it is wiser to drive a little to the right, and then a short approach over the bunker lands the ball on the green.

The 3rd hole (170 yards) has a dug-out bunker

and raised bank facing the tee, and another guarding green.

The 4th hole (80 yards) is a short sporting hole, and a high lofting shot will reach the green, which is, however, guarded by a closely wired fence, through which the ball will not go.

The 5th hole (200 yards) is the longest hole on the course, a long tee shot, followed by a short iron, which has, however, to carry a road and some trees.

The 6th hole (150 yards) is uphill ; the drive must be good or the ball gets caught in coarse rushy grass.

The 7th hole (154 yards) is back again downhill ; the green is guarded by a bunker, which is apt to catch a long drive.

The 8th hole (180 yards) has even more difficulties than the 5th ; the road and trees have to be negotiated from the tee, and unless the drive is straight the ball will be caught by the trees ; the green is guarded by a closely wired fence, and a well-lofted shot is necessary to carry it.

The 9th hole is easy, and a long drive will reach the green if straight, but if the ball is sliced there is a bunker which may punish it.

ROMFORD LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1894.)

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s. ; Annual Subscription, £1 1s. ;  
Hon Sec., Miss M. Hill.*

The ladies play on the men's links, with shortened tees. Their medal round is thirteen holes, omitting Nos. 4, 5, 9, 10, and 11. A good steady player will find the course easy, but fozzled shots meet with severe punishment all through the round.

The 1st hole (295 yards) has a bunker to be carried about 70 yards from the tee, and just before reaching the green there is another high bunker, with hedge and ditch on either side to be cleared.

At the 2nd hole (250 yards) the tee shot must clear a bunker 65 yards away, and there is a second bunker 100 yards further on, which catches a badly played second.

The 3rd hole is a short one, only 100 yards, but is most sporting. The tee shot must carry a pond and bushes before landing on the green, while a high bunker and some trees catch a sliced ball.

The 4th hole (370 yards) and 5th (480 yards) are then missed over.

The 6th hole (280 yards) requires a short carry from the tee of 40 yards over a hedge, and a second or third shot if sliced will go out of bounds.

At the 7th hole (238 yards) the tee shot should carry a bunker 80 yards away, while a sliced ball will be in a boundary hedge; the second shot may be caught by a bunker half-way to the green.

The tee shot at the 8th hole (280 yards) if topped finds a grip awaiting it about 56 yards away, and a bunker and another grip have to be carried before reaching the green.

The 9th hole (350 yards), 10th (145 yards), and 11th (300 yards) are then, with the 4th and 5th, omitted in medal rounds.

At the 12th hole (170 yards) a hedge and ditch guard the green, and punish a badly played approach.

At the 13th hole (270 yards) the tee shot must carry the same hedge and ditch, then it is plain sailing for a straight-played ball till a bunker and some trees guarding the green are reached.

The 14th hole (240 yards) has a ditch which catches a sliced ball, and a grip a topped shot, while another ditch and hedge must be lofted over by the approach shot.

At the 15th hole (290 yards) a bunker must be carried by the tee shot, then rough ground and a hedge and deep ditch await a sliced second or third.

At the 16th hole (295 yards) there is a pond and hedge 70 yards from the tee, and a high bunker about the same distance from the green.

The 17th hole (220 yards) has a carry of 100 yards over a bunker from the tee, and if this is successfully done the hole should be taken in 4, but bunkers to right and left punish sliced or pulled shots.

A bunker 80 yards from the tee is the only difficulty at the 18th hole (175 yards), but a deep ditch to the right and left will be fatal to balls which are pulled or sliced.

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## SCARBOROUGH LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1891.*)

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s.; Annual Subscription, £1 1s.* Temporary Members are admitted on payment of small fees. *Number of Lady Members, 50. Captain and Hon. Sec., Mrs. Cuff, 1 The Crescent, Scarborough.*

Fifteen minutes on the North-Eastern Railway from Scarborough towards York will put you down at the station of Ganton, within five minutes' walk of the links of the Scarborough Golf Club. This being a joint club for gentlemen and lady members, the links are so laid out that the greens of the ladies' course, with one exception, are those used by the men, but so well arranged are the two courses that they do not clash with each other, and the fact that they receive the very closest care from that excellent golfer and teacher, Harry Vardon, who

is justly proud of the links, is a sufficient guarantee to any one coming to Ganton in search of a thoroughly enjoyable game. The links are placed in a pretty valley at the foot of the Wolds, and the sandy soil is most excellently adapted to the game. The bunkers are many and varied, some natural, some artificial.

The tee of the 1st hole (250 yards), near the club-house, is faced by a clump of whins which severely punish a topped ball, and these also extend on the right as far as the green itself.

At the 2nd hole (200 yards) a bunker crosses the course at about 130 yards from the tee.

At the 3rd hole (300 yards) two similar made bunkers are met with.

The 4th (160 yards) is a sporting hole with a sandy bunker at the edge of the green.

The 5th hole (254 yards): the drive is across the Station Road, and the approach is over rising ground to a green aptly termed "The Punch-bowl."

The 6th (95 yards) is a very sporting hole, the tee shot goes over a deep sandy bunker which extends from the tee to the edge of the green.

At the 7th hole (180 yards) the drive is over whins and the Station Road to a green in front of the club-house.

The 8th (275 yards), 9th (280 yards), and 10th (245 yards) are the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd holes on the men's course.

The 11th hole (100 yards). An iron shot over whins with the burn to catch a sliced ball.



