OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Played on the Links of the ROYAL LIVERPOOL GOLF CLUB

One qualifying round to be played at the Arrowe Park Golf Course, Birkenhead

MONDAY 30th JUNE to FRIDAY 4th JULY

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

PRICE
One Shilling

FRIDAY
Coopers

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TEA and
COFFEE
since 1871

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Artists in Golf Clubs

The Open Championship
BY GUY B. FARRAR.

The year 1890 will always remain a milestone in British Golfing history because in that year the Open Championship was won for the first time by an amateur golfer, John Ball, of the Royal Liverpool Golf Club. It was a win which seemed to alter the whole outlook of amateur golf. Not only was it the first time an amateur had ever been successful, but also the first time the Open Championship had ever been won by an Englishman.

Horace Hutchinson, in his book "Fifty Years of Golf," describing the final stages of John Ball's last round, wrote, "Dr. Purves was hurrying along at my elbow as we went with the gallery towards the sixteenth hole. 'Horace,' he said to me in a voice of great solemnity, 'this is a great day for amateur golf.'"

Two years later, at Muirfield, another Englishman, an amateur, and a member of the Royal Liverpool Golf Club, Harold H. Hilton, won the Open Championship, thus beginning a long and brilliant golfing career that was to stretch over twenty years.

The Open Championship first came to Hoylake in 1897 and as two ex-Open Champions, Ball and Hilton, were playing on their home links, hopes of yet another Royal Liverpool amateur victory ran high; these hopes were realised as Hilton eventually won that Championship, finishing one stroke in front of James Braid, a most dramatic ending, Braid's putt for a three missing the last hole by the narrowest of margins after a magnificent second had left him some six yards from the pin.

Hilton, writing his reminiscences, gives the following description of this momentous shot. "In James Braid's long career he has probably seldom played a finer stroke than that second of his to the last hole in 1897; it was never off the pin. Everything depended on the roll of the ball. On it came and no one could accurately tell where it would stop. Fortunately for me the green was keen, and it kept trickling..."
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'PHONE 4659

along, passed within a foot or so of the hole, and did not stop until it had rolled some six yards past.”

Hanging in the hall of the Royal Liverpool Club House is a complete record of every score returned in this Championship, those of the leading five players being:

Mr. H. H. Hilton 80 75 84 75 - 314
James Braid 80 74 82 79 - 315
Mr. F. G. Tait 79 79 80 79 - 317
George Pulford 80 79 79 79 - 317
A. Herd 78 81 76 80 - 318

So ended the first Open Championship played at Hoylake, the last time a British amateur finished in front of the professionals.

The coming of the rubber-cored ball in 1902, another milestone in golfing history, coincided with the return of the Open Championship to Hoylake. Sandy Herd, staunchest of Scottish conservatives, vowed that he would have none of the hated foreign invention, but after receiving a very practical demonstration of its possibilities in a friendly round with John Ball, Sandy was converted and eventually won the Championship, his success being due in no small measure to his adoption of the more resilient ball, for at that time he was scarcely classed as a potential champion.

Storms of wind and rain through which the smiling Frenchman, Armaud Massy, battled his way to victory, the only time France has been successful, marked the 1907 Open Championship, on the third occasion of its coming to Hoylake. Qualifying rounds were introduced for the first time, and the Cup left our shores, also for the first time, much to the astonishment of a golfing public to whom successful American invaders were as yet unknown.

The next Hoylake “Open,” in 1913, developed into a battle with the Royal Liverpool’s unseen golfing hazard, the West Wind, and those who watched the golf will never forget J. H. Taylor’s wonderful third round score of 77, probably the finest round ever played in storm and tempest on the Royal Liverpool links.

This was the last championship Taylor was destined to win. It also ended the reign of the great professional triumvirate Vardon, Taylor and Braid and brought to a close a brilliant era of golf.

In the years between the two World Wars, the Open Championship was decided at Hoylake three times. In 1924,
in 1930, and in 1936, the champions being Walter Hagen, Bobbie Jones and Alfred Padgham.

