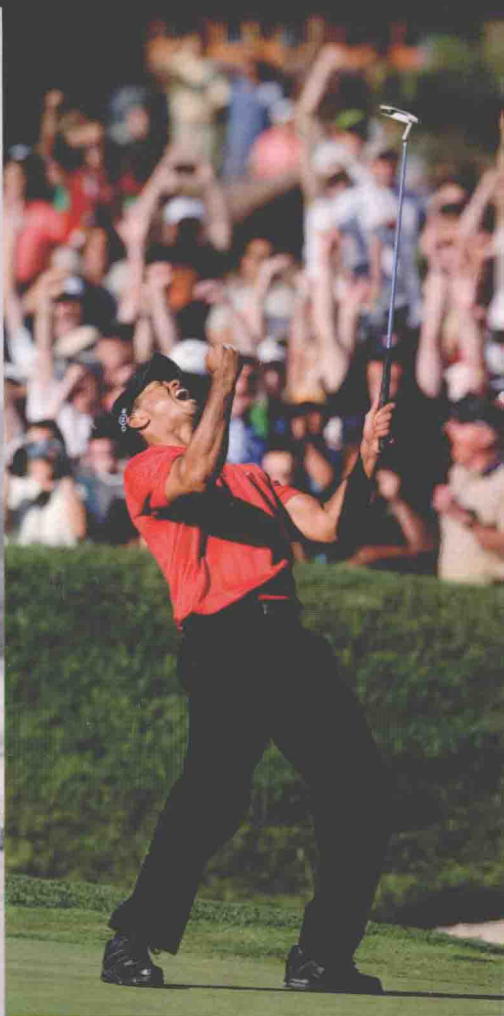
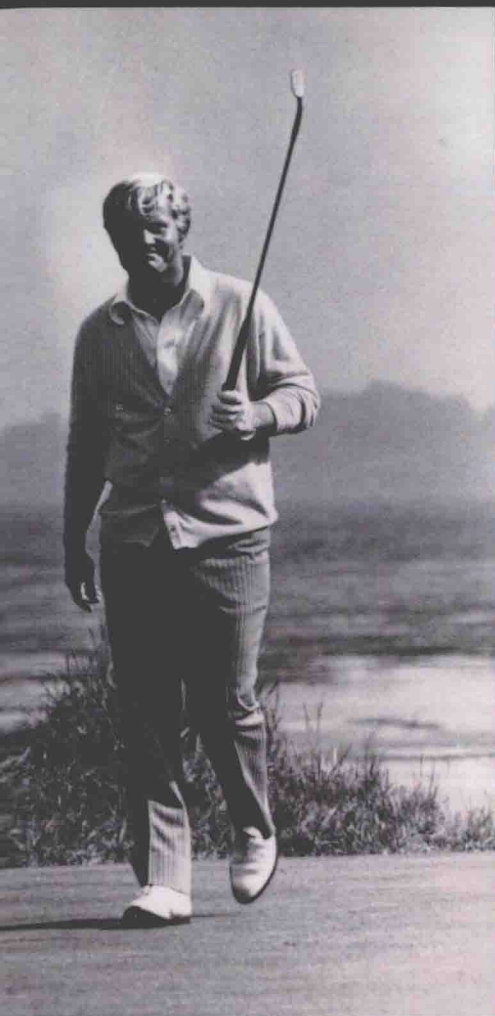


HISTORICAL DICTIONARY OF

GOLF



BILL MALLON
RANDON JERRIS

Historical Dictionary of Golf

Bill Mallon
Randon Jerris

Historical Dictionaries of Sports, No. 3



The Scarecrow Press, Inc.
Lanham • Toronto • Plymouth, UK
2011

Published by Scarecrow Press, Inc.

A wholly owned subsidiary of The Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group, Inc.

4501 Forbes Boulevard, Suite 200, Lanham, Maryland 20706

<http://www.scarecrowpress.com>

Estover Road, Plymouth PL6 7PY, United Kingdom

Copyright © 2011 by Bill Mallon and Randon Jerris

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form or by any electronic or mechanical means, including information storage and retrieval systems, without written permission from the publisher, except by a reviewer who may quote passages in a review.

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Information Available

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Mallon, Bill.

Historical dictionary of golf / Bill Mallon, Randon Jerris.

p. cm. — (Historical dictionaries of sports ; no. 3)

Includes bibliographical references.

ISBN 978-0-8108-7197-7 (cloth : alk. paper) — ISBN 978-0-8108-7465-7 (ebook)

I. Golf—History—Dictionaries. I. Jerris, Randon Matthew Newman, 1969—.

II. Title.

GV963.M25 2011

796.35203—dc22

2010030030



The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences—Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI/NISO Z39.48-1992.