The 12th hole (120 yards). A moderate drive over the burn will land the player on the green.

The 13th hole (206 yards). No particular difficulty except whins on the right.

The 14th (340 yards) is a long hole in which some good brassy play comes in.

The 15th hole (200 yards) over falling ground with whins to catch a sliced ball.

The 16th hole (235 yards). A difficult hole except for a very long driver.

At the 17th hole (150 yards) a straight drive lands the ball on a long and most excellent green.

The 18th hole (280 yards) back to the green in front of the club-house. A good drive is necessary to carry a long narrow bunker which crosses the line at right angles.

In the club-house there are ladies' sitting and dressing rooms, and lunch and tea may be obtained there.

## SEAFORD LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1895.)

*Entrance Fee, 10s. 6d.; Annual Subscription, £1 1s.; Visitors, 5s. per week; Number of Members, 80; Hon. Sec., Mrs. A. Jack, The Crouch, Seaford.*

The course, a nine-hole one, adjoins that of the Seaford Golf Club, and is situated on the Downs, overlooking the sea, and within a mile of the station. The hazards consist chiefly of gorse bushes, in addition to artificial bunkers and a pond. The turf is excellent, and the greens—which are kept in perfect order—are mostly on the slope of the hills and very keen.

The 1st tee is placed on the top of the hill behind the club-house; a cleek shot should reach the green, which is only 100 yards distant; there is gorse on either side to catch a pulled or sliced ball.

At the 2nd hole an iron shot of 80 yards will be sufficient, the gorse again punishing a pulled ball.

At the 3rd hole a drive of 140 yards is required to reach the green, which is uphill from the tee; an over-strong stroke will overrun the green into gorse beyond. As a rule this hole requires a drive and a short approach, as the hill is somewhat steep.

The 4th hole (140 yards) has some gorse to be carried immediately in front of the tee; a drive will

easily reach the green (a difficult one), as it is on a lower level than the tee.

To reach the 5th tee a stiff hill has to be climbed. This hill the men have to drive over to one of their holes, and it is consequently known as the "Hell hole." From the top an iron shot reaches the green, which is only 80 yards distant; an over-drive will be caught by gorse beyond the green.

In front of the 6th tee there is an artificial bunker, but an iron shot of 60 yards ought to easily carry it, and if straight drop on the green, but if pulled or sliced it will be punished by gorse.

The 7th hole (170 yards) requires a good drive and an approach; there is, however, a pond which may catch a pulled ball.

The two last holes are longer, and have only been added recently. They each require long drives and approach shots, being about 250 yards in length. The 9th has an artificial bunker which may catch a long tee shot.

Bogey 33, made up as follows—3, 3, 4, 4, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5.

Ladies with handicaps of 14 or less may play on the men's links, except on Saturdays or competition days.

## SOUTHPORT LADIES' GOLF CLUB

*Annual Subscription, 10s.; Number of Members, 75; Hon. Sec., Mr. W. M. Wylde, 38 Norwood Road, Southport.*

This club is really a branch of the men's club, and the ladies play over the ordinary men's course, except at six or seven of the holes which have shorter tees. The course is two miles from Southport, but tram-cars pass close to the club-house. The ladies have a separate club-house. The course is a very long and sporting one for ladies, being the longest of any club in the Ladies' Golf Union, to which it belongs. The par of the green fixed by the Ladies' Golf Union is 104 strokes.

The 1st hole (300 yards) is comparatively simple, as there are no hazards if played straight, but a sliced ball may be out of bounds and a pulled one in sand. The green is a natural one of undulating character.

The 2nd hole (400 yards) is a very good hole, there being large sand-bunkers to carry with a second shot. There is also a sunk bunker guarding the green, which is a very fine one.

The 3rd hole (450 yards) has a large sand-bunker about 30 yards from the tee, after which it is

pretty plain sailing until near the green, which is guarded right and left and beyond by sand-bunkers.

The 4th hole (400 yards). The hazards at this hole are a large sand-bunker in front of tee and a "cop" about 200 yards from same, after which it is quite open to the green.

The 5th hole (250 yards). This is a very sporting hole, as the drive is into the centre of a small wood, and if not punished by hitting trees a good lie is obtained, and the second shot will clear all the hazards. The green, which is a very good natural one, is guarded right and left by gorse bushes.

The 6th hole (250 yards) has a large bunker in front of tee. This green is surrounded by a high "cop" varying from five to ten feet in height with sand-bunkers at the bottom.

The 7th hole (350 yards). The drive here is over a large "cop" (about 70 yards away), after which the only hazards are a large bunker running the whole distance on the left, and gorse bushes for about 70 yards on the right, and these make it necessary to keep a straight line.

The 8th hole (380 yards). The only hazards of any importance are gorse bushes, which must be cleared by the drive. The green is in a hollow and is natural and undulating.

The 9th hole (170 yards). Immediately in front of the tee are a few gorse bushes, and about 10 yards away a small stream of water. There are also sunk bunkers right in front of the green, and to the right and left, making an accurate pitch shot necessary.

The 10th hole (200 yards). This is a very good hole, but rather narrow near the green, necessitating straight playing for a good score. The hazards are a ditch on the left, and gorse bushes on the right, also a sand-bunker about 140 yards from the tee.

The 11th hole (250 yards). There are no striking hazards at this hole with the exception of a sand-bunker in front of the green, which is situated on a plateau some three or four feet high.

The 12th hole (500 yards). This is the longest hole on the course, with many hazards in the way of sunk bunkers, but none of them are very difficult. Otherwise the hole is uninteresting.