Walter Hagen, the world's greatest golfing showman and one of its greatest players, won in 1924, after nearly failing to qualify, his entry into the Championship proper depending on the holing of a very missable putt on the last green. But those were just the critical putts that Hagen did not miss. Needing a 77 to win, he began his final round with a brave scramble and ended in a triumphant march when, his confidence regained, he accomplished the last five holes in 21 strokes, again sinking a very critical nine-foot putt on the last green to beat E. R. Whitcombe by one stroke.

The genius of Bobbie Jones overshadowed the Open Championship of 1930. No one seemed to doubt that he would win, the only question being by how much? At lunch time on the last day, he was one stroke behind Compston who had broken the record of the links by returning a 68 in the third round. As I was marking for Jones I saw every stroke played in that momentous last round. I also saw the greatest player of our time, not too sure of himself, battling desperately to produce winning shots. The test came at the Far (8th) hole when after two respectable wooden shots he required five more strokes to hole out, most of them worthy of an honest-to-goodness rabbit not playing his best. It was a very grim Bobbie Jones who played the next few holes, not by any means in faultless golf. Gradually he became master of himself, finishing, like Hagen, the last five holes in 21 strokes to beat Leo Deigel by two shots. As a farewell performance it was monumental.

Tall, powerful, almost insolently lazy in his swing, Alfred Padgham pursued his placid way to victory in 1936. Not that his golf was free from errors, far from it, but when the crisis came, his putter was generally equal to all demands. His last nine holes in 34 enabled him to beat poor James Adams, the Champion runner-up, by one stroke. Like Hagen and Jones, Padgham completed the last five holes—the Hoylake finish—in 21 shots, as one writer described it, "as shaky, but as brave, a round as ever won a title."

Now in 1947, at the beginning of a new page in golfing history, the Open Championship comes once more to Hoylake, to the Royal Liverpool links from which the scars of war years have been completely obliterated, to a stern test of golf, a test faced by all the greatest golfers in the past, from young...
Gillette steel is of glass-cutting hardness!

Hard electrically tempered steel of the most exacting specification. Long-lasting, 3-facet edges sharper than a surgeon’s scalpel. Grinding, honing and stropping on micro-sensitive machines. All are features pioneered by Gillette— but even more convincing will be your first delightfully quick, good-looking Gillette shave. After the third or fourth you’ll realise they’re economical too!

‘Good Mornings’ begin with Gillette

Tommy Morris to Bobbie Jones. Fate seems to have ordained that the winner of an Open Championship at Hoylake must not take more than 21 shots for the last five holes, and that in the last agonizing moments with victory still hanging in the balance.

In his book “Down the Fairway,” Bobbie Jones wrote, “The professionals, you know, have a way of saying of the winner of a competition: ‘It was his tournament.’ And step by step, and hole by hole, and shot by shot, you may trace it back and see that he was bound to win—after it is all over.”

If you buy a programme, you will see the name of the Open Champion for 1947. It will be his tournament; he is bound to win, but I doubt if you will be certain of his name until “after it is all over.”

Spectators

Spectators are reminded that “Course Control” has been arranged with equal regard to both Players and Spectators.

Please, therefore:

Obey the Instructions of the Stewards
Remain standing until both Competitors have played.
Keep behind the white lines.
Leave plenty of room near the Greens for approach shots.
Follow the direction notices.
Do not move whilst shots are being played.
Do not walk through bunkers or across putting greens.
Do not run.
Do not leave paper or other litter on the course.

Cameras, Bicycles, and Dogs (whether on leash or not) must not be brought on to the links.
Reports from leading players continue to stress the true ness of the NORTH BRITISH "TWIN DOT" both in flight and on the green. It is proving the finest ball produced ... just that little better in every way ... a tonic to every golfer’s game.

Local Rules and Length of Holes for Hoylake Links

1.—If a ball lodge in a rabbit hole or scrape (whether recoverable or not), the player may drop a ball under penalty of one stroke, keeping the spot where the ball lay between himself and the hole. Should, however, the hole or scrape be in a hazard, the ball must be dropped in the hazard. A ball in a rabbit scrape on the putting green (Definition 10) may be lifted, without penalty, and placed clear of the scrape, but not nearer the hole.

