

WOMEN FORM GOLF ASSOCIATION, RESULT OF SOUTH GROVE EVENT



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IF A COLLEGE student were asked to prepare a thesis on that product which has shown the greatest progress in these United States in the last year, it is likely the subject chosen for the theme would be golf.

Golf has invaded every nook and corner of our country. Men, women and children, age from seven to seventy, have succumbed to the lure of the links. The effect has been wholesome, and while millions have taken up the game, it is safe to say the sport is yet in its infancy.

Golf has seen great days; it is enjoying greater ones, and unless nature chooses to swallow the nation at one gulp, a far more brilliant future is in store for this game that once belonged almost entirely to Scotland.

Like all innovations, golf soon acquired nicknames, and prominent among these was society shinney. When this name was first tacked on the game, it was largely played by the rich. In the course of its evolution, particularly in the last five years, it has become everyman's game.

In fact, golf now generally is regarded among the problems of city government as much as park systems and other community facilities for recreation. Progressive cities in every part of the country are building golf courses and probably will continue to do so for some time to come.

The fashionable country club, where the game first found its way in the United States, still plays a prominent part in the life of the sport, but the municipal links now is the scene of greatest activity.

Indianapolis is among the leading cities in the United States in municipal golf courses. It has three eighteen-hole and one nine-hole municipal courses in operation, and still is unable comfortably to accommodate its golfing population. It has more public golfing facilities per capita than any other city in the country.

Some indication of the game's popularity in Indianapolis may be gathered from the women's city tournament, completed Thursday on the South Grove course.

The Indianapolis News offered a trophy for an invitational women's golf tournament, held under the auspices of the South Grove course. The entry list for the tournament was open to women golf players of the city. So rapidly did the entries come in from every club in the city, private and municipal, that the tournament became a city championship affair almost over night.

The News was asked to make the trophy emblematic of the city golf championship of Indianapolis for 1922, and this was done.

Suggests Women Organize.

With more than 100 women in the affair, Harry Schopp, golf officer and professional at South Grove, suggested that an Indianapolis Women's Golf Association be formed. The women fell in with this suggestion and an organization meeting was held at the South Grove Clubhouse Tuesday afternoon. Election of officers was held. Miss Bertha Wacker, of South Grove, being elected president of the association for the coming year. Mrs. B. C. Stevenson, of Highland, who is the holder of the state and city women's golf titles for 1922, was chosen vice-president; Mrs. C. A. Tucker, of Riverside, was named secretary-treasurer, and Mrs. L. M. Wainright, of the Indianapolis Country Club, was elected recording secretary.

Immediately after the election of officers, the women took charge of the tournament and conducted the title rounds. Miss Wacker and Mrs. Tucker are shown in the picture making the fights' division and pairings for the championship play.

The formation of the association, which grew out of the tournament fostered by The News, puts Indianapolis on a pedestal in the realm of women's golf. The tournament was one of the largest city meets for women ever held in the west, and it is expected that next year even a greater number will start the contest for The Indianapolis News trophy, which will be on the title-shelf until it is won three times by one woman.

That the women of Indianapolis appreciate what was done toward assisting them in becoming leaders in golf, is evidenced by the fact that a rising vote of thanks was given The News, the South Grove officials, and all others who helped to make the tournament a success, by the group attending the organization session.