The 13th hole (320 yards). There are two bunkers to carry with the drive, with a further one guarding the green, which is another good natural one and undulating.

The 14th hole (400 yards). This again is a very good sporting hole, the green being on a plateau, and guarded in front by a sunk sand-bunker and beyond by long grass and trees. There are also two sunk bunkers to cross in playing through the green.

The 15th hole (160 yards). Very sporting, the hazards being small fir-trees, rushes, and long grass, with a ditch in front of the tee and a sunk bunker guarding the green.

The 16th hole (320 yards). The hazards here are a high "cop" about 60 yards in front of tee and a sunk bunker nearly full of rushes guarding the green.

The 17th hole (400 yards). The drive must be a

good one to clear rushes, after which there are two high "cops" to negotiate, the first about 190 yards from the tee, and the second about 20 yards from the green.

The 18th hole (370 yards). Some 30 yards in front of the tee is a large "cop" with a sand-bunker on the far side. There is also a sand-bunker in front of the green, which is a fine one quite 100 yards long by 40 yards wide.

Ladies are allowed to play any day except Saturday or competition days. Visitors are always welcome, and are allowed three days free, after which a charge is made of 2s. 6d. a day or 5s. a week.

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#### ST. ANDREW'S LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1868.)

*Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d.; Annual Subscription, 2s. 6d.; Hon. Sec., Major J. H. How.*

To describe the ladies' golf links at St. Andrew's would be impossible, for the simple reason that they do not exist. Ladies who golf there have to play over one or other of the long courses. There is a putting course, which is leased from the proprietors of the

links, and is reserved for lady members and gentlemen associates. This course covers about five acres of ground, and by judicious laying out the round, at its longest, measures half-a-mile. The length of the holes varies from 40 to 90 yards. This course is quite unique in character, as it is not a level putting green, as the word "putting" seems to imply, but is more like a rather sporting golf course in miniature, and play over it is interesting in its own way. There are no hazards of any importance, but for negotiating what there are, as well as for every other stroke, the use of a wooden putter only is permitted. The actual greens are so small and so undulating that it is rarely that a player can putt at the hole direct; it is usually a question of "borrowing" to a great extent; indeed many shots have to be played as a stroke "off the cushion" is at billiards. The turf is of a beautiful quality at some of the holes, and very loose and sandy at others.

No doubt the early date of the club's formation must account for the course having been laid out only for a short game. Thirty-two years ago probably no lady thought of attempting more at golf than could be done with a wooden putter. Now, however, that the order of things has changed, it is surprising that St. Andrew's has not advanced with the times, and given the ladies a real golf course of their own.

Efforts in that direction have been made by the ladies themselves, but as yet they have not been crowned with success. Spring and autumn medals are played for in May and September, also monthly



medals from May to October, inclusive, and one or two challenge trophies.

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THAMES DITTON AND ESHER GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1891.)

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s.; Annual Subscription, £2 2s.  
Ladies £1 1s. Ladies' Hon. Sec., Mrs. Lyons.*

The Thames Ditton and Esher links are on the commons divided by the London and South-Western Railway, close to Esher Station. There are nine holes, the principal hazards being furze bushes, roads, and rough ground, with a few artificial bunkers. The chief feature of the course is the necessity for playing straight, pulled or sliced balls often paying severe penalties among furze or lumpy ground, while a long straight ball will most probably be rewarded with a good lie. The soil being sandy gravel is never muddy in wet weather. The length and chief features of the holes are as follows :—

The 1st hole (220 yards), with the hazard 110 yards from the tee, after which a lofted ball is necessary to reach the green. Bogey 5.

The 2nd hole (180 yards). A road 115 yards distant is the only difficulty. Bogey 4.

The 3rd hole (230 yards). The same road as the second hole 50 yards from the tee, after which a straight second is necessary to avoid a small bunker close to the green with a dry ditch on the right, while the railway fence will catch too long a ball. Bogey 5.

The 4th hole (320 yards). Rough ground from the tee for about 80 yards, with more rough ground near the green, are the chief difficulties. Bogey 6.

The 5th hole (100 yards). A well-lofted shot is necessary to remain on the green, which is surrounded by bunkers and furze bushes, while broken ground and a road will stop a topped ball. Bogey 3.

The 6th and longest hole (380 yards). First a road with ditches on each side 80 yards away, then rough ground for 40 yards, followed by a good lie for 50 yards; next more broken ground and footpaths for 110 yards, with lumpy ground guarding the green. Bogey 7.

The 7th hole (210 yards). A long carry over bad ground. Bogey 4.

The 8th hole (305 yards). A drive of 130 yards will clear more lumps, but a topped or short second will probably be caught by an artificial bunker. Bogey 6.

The 9th hole. This is the most difficult; it is 270 yards in length, and a carry of 130 yards is necessary to avoid rough ground and a yawning bunker, while a road with a ditch on each side has to be carried before reaching the green. Bogey 6.

The record for a lady in a club competition is

93, and for a gentleman 79; both play from the same tees.

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WAKEFIELD LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1891.*)

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s. ; Annual Subscription, 10s. 6d. ;  
Number of Members, 42 ; Hon. Sec., Mrs. Stewart.*

A course of nine holes is laid out on Heath Common, about a mile and a half from Wakefield Cathedral. It is a very sporting course, with beautiful turf, good greens, and an ample supply of "good lies" for well-played shots, an absence of unfair hazards, together with sufficiently alarming bunkers to test the nerve and aim of the most accomplished golfers. The hazards comprise whins, ponds, roads, ditches, and a quarry. The holes vary in length from 140 to 430 yards, with a total length of about a mile and three-quarters.