Printed in the United States of America

All photos in this book courtesy of the USGA

HISTORICAL DICTIONARIES OF SPORTS

Jon Woronoff, Series Editor

1. *Competitive Swimming*, by John Lohn, 2010.
2. *Basketball*, by John Grasso, 2011.
3. *Golf*, by Bill Mallon and Randon Jerris, 2011.

Editor's Foreword

There will eventually be many more books in this series, as there are a multitude of sports practiced around the world. Yet none of them is quite like golf. It is hardly unique in its characteristics, but there is something special about it. Since there are variations for the handicapped, it can be played by nearly everyone. It is played by an enormous number of amateurs—more than almost any other sport. And that number is increasing around the world—not only in Europe and the United States, but the rest of the Americas, Africa, and parts of Asia. Although golfers are part of a social nexus playing both with and/or against others, golf is not a team sport. It leaves room for individuals to compete not only against others but also (and this is particularly significant) against themselves. Most strikingly, it is a sport one can begin playing at a young age and continue playing when most other sports have been forgotten or can no longer be played; therefore, it is a large part of the lifestyles of many retired people. It is hardly surprising that golf has become one of the most popular sports in the world.

The *Historical Dictionary of Golf* details this sport and its history through the use of a chronology, an introduction, and hundreds of dictionary entries that do more than just relate facts and figures, accomplishments and records. They show what golf is like to practitioners and spectators by providing extensive information on rules and regulations, gear and equipment, more notable golf courses and competitions, and, above all, many of the world's top golfers over the 20th and into the 21st centuries. While the vast majority of golfers do this mainly for recreation or fun, there is usually a competitive angle; thus it is helpful to have handy lists of winners of the major tournaments in the appendixes. Finally, there is a substantial bibliography containing a variety of books—some of a do-it-yourself nature, others providing tips from

the pros, a large number of more scholarly works, and, to top it all off, books by and about leading golfers.

This volume was written by Bill Mallon and Randon Jerris. Dr. Mallon is an orthopedic surgeon who has written extensively on medicine and is presently the editor in chief of the *Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery*. His other career was in golf, both as an amateur and a professional, culminating in his playing on the U.S. PGA tour from 1975 to 1979. He has also written on sports history, in particular, the Olympics. This includes several books on the earliest Olympic Games and three editions of the *Historical Dictionary of the Olympic Movement*, which have since become part of this new series, Historical Dictionaries of Sports. Randon Jerris, who holds a Ph.D. in art and archaeology, also has special insight into golf, having worked for the U.S. Golf Association since 1988 in various capacities. These include historian, librarian, and, in particular, since 2002, director of the USGA Museum. He has also written extensively on golf, including the award-winning *Golf's Golden Age*. Between them, Drs. Mallon and Jerris have produced an exceptional compendium to be treasured by any golfer who takes a serious interest in the sport.

Jon Woronoff
Series Editor

Preface

Golf has been described as the game of a lifetime, played by both young toddlers and older adults—often into their 80s and 90s. Just as the game often has a long history in a person's lifetime, the game of golf has a long history as well. Its origins can be traced at least as far back as the 15th century in Scotland, and there is evidence that golf-like games existed for a few centuries prior to that in the Low Countries of Europe. Thus, writing a historical dictionary of the game seemed a daunting task. But it has been an enjoyable, educational experience.

This is my second project for Scarecrow Press in the Historical Dictionary series, following three editions of the *Historical Dictionary of the Olympic Movement*, the first two of which I wrote with the late British Olympic historian Ian Buchanan. When Jon Woronoff approached me about writing a *Historical Dictionary of Golf*, it was easy to agree to the project, given my own personal history with the game, which is much deeper than any active competitive experience I have had in Olympic sports.

While I briefly competed as a cyclist in the early 1960s, in the mid-1960s I turned to golf and later played the game at Duke University. For four years, from 1975 to 1979, I was a professional on the PGA Tour. During that time, I assembled a large collection of books on golf, so I could do much of the research for this book from my home library. The Internet, and its vast resources, also makes such projects easier these days. Despite my background in golf, and what I thought was a pretty good grasp on its history, I was surprised by how much I learned while completing the book.

I have been aided by Dr. Randon Jerris, whose assistance has greatly improved the book. Rand and I share an affiliation with Duke, where he did graduate work in geology, followed by master's degrees and a Ph.D. in art and archaeology from Princeton. But since 1988, he has worked

for the U.S. Golf Association, first as an intern and curatorial assistant, then as historian and librarian of the USGA Library, and, since 2002, as the director of the USGA Museum. I cannot overstate my thanks to him.

