



# GARY GALYEAN'S GOLF LETTER®

THE INSIDE REPORT ON WORLD GOLF

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Dear Subscriber:

CRICKET, HORSE RACING AND GOLF have produced the most accomplished sports literature. Horse racing is the oldest for obvious reasons, golf was first mentioned in writing in the mid 15<sup>th</sup> century, and cricket followed about a hundred years after golf. Why these three produced notable writing—and football, for instance, did not—is open to speculation. The settings, the required leisure time, and the social intercourse both on the playing fields and in the dining rooms and bars must all play a part.

What follows is our list of the best books that tell the story of golf. Most are still available through reprintings or used book dealers. Grant Books - [grantbooks.co.uk](http://grantbooks.co.uk) - in Worcestershire, England, is a notable and reliable source; as is Classics of Golf - [classicsofgolf.com](http://classicsofgolf.com)

Most of the books we have chosen were published after 1900. Golf in Great Britain and Ireland expanded prodigiously after 1860; the same was true in America about 50 years later. Writing and reflection followed the growth of the game by a few years, as would be expected.

Included in this listing are major competition, design, and social histories, biographies, a collection of important art work, and a compelling (truly) history of the Rules. If one unfamiliar with golf were to read just these books there would be very little about the game that they would not know. Pieces of each overlap pieces of others.

They are presented in an order that attempts to make quasi-linear sense of a somewhat tangled line. The point is they offer you a path for understanding golf as you may not have previously understood or appreciated it, and it is better than television - much, much better.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### A LINE OF GOLF HISTORY

### RULES OF THE GREEN - A HISTORY OF THE RULES OF GOLF by Kenneth G. Chapman

Wary as one must be placing a Rules history first in this distinguished line of books, the compelling contents of this 1997 publication travel golf's entire 600 year line and offer the most insightful glimpse of how the game has been played and why it has evolved as it has.

Although Mary Queen of Scots was socially maligned in 1567 for playing golf too soon after the murder of her husband, it was not until 1744 that the written golf rules first appeared. A tournament that was to include several different golf clubs presented the need for all those competing to adhere to the same set of rules—as opposed to the rules used at their respective clubs. Roughly 250 words (13 rules) took care of it. Things have changed—and that's the point.

When you consider that golf is played on sport's largest playing field (with the exception of steeple chasing) and that no two courses are the same, it is remarkable that the Rules we use today are as precise and succinct as they are. This book concisely traces the evolution of the nuances, absurdities, and logic of the Rules.

### ASPECTS OF GOLF by Horace G. Hutchinson

Published in 1900, reprinted in 2015 by Grant Books together with biographies and bibliographies of his books; edited and compiled by H.R.J. Grant and D.M. Wilson III.

Richard A. Duran: *Horatio Gordon Hutchinson, or "Horace" as he preferred to be known, was a pioneer in popularising the game of golf. It can be reasonably said that he made a highly significant*

contribution, through his writings, in changing the public's perception of golf being purely a Scottish game to one that became not only a British but an international one, growing from 25 Golf Clubs and Societies in 1860 to more than 4000 in 1910.

From the Foreword by D.M. Wilson III:

*Horace G. Hutchinson (1859-1932) is a glittering and glowing luminary in the great game of golf and its literature. His polymath credentials include expert player, medalist, Oxford Blue, first President of The Oxford & Cambridge Golfing Society, twice Amateur Champion, U.S. Amateur runner-up, Open competitor, Captain (The Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Royal Liverpool Golf Club, Royal North Devon Golf Club, Royal West Norfolk Golf Club, Royal St. George's Golf Club and others), author and editor ...*

### GOLF COURSES OF THE BRITISH ISLES by Bernard Darwin

Bernard Darwin, the first grandson of Charles Darwin, was a Cambridge Blue in golf, graduated in law, which he practiced for a short period of time before becoming the finest and most original golf writer our game has known. He played in the Amateur 26 times, captained and played in the first Walker Cup, and captained the Royal and Ancient Golf Club. In 1910, Mr. Darwin wrote this book which was the first time an atlas of important golf courses was attempted. Harry Rountree, the noted illustrator of children's books and caricaturist of well-known golfers, traveled to the courses with Mr. Darwin and produced the stunning watercolors.

Herbert Warren Wind: *[This book] is the very antithesis of a coffee-table book. Rather, it is the kind of book which British golfers and golfers around the globe have gone back to frequently to re-read what Darwin had to say about a particular course.*

### EARLY IRISH GOLF by William H. Gibson

Golf was introduced to Ireland in 1606. A Scot, Hugh Montgomery, Laird of Braidstone, near Ayr

[think Prestwick], acquired most of the Ards peninsula [think County Down], along with James Hamilton, and the Plantation of Ulster was crudely established.

Viscount Montgomery built a school at Newtown for a Master of Arts "to teach Latin, Greek and Logycks, allowing the scholars a green for recreation at goff, football and archery ..." So began the legacy of much of the finest golf that can be found anywhere in the world.