2.—If a ball lie on any ground specially prepared for putting, other than that of the hole which is being played, it shall be lifted and dropped without penalty not less than two or more than three club lengths from the edge of such prepared ground and in the direction of the fairway of the hole being played, but not nearer the hole. If a hazard interfere with the dropping of the ball the player, the ball shall be dropped not more than two club lengths clear of such hazard in the direction of the fairway of the hole being played but not nearer the hole.

3.—Rushes and grass-bottomed ditches are not hazards, but in casual water in such a ditch the ball may be lifted and dropped in the ditch without penalty or outside with the loss of one stroke but no nearer the hole in either case.

NOTE.—A ball lying in or beyond the small trench cut in the top of the cops is out of bounds.

The concrete drain between the 4th tee and 6th green, and that on the right of the 14th fairway, have been cut for the upkeep of the course.

Names and Lengths of the Holes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holes</th>
<th>Yds.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Holes</th>
<th>Yds.</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>Course</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>Dee</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>Road</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>Alps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>Long</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>Hilbre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>Cop</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>Rushes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>Telegraph</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>511</td>
<td>Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>Briars</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>Dowie</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>532</td>
<td>Dun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>Far</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>Royal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>393</td>
<td>Punchbowl</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>Stand</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3474  Total . . 7048 Yards

Records for the Course:
The Record of the present Course is 68 made by Henry Cotton and W. J. Branch in June, 1936.

11
Local Rules and Lengths of Holes for Arrowe Park Golf Club

1. **Out of Bounds** (Penalty Stroke and Distance)—
   (a) A ball lying in or beyond the trench to the left of the first eight holes;
   (b) A ball lying in or beyond the trench surrounding the wood and pit behind the eighth green and left of the eighteenth green;
   (c) A ball lying in or beyond the trench surrounding the wood and pit to the right of the sixteenth fairway and right of the thirteenth fairway.

2. **Other Woods and Pits.** If a ball be played into any other wood or pit the Player shall have the option of playing it. If the Player deem the ball unplayable the penalty shall be stroke and distance.

3. A ball played on to any surface prepared for putting other than that of the hole being played must be lifted and dropped clear of the green, not nearer the hole, without penalty.

4. **Ground under Repair.** A ball lying on ground under repair as indicated by a notice must be lifted and dropped not nearer the hole, without penalty.

5. **Ropes and Posts are Obstructions.** Rules 11 and 8 apply.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lengths of Holes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1       217 yds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2       393 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3       465 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4       145 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5       461 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6       399 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7       394 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8       167 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9       503 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total   6,971 yds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.054   3.317</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GREAT TRADITIONS. Although the history of Martins Bank goes back to the earliest days of Banking, its methods to-day are modern and up-to-date and combine the best features of the old-time Banker with the wide range of service of the Joint Stock Bank. Both will be willingly placed at the disposal of customers by the Bank's many Branch Managers.

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Talking of Links...

While golfers talk about the respective merits of golf links we can talk with justifiable pride of the link which has been forged between our newspapers and our readers—the result of many years of providing up-to-date news, first-class features, bright and informative commentaries on news and sport.
THE OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

THE BELT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>W. Park</td>
<td>Prestwick</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861</td>
<td>Tom Morris, Sen.</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1862</td>
<td>Tom Morris, Sen.</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1863</td>
<td>W. Park</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1864</td>
<td>Tom Morris, Sen.</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1865</td>
<td>A. Strath</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Belt was won three times in succession by Tom Morris, Jun., and became his property in 1871. No Championship.