Other people have also been very helpful. Hilary Evans, my Welsh e-mail pal, who works on the genealogy of seemingly every Olympic athlete ever, provided a huge amount of new information on obscure facts about older golfers, often from the nineteenth century. As always, he answered all my queries quickly and willingly.

I owe special thanks to Rhonda Glenn, Nancy Stulack, and David Fay, all of whom are with the USGA, who, by mining the USGA Archives, found and provided material we requested. In addition to the USGA, archivists at the Royal and Ancient, the Ladies Golf Union of Great Britain, the Royal Canadian Golf Association, and various national golf federations were especially helpful. David Fay was also very kind in allowing us to use photographs from the USGA collection in return for some earlier work done for the USGA.

Many of the golfers, architects, and other golf luminaries whose bios can be found in this volume contributed by personally answering my somewhat inane questions about obscure facets of their lives. I thank them all, though they are too numerous to mention by name.

Finally, my wife, Karen, continues to allow me hours at the computer, working on various projects that bring me joy but sometimes keep me away from her more than they should—and for her patience I am ever appreciative. There are five dogs who share such a fate as well, so to Kaci, Murphy, Maggie, Marty, and Barney I promise that in 2010 we'll take more hikes up the Piper Trail.

* * *

I hope you like it.

Bill Mallon, M.D.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AIAW	Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women
AJGA	American Junior Golf Association
ASGCA	American Society of Golf Course Architects
CC	Country Club
DGWS	Division for Girls' and Women's Sports
DQ	Disqualification
EIGCA	European Institute of Golf Course Architects
G&CC	Golf and Country Club
GC	Golf Club/Golf Course
GCSAA	Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America
GIR	Green in regulation
GWAA	Golf Writers Association of America
IGF	International Golf Federation
IOC	International Olympic Committee
JGTO	Japan Golf Tour Organization
LET	Ladies' European Tour
LGU	Ladies' Golf Union
LPGA	Ladies' Professional Golf Association
NAGA	National Amputee Golf Association
NCAA	National Collegiate Athletic Association
NGF	National Golf Foundation
OB	Out-of-bounds
PGA	Professional Golfers' Association
PPA	Professional Putters' Association
Q School	Qualifying School
R&A	Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland
RCGA	Royal Canadian Golf Association
TPC	Tournament Player's Championship/Club
UGA	United Golfers Association

USBGA	United States Blind Golfers Association
USGA	United States Golf Association
WGA	Western Golf Association
WGF	World Golf Foundation
WPGA	Women's Professional Golf Association

Chronology

1297 A golf-like game, *kolven*, is first recorded as being played on 26 February in Loenen aan de Vecht, in the Netherlands.

1353 The first reference to *chole*, the probable antecedent of golf, is recorded cross-country in Flanders (Belgium). It is a derivative of hockey played by hitting balls with clubs toward a fixed mark.

1421 A Scottish regiment assisting the French at the Siege of Bauge against the English is introduced to the game of chole. Hugh Kennedy, Robert Stewart, and John Smale, three of the known players, are credited with introducing the game to Scotland.

1457 The Scottish Parliament, under King James II of Scotland, bans golf and football (soccer) and encourages the practice of archery. This was the first of three times that the Scottish Parliament banned *gowf*.

1471 Golf is again banned in Scotland, this time by King James III.

1491 The golf ban is affirmed again by parliament, this time by King James IV.

1502 With the signing of the Treaty of Glasgow between England and Scotland, the ban on golf is lifted. King James IV makes the first recorded purchase of golf equipment, a set of clubs from a bow maker in Perth, Scotland.

1504 King James IV displays his own affinity for the game by playing golf with the Earl of Bothwell.

1513 Queen Catherine of Aragon, in a letter to Cardinal Wolsey, refers to the growing popularity of golf in England.

1527 The obituary of Sir Robert Maule references his playing golf on Barry Links, Angus (near the modern-day town of Carnoustie), this being the first reference to golf played on “links.”

1552 The first evidence of golf being played at St. Andrews, Scotland, is recorded, indicating, however, that golf had been played there for many years prior.

1553 The archbishop of St. Andrews confirms the right of the local populace to play golf on the links at St. Andrews.

1554 The record books of the Town Council of Edinburgh reference the golf ball makers of Leith, with indications that these early golf balls were made of leather.

1567 Mary, Queen of Scots, is criticized for playing golf at Seton shortly after the death of her husband, Lord Darnley. Although the tale could be apocryphal, many historians regard her as the first known female golfer.