At the 1st hole, "Pond" (330 yards), the hazards consist of a stretch of whins and a road, which have to be carried from the tee, and at the back of the green there is a pond into which over-powerful approach shots disappear.

At the 2nd hole, "Summons" (220 yards), the

drive is over a pond, the far side of which has a steep bank, and the ground rises from there until the putting-green is reached at the top of the hill.

At the 3rd hole, "Stanfield" (290 yards), the tee is placed on very high ground, and the difficulties to be negotiated are whins, mounds, and a long ditch; the green is guarded by a pond.

The putting-green of the 4th hole, "Quarry" (330 yards), lies in a hollow behind a series of hillocks; this is a blind hole, and should the green be over-approached the ball may run into a quarry on the far side.

The drive from the tee of the 5th hole, "Ginger-beer" (380 yards), has to clear the quarry and a surrounding fence; this hole is also a blind one.

The 6th hole, "Manor House" (430 yards), is the longest hole in the round, and perhaps the least interesting, as the hazards are very few; the turf, however, is magnificent.

The 7th hole, "Pound" (140 yards), is the shortest and most sporting hole; the drive has to carry a stone wall and a deep quarry before landing on the green, which on the far side is bounded by a "pound," out of which it is almost impossible to play.

The 8th hole, "Whin" (140 yards), has a great reputation as a record-breaker; the tee is placed on a high elevation, and unless the drive is very straight the ball will be punished in whins, ditches, roads, or other pitfalls which abound on all sides.

The 9th hole, "Home" (260 yards), has two roads

to be carried, one close to the tee, and the other near the putting green, which is guarded by hillocks covered with whin.

This description is of the full men's course; the ladies play the same course with slightly shortened tees for their monthly medals and bogey competitions; but for competitions by match-play they play the full course. Bogey for the shortened course is 45.

#### WARWICKSHIRE LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1889.*)

*Entrance Fee, 5s.; Annual Subscription, £1 1s.; Gentlemen Associates, 5s.; Visitors admitted on payment of 5s. a month, or 2s. 6d. a week. Hon. Sec., Mrs. S. Browne, Avonside, Warwick.*

The course, which is one of nine holes, is only half-a-mile from Warwick Station, on the Great Western Railway.

From the 1st tee a paling has to be driven over with a dyke beyond surrounding ground, which lies at a higher level than the green.

Close by is the 2nd tee, from which the player has to drive out of the hollow over the same dyke and paling.

A hedge is encountered in the drive from the 3rd tee, with another of its kind at right angles on the left, keeping the player undesirable company till she reach the green.

The 4th hole also has a hedge, with a large tree to be avoided.

At the 5th hole a hedge and high trees have to be negotiated; and at the 6th and 7th holes hedges still keep cropping up to vex the golfer.

From the 8th tee a very straight drive is necessary, as the pond near the green has to be carried.

At the 9th hole the player once again encounters the hedge, having got over which her difficulties are at an end.

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### THE LANCASHIRE LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(*Founded 1891.*)

*Entrance Fee, £3 3s.; Annual Subscription, £1 1s.;  
Number of Members and Gentlemen Associates, 409;  
Hon. Sec., Mrs. T. L. Alsop, Linden, Blundellsands.*

A description of the course is given in Chapter XII.

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## WEST CORNWALL LADIES' GOLF CLUB

*Entrance Fee, £3 3s. ; Annual Subscription, £1 1s. ; Visitors, three days in the year, 1s. each day ; 7s. 6d. a week ; £1 1s. a month ; Hon. Sec., Rev. R. F. Tyacke, The Vicarage, Lelant.*

The course, a nine-hole one, is within a quarter of a mile of Lelant Station, on the St. Ives branch of the Great Western Railway ; twenty minutes by rail from Penzance, and ten from St. Ives. These links are considered one of the best in the county ; the turf throughout is good, and the hazards are all natural, as are also the putting greens.

The ladies' course is practically within the long course, but is very cleverly laid out, being entirely free from crossing, and only in one case is care required, where from 6 to 7 and 7 to 8 the lines of play are nearly parallel.

The 1st tee is close to the Pavilion ; the carry over the first hazard is only 40 yards, but the hole (165 yards) is guarded in front by an old sand road, on the right by a sand-pit, and on the left by bent. (4.)

The 2nd hole (166 yards) requires a carry of 100 yards over the sand-hill, but by losing a stroke by playing round the "Pro's" shop this can be avoided ; the green is slightly raised. (5.)

The 3rd hole (205 yards) is a simple one ; the

carry is over a bank 20 yards from the tee, and the green, undulating and on a slight slope, requires good and careful putting. (5.)

The 4th hole (190 yards) is in a disused sand-pit, and requires careful approaching, as a sliced or pulled ball will be punished. (5.)

The 5th hole (154 yards) is very sporting; the carry is across a sand-pit and over a bank 80 yards from the tee, on rising ground; the green is on a plateau, and an over-played approach will land the ball in a ditch, out of which recovery is almost impossible without the loss of two strokes. (4.)

The 6th hole (178 yards) requires most careful play, as a bank runs the whole length on the right of the tee. The hole is on the opposite side, and the line of play is crossed by another bank 80 yards from the tee. (4.)

The 7th hole (185 yards) lies between the banks, and after the first hazard is carried, an iron and approach shot are sufficient to reach the green. (4.)