THE CUP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1872</td>
<td>Tom Morris, Jun.</td>
<td>Prestwick</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1873</td>
<td>Tom Kidd</td>
<td>St. Andrews</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1874</td>
<td>Mungo Park</td>
<td>Musselburgh</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1875</td>
<td>Willie Park</td>
<td>Prestwick</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1876</td>
<td>Bob Martin</td>
<td>St. Andrews</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1877</td>
<td>Jamie Anderson</td>
<td>Musselburgh</td>
<td>160</td>
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<tr>
<td>1878</td>
<td>Jamie Anderson</td>
<td>Prestwick</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1879</td>
<td>Jamie Anderson</td>
<td>St. Andrews</td>
<td>170</td>
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<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>Bob Ferguson</td>
<td>Musselburgh</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1881</td>
<td>Bob Ferguson</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1882</td>
<td>Bob Ferguson</td>
<td>St. Andrews</td>
<td>171</td>
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<tr>
<td>1883</td>
<td>W. Fernie</td>
<td>Musselburgh</td>
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<tr>
<td>1884</td>
<td>Jack Simpson</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<td>1885</td>
<td>Bob Martin</td>
<td>St. Andrews</td>
<td>171</td>
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<tr>
<td>1886</td>
<td>D. Brown</td>
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<td>1887</td>
<td>W. Park, Jun.</td>
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<td>161</td>
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<tr>
<td>1888</td>
<td>Jack Burns</td>
<td>St. Andrews</td>
<td>171</td>
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<tr>
<td>1889</td>
<td>W. Park, Jun.</td>
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<td>155</td>
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<td>1890</td>
<td>Mr. John Ball</td>
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<td>164</td>
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<tr>
<td>1891</td>
<td>Hugh Kirkaldy</td>
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<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1892</td>
<td>Mr. H. H. Hilton</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1893</td>
<td>W. Auchterlonic</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1894</td>
<td>J. H. Taylor</td>
<td>Sandwich</td>
<td>326</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>J. H. Taylor</td>
<td>St. Andrews</td>
<td>322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>H. Vardon</td>
<td>Muirfield</td>
<td>316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>Mr. H. H. Hilton</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>H. Vardon</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>H. Vardon</td>
<td>Sandwich</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>J. H. Taylor</td>
<td>St. Andrews</td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>Jas. Braid</td>
<td>Muirfield</td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>Alex. Herd</td>
<td>Hoylake</td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>H. Vardon</td>
<td>Prestwick</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>1904</td>
<td>Jack White</td>
<td>Sandwich</td>
<td>296</td>
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<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>Jas. Braid</td>
<td>St. Andrews</td>
<td>318</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

...and 72 holes played in succeeding years.

1906 | Jas. Braid | Muirfield | 300
1907 | Arnaud Massy | Hoylake | 312
1908 | Jas. Braid | Prestwick | 291
1909 | J. H. Taylor | Deal | 285
1910 | Jas. Braid | St. Andrews | 299
1911 | H. Vardon | Sandwich | 303
1912 | E. Ray | Muirfield | 295
1913 | J. H. Taylor | Hoylake | 304
1914 | H. Vardon | Prestwick | 306
1915-19 | No Championship.
1920 | Geo. Duncan | Deal | 303
1921 | Jock Hutchison | St. Andrews | 296
1922 | Walter Hagen | Sandwich | 300
1923 | A. G. Havers | Troon | 295
1924 | Walter Hagen | Hoylake | 301
1925 | Jim Barnes | Prestwick | 304
1926 | Mr. R. T. Jones | Royal Lytham and St. Annes | 291
1927 | Mr. R. T. Jones | St. Andrews | 283
1928 | Walter Hagen | Sandwich | 292
1929 | Walter Hagen | Muirfield | 292
1930 | Mr. R. T. Jones | Hoylake | 291
1931 | T. D. Armour | Carnoustie | 297
1932 | G. Sarazen | Princes, Sandwich | 283
1933 | D. Shute | St. Andrews | 292
1934 | T. H. Cotton | Sandwich | 283
1935 | A. Perry | Muirfield | 295
1936 | A. H. Padgham | Hoylake | 287
1937 | T. H. Cotton | Carnoustie | 290
1938 | R.A. Whitcombe | Sandwich | 295
1939 | R. Burton | St. Andrews | 290
1940-45 | No Championship.
1946 | Sam Snead | St. Andrews | 290
C-R-A-C-K! Off the club at 150 miles an hour goes the 1947 Silver King—the 'high velocity' ball.