1589 Golf is banned in the Blackfriars Yard, Glasgow. This is the earliest reference to golf in the west of Scotland.

1592 The City of Edinburgh Town Council bans golfing at Leith on Sunday “in tyme of sermonis.” It is the first documented ban of golf on the Sabbath issued by a government body.

1593 The Edinburgh Town Council amends its Sunday golfing ban to apply only “during divine services.”

1603 King James VI (James I of England) appoints William Mayne his personal clubmaker.

1608 Legendary founding of the Royal Blackheath Golf Club, marking the migration of golf to England. However, the earliest documentary evidence for the club dates from 1783.

1618 King James VI appoints James Melvill, William Berwick, and associates golf ball makers, with a monopoly granted to make and sell golf balls at four pence apiece. King James VI (James I of England) confirms the right of the populace to play golf on Sundays, provided that citizens first attend church services.

1621 The first reference to golf on the links of Dornoch (later Royal Dornoch), in the far north of Scotland, is recorded.

1627 Record books of James Graham, a student at St. Andrews University, include the first mention of a player employing a porter (caddie) to carry his clubs.

1633 King Charles I rules that people should not be molested during lawful recreations, such as golf, provided they have done their divine services first.

1636 The first documented reference to iron clubs, as well as clubs designed specifically for playing from a bunker, appears in a Latin grammar written in Aberdeen, Scotland. This document also contains the earliest known reference to teeing a ball as well as the first direct reference to a “hole.”

1641 Charles I is playing golf at Leith when he learns of the Irish Rebellion, marking the beginning of the English Civil War. He finishes his round.

1642 John Dickson receives a license as ball maker for Aberdeen, Scotland.

1658 Golf in London is mentioned for the first time, at “Tuttlefields.”

1672 Earliest documentary evidence of golf at Musselburgh, Scotland is recorded.

1682 In the first recorded international golf match, the Duke of York and John Paterson of Scotland defeat two English noblemen in a match played on the links of Leith. Andrew Dickson, carrying clubs for the Duke of York, is the first recorded caddie.

1687 The diary of Thomas Kincaid, a doctor from Edinburgh, contains the first references on how golf clubs are made as well as the earliest known practical golf instruction, providing the earliest comprehensive insight into the game.

1690 The earliest documented reference to “putting” is recorded in a letter written by James Ogilvie of Banffshire.

1691 A letter written by Professor Alexander Munro, a regent at the University of St. Andrews, contains the reference to a “set” of golf clubs comprising a “play club, scraper, and tin faced club.”

1717 James Brownhill constructs a tavern on the Bruntsfield Links in Edinburgh; known as “Golfhall,” the tavern serves as the first clubhouse in the history of the game.

1718 Records of the Edinburgh Town Council refer to the “first hole” at Bruntsfield Links, indicating that golf courses were laid out on a permanent basis with a predetermined route for players to follow.

1721 A poem written by Allan Ramsay introduces the word “driving” into the lexicon of the game.

1724 “A solemn match of golf” between Alexander Elphinston and Captain John Porteous becomes the first match reported in a newspaper (*Caledonian Mercury*). Elphinston fights and wins a duel on the same ground in 1729.

1729 An inventory of the estate of William Burnet, governor of Massachusetts, includes a reference to golf clubs and may be the earliest mention of golf in America.

1735 This is traditionally considered the year of the formation of the Edinburgh Burgess Golfing Society, often cited as the first golf club in the history of the game.

1743 Thomas Mathison’s epic *The Goff, an Heroi-Comical Poem in Three Cantos* is the first publication devoted solely to golf. It contains the first detailed description of the manufacture of a featherie ball as well as the first use of the word “green” to describe the putting area around the hole. Customs accounts document a shipment of 96 golf clubs and 432 golf balls from Leith, Scotland, to Charleston, South Carolina.

1744 The Town Council of Edinburgh formally recognizes the formation of “The Gentlemen Golfers” (later called the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers), playing at Leith Links. It is the first documented formation of a golf club. They write the earliest known set of rules, which are often called “Thirteen Articles” or “Articles and Laws in Playing at Golf.” The City of Edinburgh purchases a Silver Club to be awarded to the annual champion in an open competition played at Leith Links. John Rattray is the first champion of the oldest documented golf trophy.

1748 Documentary evidence is recorded of a shipment of golf clubs and golf balls from Scotland to Russia.

1750 Customs accounts document shipments of golf clubs and golf balls from Greenock, Scotland, to Virginia.

1754 The St. Andrews Society (forerunner of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews), comprising 22 members, is formed. The Society adopts a code of rules that largely follows the “Thirteen Articles” of The Gentlemen Golfers. Golfers at St. Andrews purchase a silver club for a competition played over the 22 holes of the Old Course. Bailie William Landale is the first champion.