The 8th hole (185 yards), slightly downhill, requires a long drive, and a short approach over a bank 10 yards from the green. It is a much more sporting hole than would appear from the description. (5.)

The 9th hole (109 yards) is near the 1st tee, and is guarded by a bank close to the green; a long drive makes this hole an easy 3, but it is generally played by ladies as a drive and approach over the bank. (4.)



## WEST MIDDLESEX LADIES' GOLF CLUB

*(Founded 1894.)*

*Entrance Fee, £2 2s. ; Annual Subscription, £2 2s. ;  
Hon. Sec., Miss A. Allnut, Heathfield, Southall.*

- There is an excellent club-house (ten minutes' walk from Hanwell Station on the Great Western Railway), where the ladies have separate dining-room, dressing-rooms, and lockers, etc. The Great Western Railway issue tickets to members at reduced fares, and the club is very accessible from the West End, being only about eight miles from the Marble Arch.

The course, a nine-hole one, is very sporting, well kept, undulating, and diversified. Bogey score for the eighteen holes is 76, and the members' record at present is 72.

The 1st tee is close to the club-house, and the hole presents no other difficulties than two small ditches which have to be carried ; the green is sloping.

The 2nd hole has also a ditch, but a much more formidable one.

The 3rd hole is one of the longest, taking three strokes to reach the green; there is a good sand-bunker to catch a faulty drive.

The 4th hole is shorter, but an over-approach will reach the river.

A good sporting hole is the 5th, with a mashie shot over the river to a green around which the river winds.

The 6th hole is a straight drive, but the hill and long grass will greatly bother the fozzler. On reaching the top one obtains a very pretty view of the country round.

The 7th hole is known as the "Double Brent" hole, and requires a very long drive to reach the green.

The 8th hole is decidedly the most difficult hole in the course, for if in the drive the river is successfully avoided, there are further difficulties, consisting of a pond, a small stream, and a ditch to be overcome, while if over-approached there are an embankment and fosse, like a military entrenchment, and a green with a decided slope towards the east.

The last hole has the two ditches which have to be carried from the 1st tee to be negotiated again, otherwise it is an easy hole.

## WESTWARD HO LADIES' GOLF CLUB

*(Founded 1868.)*

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s. ; Annual Subscription, 10s. 6d. ;  
Number of Members, 76 ; Hon. Sec., Mrs. Podgson,  
Templenoë, Westward Ho.*

Members may introduce friends to play on the links for one week without payment, after which period at the rate of 3s. 6d. a week.

The ladies' links, which consist of nine holes, are situated to the west of the Royal North Devon Links. The holes vary in length from 130 to 377 yards. The lies are good throughout, and the hazards are ditches and large patches of short rushes, which are very tough and difficult to play out of. These rushes are called "Fog" (pronounced "Fug"). The greens are very good, as the natural turf of the Westward Ho Burrows is excellent; the bunkers are artificial and low, as the villagers, who have grazing rights on the Burrows, object to their being high.

The 1st hole is 230 yards; the drive has to carry the "Burn" (a ditch of water 14 feet wide), and 30 yards beyond there is a low bunker with a small ditch in front. The green is protected by clumps of rushes, and if the approach be too strong the ball will trickle into a small ditch beyond.

The tee at the 2nd hole (130 yards) is behind a wide stretch of rushes, the depth of which is about 70 feet. To the right of the green is a narrow ditch and clump of rushes.

At the 3rd hole (340 yards) the tee shot has to carry a wide belt of rushes, and just in front of the green is a ditch about six feet wide with a raised bunker. Two sides of the green are bordered by a narrow ditch.

The 4th hole (290 yards) has a ditch with raised bunker in front of the green, and this is the only difficulty.

The tee shot for the 5th hole (215 yards) is over a wide belt of rushes, and there is a ditch of about three yards on the far side of the green, into which an over-powerful approach invariably disappears.

At the 6th hole (275), about 40 yards from the tee, there is a small ditch with another running at right angles to it. Sliced or pulled balls will be badly punished in clumps of rushes, which extend the entire length of the hole.

The 7th hole (327 yards) has a ditch with rushes in front of it, about 160 yards from the tee. It is wiser not to attempt to carry this with the drive, but to play for safety, and take it with the second shot. About 35 yards from the green a deep belt of rushes has to be negotiated.

The 8th hole (377 yards) has a ditch and raised bunker with rushes 60 yards from the tee. About 40 yards beyond there is another clump of rushes, with a narrow ditch bordering one side. The

green is guarded by a belt of rushes 45 yards deep.

The 9th hole (180 yards) has a narrow ditch and low bunker about 100 yards from the tee. The green is bordered on the far side by the "Burn."

THE WIMBLEDON LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(FORMERLY THE LONDON SCOTTISH LADIES' GOLF CLUB)

(Founded 1872.)

*Entrance Fee, £5 5s. ; Annual Subscription, £1 1s. ; Number of Members, 233 ; Associates, 40. Visitors may play (if introduced by a member) three times in one year without payment; after that time on payment of 1s. for not more than four weeks in the year. Hon. Sec., Miss Tee.*

The links are situated on Wimbledon Common, one and three-quarter miles from Wimbledon Station (L. and S. W. Railway and District Railway). The course, a nine-hole one, has recently been altered, and several of the holes considerably lengthened.

The 1st tee is close to the club-house, and from there a long drive is required rather to the right of the line to the hole, then a well-judged iron shot will reach the green. A topped ball will be caught

by a bank, and if pulled at all a large clump of whins will have to be negotiated. The iron approach must not be too strong, as the green is bounded on the far side with more whins. The length of the hole is 187 yards, and it is a good 4.