RECENT SUCCESSES:
- Surrey Championship: Richard Burton
- Croydon Alliance Championship: ‘Ken’ Bousfield
- Silver King Tournament: Alfred Padgham

LIST OF COMPETITORS

THIRD AND FOURTH ROUNDS

HOYLAKE—FRIDAY

(Numbers in brackets correspond with numbers on Caddies' armbands).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rounds</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>J. BULLA &amp; U.S.A. (28)</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12.30</td>
<td>BILL SHANKLAND Templenewsam (208)</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.10</td>
<td>C. H. WARD &amp; Little Aston (244)</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12.40</td>
<td>Mr. J. ROTHWELL, Pleasington (196)</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>8.20</td>
<td>ARTHUR HAVERS, Moor Park (99)</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>256</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12.50</td>
<td>FRED BULLOCK Otley (29)</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>252</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>8.30</td>
<td>R. BURTON &amp; Coombe Hill (32)</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>248</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>R. W. HORNE, Hendon (108)</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>251</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>8.40</td>
<td>FRED DALY, Balmoral (Belfast) (59)</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>MAX FAULKNER,</td>
<td>Worlebury (74)</td>
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</table>
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## OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP, 1947

**ALPHABETICAL LIST OF PLAYERS**

(Numbers against Players’ names coincide with numbers worn on the armband of each Player’s Caddie).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>R. A. Whitcombe</td>
<td>Parkstone</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

A History of The Royal Liverpool Golf Club

BY GUY B. FARRAR

Fully Illustrated

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![Image of a golfer with Spalding Clubs]

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Open Golf Championship

All Competitors play two qualifying rounds, one at Hoylake and one at Arrowe Park; those who play at Hoylake on Monday, play at Arrowe Park on Tuesday, and vice versa.

The hundred competitors, who return the lowest aggregate scores for the two qualifying rounds less those who tie for the hundredth place, play at Hoylake one round on Wednesday and one on Thursday.

The forty competitors who return the lowest aggregate scores for the two rounds played on Wednesday and Thursday less those who tie for the fortieth place, play two more rounds at Hoylake on Friday, and the competitor who has the lowest aggregate score for the four rounds played on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday is the winner.

The present champion is S. SNEAD, of U.S.A., who won at St. Andrews last year with an aggregate score of 290
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JACK GRAHAM, HAROLD HILTON, Open Champion 1892-1897, and JOHN BALL, Open Champion 1890, the Hoylake Triumvirate

[Photo: Guy B. Farrar]
The Royal Liverpool Golf Club

In the north-west of Cheshire is the peninsula of Wirral, or the Hundred of Wirral, lying between the estuaries of the Mersey and Dee.

A Royal Hunting domain, the Wirral was one of the three great Norman forests of Cheshire which covered nearly the whole of the peninsula . . .

"From Blacon point to Hilbree
Squirrels in search of food
Might jump from tree to tree
So thick the forest stood."

On the north-western end of the peninsula, with extensive views across the Dee to the Welsh coast and mountains, and the three isles of Hilbre, lies Hoylake.

Stretching from the weathered red rocks of Hilbre Point to West Kirby, amongst the sand hills is the links of The Royal Liverpool Golf Club.

The Club, founded by a group of golfers living in, or near Liverpool, held its first meeting in the Royal Hotel, Hoylake on the 5th June, 1869. At that time there was a race-course on the links with posts, rails, paddock and a small wooden grandstand. Racing ceased on the 8th April, 1876, and relics of the race-course remain in the two old posts on the fairway to the last hole, the names of the first hole, "The Course" and of the last hole "The Stand" (derived from "grandstand"), two ornaments which decorated the posts at the entrance to the paddock, now in front of the Club House, the Liver Bird from the grandstand, now on the gable end of the Club House, and the "saddling bell," now only rung to summon Members to the Spring and St. Andrews dinners.

The Royal Hotel was the headquarters of the Club from 1869 to 1895 when the present clubhouse in Meols Drive was opened.

The Club possesses a valuable and historical number of medals and trophies. The Dowie Cup was the first trophy presented to the Club on 1869—the gift of the first Captain
Mr. J. Muir Dowie. The Club Gold Medal was first played for in 1870, and the Boys’ Medal in 1872, when it was won by “Master John Ball Tertius.”

The Club is probably the only one in the world owning the British Amateur and the British Open Championship Medals, both won by Mr. John Ball, jnr., in 1890 and presented by him to the Club.