1758 The first formal amendment to the “Thirteen Articles” is adopted, asserting the obligation of the golfer to “play the ball where it lies.”

1759 Earliest documentary evidence of a stroke-play competition at St. Andrews is recorded. Previously, most competitions were conducted at match play, although there is evidence that the competitions for the Leith Silver Club may have been stroke-play events.

1762 A notice printed in *Faulkners Dublin Journal* provides the earliest reference to the formation of a golf club in Ireland.

1764 The competition for the Silver Club at Leith is restricted to members of the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers. The first four holes at St. Andrews are combined into two, reducing the round from 22 holes (11 out and in) to 18 (nine out and in). St. Andrews becomes the first 18-hole golf course and sets the standard for future courses.

1765 The customs accounts of Glasgow and West Lothian document shipping golf clubs and golf balls to Maryland and North Carolina.

1766 The Blackheath Club, near London, becomes the first golf club formed outside of Scotland, with a silver club donated for a competition on its links. Golf was known to be played there as early as 1608. The earliest reference to the existence of a “Golf House” at St. Andrews documents the increasing social aspects of the game.

1767 James Durham returns a score of 94 in winning the Silver Club at St. Andrews, setting a course record that remained unbroken for 86 years. The account book of a wine merchant from Bordeaux contains the first documented reference to golf in France.

1768 The Golf House at Leith is erected. It is the first known custom-built golf clubhouse.

1771 The minute book of The Gentlemen Golfers contains the earliest recorded usage of the term “cadie.”

1772 The publication of *Sermons to Gentlemen upon Temperance and Exercise* by Benjamin Rush marks the first reference to golf in an American publication, extolling golf as a healthy recreation. Thomas McMillan offers a silver cup for competition at Musselburgh. He wins the first competition. The Edinburgh Burgess Society hires a “green-keeper,” whose functions are to tend the green, maintain the holes, serve as caddie for the captain of the club, and serve as a waiter at dinner.

1779 *Rivington's Royal Gazette*, published in New York, contains an advertisement for the sale of golf clubs and golf balls.

1780 The Society of Aberdeen Golfers (later Royal Aberdeen Golf Club) is formed.

1783 A Silver Club is offered for competition at Glasgow.

1786 The South Carolina Golf Club, the first golf club outside of the United Kingdom, is formed in Charleston. The Crail Golfing Society is formed.

1787 The Glasgow Golf Club is created.

1795 This is the possible date for the formation of a golf club in Savannah, Georgia, the second known golf club in America.

1797 The town of St. Andrews sells the land containing the Old Course (known then as Pilmor Links) to Thomas Erskine for 805 pounds. Erskine was required to preserve the course for golf.

1803 A record book from the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers contains the first known reference to an iron club designed spe-

cifically for putting; earlier references to putters all describe wooden-headed clubs.

1806 The St. Andrews Club chooses to elect its captains rather than award captaincy to the winner of the Silver Club. Thus begins the tradition of the captain “playing himself into office” by hitting a single shot before the start of the annual competition.

1810 The earliest reference to a women’s competition at Musselburgh, held for the fishwives of Musselburgh, is recorded.

1812 Hugh Philp, sometimes known as the “Stradivarius of Golf,” opens a club repair and refurbishing business in St. Andrews. The St. Andrews Golfing Society introduces the words “bunker” and “putting green” into a revision of the Rules of Golf.

1817 The Edinburgh Burgess Golfing Society sanctions the establishment of a golfing society in Barbados in the West Indies.

1820 The Bangalore Club, the first club in India, is formed. A notice in the *Montréal Herald* marks the first documented reference to golf in Canada.

1827 The *Colonial Times* (Tasmania) publishes the earliest known report of golf in Australia.

1828 Hickory imported from America to England is used to make golf shafts. The earliest known reference to a hole cutter, purchased for use by the Musselburgh Golf Club, is recorded.

1830 The Dum Dum Golfing Club, later called the Calcutta Golf Club, and still later, the Royal Calcutta Golf Club, is formed.

1831 The St. Andrews Golf Society announces a handicap competition; it is the earliest documented record of a competition played with handicaps.

1832 The North Berwick Club is founded: it is the first to include women in its activities, although they are not permitted to play in competitions.

1833 King William IV confers the distinction of “Royal” on the Perth Golfing Society; as Royal Perth, it is the first club to hold the