The 2nd hole is longer (285 yards); in the straight line 110 yards of whins have to be carried, but a short driver can play to the right. After a good straight drive, a brassy will put the ball on an old green, 20 yards short of the hole. Off the line, enclosures, rushes, and gravel bunkers will catch the ball, and it requires steady play to get a 5.

The 3rd hole; a long drive will leave a short approach over a bank on to the green, but a topped or pulled ball will be buried in rushes, and a sliced one will put an enclosure between you and the green. The length of this hole is only 165 yards, but a 4 is satisfactory.

At the 4th hole, tees of various lengths are arranged, for the purpose of allowing a long driver to carry a plantation of trees, when the ball might be expected to run on to the green; but the line is narrow, and a topped or pulled ball is generally punished, so that, although the hole is a short one (150 yards), it may be considered a good 4.

The 5th hole is 175 yards, the carry being over a gravel bunker with whin bushes to the right and the club enclosure to the left. The hole should be an easy 4.

The 6th is a long hole (240 yards); a drive is required to the left of the line to avoid some whins,

and from there a long brassy should reach the green ; this is a very awkward shot, as the green is surrounded by heather, and with a 5 the medal player should be quite satisfied.

At the 7th hole a good cleek shot should reach the green (the length being only 126 yards), but it must be very straight to get a 3.

The 8th hole (135 yards) is a full iron or cleek shot, and is another possible 3, but the green is narrow, and a nasty "ride" lies beyond ; a pulled or topped ball will have to be lifted out of an enclosure or whins.

At the 9th hole a long drive is required over an enclosed plantation of trees and some whins (short drivers can play to the right), then a brassy should take the ball within thirty yards of the green, which is protected on the right by a small plantation. This hole is 264 yards, and a very satisfactory 5.

## WINDERMERE GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1891.)

*Entrance Fee* (Gentlemen), £3 3s.; *Annual Subscription* (Ladies and Gentlemen), £1 1s.; *Number of Members*, 154; *Ladies*, 66; *Hon. Sec.*, G. H. Briggs, Ellerwood. *Visitors* are allowed the use of a club-room and to play on the links at the rate of 25s. per four weeks, 15s. two weeks, 10s. for one week, and 2s. 6d. a day.

On the heights of Clerbanon, overlooking Lake Windermere, are situated the links of the Windermere Golf Club. For magnificence of position and exquisite beauty of surroundings they cannot be surpassed. From nearly every point in the round of eighteen holes there are views second to none even in the Lake District.

Ladies and gentlemen play over the same course. The excellent club-house is situated one mile and three-quarters from Bowness and two miles and a half from Windermere Station and village. The walk from Bowness and Windermere through the fields reduces the distance respectively to a mile and a half and two miles. The distance of the links from Windermere and Bowness may be a drawback to some, but their remoteness has the great advantage of making the ground more private. There is never



any crowding on the course. The links are so excellent, and in such an attractive and widely visited district, that were they more accessible it is feared that they would be overrun and so lose much of their charm. The course is most interesting to play upon, owing to the great variety, as no two holes in the least resemble each other, and natural hazards (for there are no artificial ones) abound on every side.

The average length of the holes is 224 yards. The longest is the 4th, being 334 yards, and the shortest is the 18th, being 110 yards.

Although the holes are short there are none that a player can afford to trifle with, for should he play carelessly and not drive straight, or top his ball, he will most certainly find himself in a thick bed of heather, in a stream or a bog, or behind a rock, from any of which situations he will have some difficulty in extricating himself. The turf is, as far as inland links go, of excellent quality, and the greens are well kept. A few of them are level, but most of them are undulating, and demand care and judgment in playing for the hole.

Many of the holes, such as the 1st, 2nd, 4th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 16th, and 17th, are blind holes, while the tees of others, again, are on a high eminence, and the green aimed for is distinctly seen on the other side of the valley.

The natural hazards consist of juniper bushes, heather, reeds, bog, rocks, small quarries, and streams. Notwithstanding their eminently sporting character, and the abundance of hazards, a straight player will

find them easy links. An unskilful player, however, is sure to meet with severe punishment.

Up to June of 1898 the record of the links was held by J. Ball, junior, and Mr. Tom Varden, who went round the course in 70. In June (1898), however, in an open professional tournament, H. Vardon and J. Braid accomplished the round in 68. Since then again J. H. Taylor has gone the round in 67. The latter performance, though not done in competition, holds the record, and it is not likely to be beaten, and most unlikely to be repeated in the future. He may consider himself a very fair player who can go out and home again in any figure under 90, although several members of the club have made the round in 72.

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#### WOKING LADIES' GOLF CLUB

(Founded 1895.)

*Entrance Fee, £2 2s.; Annual Subscription, £1 1s.*  
*Lady visitors wishing to play round the links must be introduced by a member, and pay 1s. a day, or arrangements can be made for a fortnight or month by applying to the Hon. Sec., Miss Knight, Morholme, Woking.*

There is no regular ladies' course, but by kind permission of the men, the ladies are allowed to play on the long links every day except Saturdays, Sundays, and Bank Holidays. The following description of the Woking links is taken from a lady's view of the course! The measurements of the carries for the drives are in all cases taken from the front edge of the tee, and as at many of the holes there are several tees, the lengths of the drives vary considerably, but are never shorter, with the exception of the 6th, than what are here put down.