Viewing these trophies with the illustrious names recorded on them, and reading the admirable book, “The Royal Liverpool Golf Club,” written by Guy B. Farrar, the present secretary, is golfing history. The names of many famous golfers and their deeds are recorded there...

John Ball  
John E. Laidlay  
Harold Hilton  
Cyril Tolley  
Charles Hutchings  
R. T. Jones  
Allan F. Macfie  
Jack Graham, jnr.  
T. Froes Ellison  
Allan Graham.

In 1885 the Club virtually instituted the Amateur Championship by a competition open to all amateurs played over their green. It was won by a member, Mr. Allan F. Macfie, although it was long afterwards that the tournament of 1885 received the official recognition as the first Amateur Championship.

Mr. Harold H. Hilton, one of the really great figures in golf, and of whom it is written “the greatest amateur score player England has ever produced,” became a member of the Club in 1887. Three times winner of the Boys’ Medal, he won the Open Championship in 1892 and 1897, was Amateur Champion four times, and won the American Amateur Championship in 1911. In 1899 his handicap at Hoylake was plus ten! Only two Englishmen playing as Amateurs—John Ball and Harold Hilton, both members of the Club—have ever won the Open Championship.

Mr. Jack Graham, jnr., “the finest golfer who failed to win a Championship,” was, with John Ball and Harold Hilton, a member of the “Hoylake Triumvirate,” and his name will ever be associated with these two great players. Mr. Horace Hutchinson writes of Jack Graham “Both Mr. Ball and Mr. Hilton know him well on the links of Hoylake, and neither claims to be able to give him a single stroke.”

The English Amateur Championship, like the Amateur Championship, was first played on the links of Hoylake and...
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LIVERPOOL

won by a member—Mr. T. Froes Ellison, who proved his right to the title by winning again the following year at Walton Heath.

The first international match between England and Scotland was played at Hoylake in 1902, when Scotland won. Here also, in 1921, was played the first match between England and America, the latter team winning by nine matches to three.

Lack of space forbids further details of the many other great golfers, ranging from Young Tommy Morris, Harry Vardon, Bobby Jones, to the players of to-day, all of whom it is almost safe to say, have played on these historic links. Though not the oldest of English Golf Clubs, it can claim to be the leading pioneer of golf in England.

Shortly after the first meeting of the Club in 1869, Mr. Robert Chambers and George Morris, a brother of “Old Tom,” laid out the first course consisting of nine holes.

On the 13th October, 1869 the first meeting was held and the Dowie Cup was won by John Dun with a score of 103 for 18 holes. One member handed in a card of 205!

In 1870 the Course was extended to 18 holes and these were duly “christened,” many of the original names being still the same to-day.

Many alterations and revolutionary changes to the Course were made following the removal of the Club from the Royal Hotel to its present situation in 1895, and the modern Hoylake began to take shape.

Further changes and improvements were made in 1923, 1925, and 1932, and the Hoylake Course as we know it to-day—one of the sternest tests, and one having the hardest five holes to finish, of any course in the World—had been completed.

The Second World War seriously affected the links. From Hilbre Point to West Kirby, on the seaward side, forts, block-houses, minefields and barbed wire entanglements were erected. The 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th holes were out of commission and temporary greens and tees were laid. Search-lights and other defences were used, but all the war impedimenta has been cleared away, the forts and block-houses blown up, and duly buried in the “sacred sand” of the links.

Slight alterations have been made since the war. The “Long” (3rd hole) has been entirely re-bunkered; new bunkers guard the approach to the “Telegraph” (5th hole) and the “Hilbre” (12th) green has been moved its own
width, now standing on higher ground nearer to the sea, giving a glorious view across the Dee to Hilbre Island, the Welsh Coast and the Irish Sea.

To end this brief description of the Club and links, let me quote that great golf writer and lover of Hoylake—Bernard Darwin—who wrote . . . "Hoylake golf is the golf of men rigorously brought up. To play on such a course must make a man humble so that he wants to learn, and proud so that he determines to be worthy of his school. What better blend of qualities could a golfer desire? What better place is there to instil them than this dear, flat, historic expanse of Hoylake, blown upon by mighty winds, breeder of mighty champions?"
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