The Woking Links, consisting of eighteen holes, are beautifully situated on high heath land, from which magnificent views of the Hog's Back, Fox Hills, Staple Hill, Bagshot Heath, and other parts of the country can be seen on a clear day. The course is between three and a half and four miles long.

The 1st hole (280 yards) is perhaps the easiest; it is the only hole where a topped drive can be made with impunity; but too strong an approach will run over the green and down a hill into heather. This hole should be done in 5.

The 2nd hole (210 yards) requires a drive of 112 yards to carry over several ditches and some rough ground; then a short approach uphill lands the ball on the green. Bogey 4.

The 3rd hole (410 yards) requires a good drive, two brassies, and a short approach; the green here is most sporting, consisting of several small plateaux, one above the other.

The 4th hole (287 yards) is rather uninteresting,

running straight down parallel with the railway, so that if a strong wind blow from the south or southwest, the player is liable to find the ball on the embankment, otherwise, excepting a bunker guarding the green, there are no further difficulties. This hole should be done in 5.

The 5th hole (372 yards), "Paradise," is so called on account of the lovely spot chosen for the hole, a large green slightly on the slope guarded by a bunker, and surrounded on two sides by a wood.

The tee of the 6th hole (395 yards) is placed on a high eminence in this wood, whence the player drives over trees and rough ground, a carry of 120 yards being required; then a good brassy and an iron, the latter well lofted to avoid several bunkers and a stream, ought to land the ball on the green; but 6 is the allowance for this hole, owing to the difficulties that may occur.

The 7th hole (135 yards) is a short one. The green is guarded by sunk bunkers. Bogey 3.

The 8th hole (365 yards) needs the best drive of the eighteen to carry over a large tract of heather 130 yards distant. Then there are still a stream and a bunker to be negotiated before the ball is in safety; two good brassies should, however, land it on the green, but the chances are the last one will drop into the wide sunk bunker guarding the green. Bogey 6.

The 9th hole has been considerably lengthened lately; the drive is over a sand-pit and wide bunker, then a brassy should take the player over the next

bunker on to what was the old green. The approach is over the brow of a hill with a run down on to the green.

The 10th is the beginning of the uphill holes; the drive and the second are on the flat, then a very lofted iron is required, with a great deal of "cut," to pitch dead on the green.

The 11th hole (256 yards) is still on the upward slope, and the drive is over a small ravine requiring about 90 yards carry; then the brassy must be very straight, as otherwise it will be caught by the bunkers guarding the green on each side. Bogey 5.

At the 12th hole (330 yards) the player retraces her steps and drives over the same ravine as at the 11th, but with a longer carry (116 yards). This hole has to be played carefully, as the course slopes away to the right, and a sliced ball is badly punished in both bunker and heather, and as the green has a hedge round it on two sides an over-approach is fatal; but 5 is an ample allowance if all the strokes are good.

The 13th is another hole which has lately been made longer; a drive of 113 yards will land the ball on good ground, then a long brassy will take it safely over the first bunker and between the two others, but it is almost safer to play the second shot short of the bunkers, in which case an iron or cleek will be sufficient.

The 14th hole (428 yards), returning towards the club-house, requires a good drive over rough ground and heather; two good brassies ought to follow and a short approach. Bogey 6.

The 15th is the longest hole on the course (480 yards), and rather uninteresting, being quite flat with no dangers. A good drive and three straight long brassies ought to reach the green, but a sliced ball gets badly punished.

The 16th hole is the second short hole, and a very sporting one. It is only 113 yards, but the carry is over a pond with the green adjoining, and guarded on the far side with innumerable ruts and thick heather.

At the 17th hole (406 yards) the danger lies in the drive, as a topped ball will cost the player the hole. The carry is only 80 to 90 yards, but it is over a number of small pits overgrown with thick heather and often full of water, though when this is cleared a couple of straight brassy shots will reach the green or within a short approach. Bogey 6.

The 18th hole (308 yards) is the shortest carry from the tee in the round, being only 65 yards, but there are a bunker and a pond to catch a sliced ball, and another bunker to catch a pulled one. The home green is the prettiest on the course. Bogey 5.

The ladies' record is held by Miss Pascoe, who returned 96 in the autumn of 1898.

## WORCESTERSHIRE LADIES' GOLF CLUB

*Entrance Fee, £1 1s. ; Annual Subscription, £1 1s. ;  
Number of Members, 100 ; Gentlemen Associates, 23 ;  
Hon. Sec., Miss E. Nevile, Crown Lea, Malvern.*

The nine-hole course of this club is situated on the upper part of the common at Malvern, on which the Worcestershire Club play, and the extent of the ground covered is some 70 to 80 acres. From all parts of the ground a most beautiful view of the Severn valley is obtained, with Bredon Hill in the near distance, backed by the Cotswolds in the neighbourhood of Cheltenham. Its sloping nature is one of the chief features of the course, and visitors will find that on those greens which have not been artificially levelled all their skill will be required to hold that veteran bogey with his two deadly putts.

The 1st hole is a straightforward one of 145 yards, and a good drive should reach the green, though to over-run it means that a stroke is probably lost in the ditch on the far side.

The 2nd hole is slightly longer, being some 160 yards in length; but as it is up a steep hill, two strokes will be required before the player reaches the foot of the green, and then an uphill putt has to be made for the hole.

The 3rd hole is one of the longest, being 263 yards, and here two good long shots will be required. A very long tee shot may be caught by some deep ruts, so a local rule provides for lifting and dropping behind without penalty. Rough ground, ditches, and grips will catch a topped ball at both this and the previous hole.

The 4th hole is probably the best of the nine, and is 195 yards long. A good drive will reach an old green, and from this point of vantage a pretty lofting shot is required to reach the raised green, which is guarded on the left by a pond, and on all other sides by a sunk road and a gully, in which runs a stream from the pond. The drive must be long and straight, the hole being altogether a good one.

The 5th hole crosses the pond already mentioned, and the carry, though not more than 80 yards, is quite enough to catch many inferior shots. A good second may take the ball home; but accurate play is required, as the green is a made one, and being on the side of a hill is difficult to stay on, unless approached from below. As this hole is 252 yards it is quite a fair 5.

The 6th hole requires a long tee shot to carry sundry gullies and grips, and here again the approach must be from below, as the green, a natural one, is on the slope of the hill and also undulating. This is the highest point of the course, and the remaining three holes are played almost straight downhill.

The 7th hole is 205 yards, and the second shot



must practically be on the green if a four is to be attained.

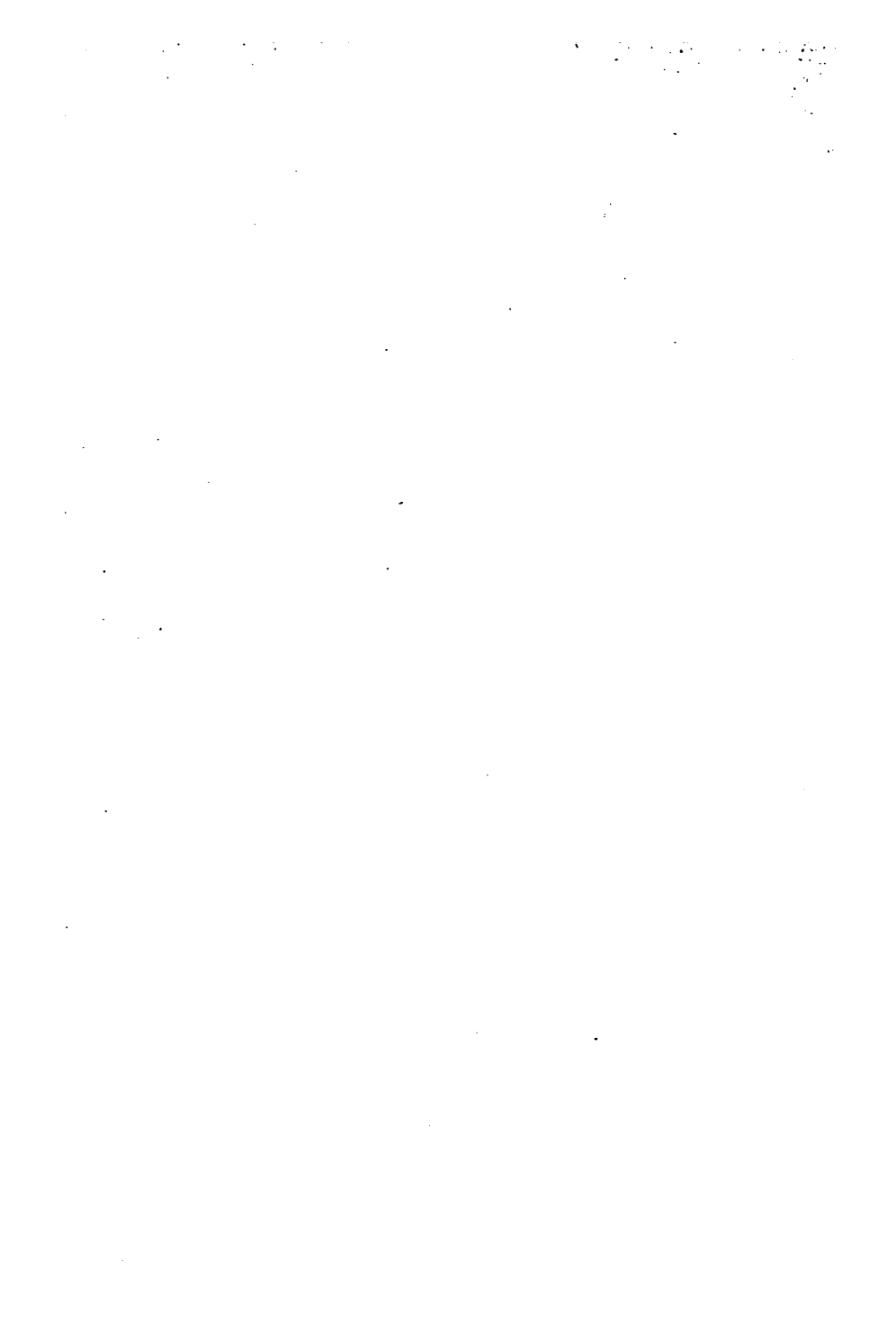
The 8th, the longest hole, is 275 yards, and here some rough ground and a rutty road will catch a topped second. The green is a big one, and a good shot should stay upon it.

The 9th is a short hole, and the green is opposite the club-house. It is 157 yards, and may be reached with a good drive, but a sliced ball will fall foul of some trees and the main road.

The chief hazards of the course are grips, ditches, and a rutty cart-road. Though on paper these do not sound so romantic as a quarry or yawning sand-bunker, they are equally efficacious in most cases in practice. At nearly all the holes a sliced or pulled tee shot will fall into rough ground with bracken and mole-hills as disconcerting elements.

NOTE.—The Editors had hoped to include several more Ladies' Golf Clubs in the Directory, but as the particulars could not be obtained, they have been unable to do so.

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