William Gibson wrote and compiled this paperback book in 1988. It is replete with maps, illustrations, chronological tables, and clear newspaper-like prose. The book's 300 pages bring the details of golf in Ireland together in one place establishing an essential link in the game's story:

*The Plantation of Ulster was commenced by James I in a systematic way in 1609, when he saw the success of the Montgomery and Hamilton estates. Over 40,000 settlers were attracted to the Province between 1610 and 1630. A diligent, hardworking and mainly Scotch Presbyterian group, they soon transformed the land of Ulster. It is not beyond the bounds of credibility that among these newcomers there were other keen "goffers" ...*

### SCOTLAND'S GIFT GOLF by Charles Blair Macdonald

Charles B. Macdonald, the godfather of golf in the United States, was educated at St. Andrews University. The first morning after arriving there, his grandfather took young Charlie to Old Tom Morris's golf shop where he was fitted for a set of golf clubs and arrangements were made for him to have a locker in the shop. In 1874, Mr. Macdonald returned home (Chicago) to an entire country without a single course. By 1892, after encouragement from some Englishmen visiting Chicago for the World's Fair, he built seven short holes on ground belonging to his father-in-law. The rising popularity of the game led in short time to Mr. Macdonald building the first two, 18-hole courses in the United States.



ST. ANDREWS

As is said, the rest is history. Really, it is all history. Mr. Macdonald saw to the establishment of the United States Golf Association, the winning of that group's first National Amateur, the guidance of the Rules of Golf, the building of his masterpiece the National Golf Links of America, the enlistment of Seth Raynor and Charlie Banks, and the design and construction of such paragons as the Lido, Sleepy Hollow, the Old White, St. Louis, the Creek, Piping Rock, Mid-Ocean, and Yale.

In 1928, Mr. Macdonald wrote this book of reminiscences that describe his brilliance, strength, and audacity. It is essential reading for understanding golf in America.

### THE SPIRIT OF ST. ANDREWS

by Alister MacKenzie

Having observed the "imitation of nature"—that is the art of camouflage—used by Boer soldiers to conceal themselves during the Boer War, Alister MacKenzie employed what he had learned in establishing the British School of Camouflage during World War I; and without peer in the design of so many of our game's greatest courses.

Written in 1933—including a forward by Bobby Jones—but never published until 1995 when it was discovered among the late Dr. MacKenzie's papers this is a story of the doctor's applied design genius.

From the Introduction [note the names mentioned here]: *It was [Dr. MacKenzie's] two-shot hole design in a contest sponsored by Charles Blair Macdonald in the magazine Country Life, which was awarded first prize by judges Horace Hutchinson and Bernard Darwin, that jumped him into national prominence in 1914. ...*

*In 1926, he made his "world tour", his reputation having preceded him around the world. He took the long way, through the Suez Canal, making several stops in and along Australia and New Zealand, from which arose such magnificent courses as Royal Melbourne, Royal Queensland, and Titirangi. He also designed courses at the Jockey Club in Buenos Aires and Mar De Plata in Argentina. In 1927, before he returned to California to design Cypress Point Club on the Monterey Peninsula, he was called to remodel Lahinch and other courses in Ireland. Several of his courses still remain among the "Top 100", including Cypress Point, Pasatiempo at Santa Cruz, Crystal Downs in upper Michigan, and the home of the Masters, Augusta National.*

### LIFE & TIMES OF BOBBY JONES

by Sidney L. Matthew

It is not possible to grasp the appeal, guidance, and expansion of golf in the United States without a thorough knowledge of the life of Bobby Jones. Mr. Matthew's 1995 biography is the best single source for this unmatched story. The photos, records, stories are all here.

In his first ten attempts, Mr. Jones did not win a national championship. Then came 1923. From that year until his retirement from competitive golf seven years later, he won 21 of the national championships he entered. He held one or more major titles in each of those years. No amateur ever beat him twice in matchplay. Walter Hagen and Gene Sarazen never won a U.S. Open or Open in which Mr. Jones competed.

In 1930, Mr. Jones became the first and remains the only person to win, in the same year, the U.S. Open, the Open, the Amateur and the U.S. Amateur. He retired from competitive golf following his Grand Slam victories. For this he received his second New York City ticker tape parade. He is the only person to ever be honored with *two* ticker tape parades in New York.

The following year he contracted with Warner Brothers for instructional films that were viewed by millions. In same year, with Alister Mackenzie at his side, he began the design and construction of Augusta National. Two years later, he hosted the first Augusta National Invitational Tournament—later renamed, at Clifford Robert's insistence but with Mr. Jones' disdain (he considered it too boastful)—the Masters Tournament.

In 1958, he was awarded the Freedom of St. Andrews. Benjamin Franklin is the only other American to be so honored. Mr. Jones died in his sleep on Dec. 18, 1971.

### CHAMPION IN A MAN'S WORLD

by David E. Outerbridge

Marion Hollins was born in 1892. She came to be considered the greatest woman athlete of the 1920s and, some would say, the greatest of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

She founded Cypress Point, hired Alister Mackenzie to design it, and overrode his preference for making the 16<sup>th</sup> hole a par 4. Indeed, she designed the 16<sup>th</sup>.

She was America's best female polo player; and the leading four-in-hand whip. Miss Hollins won the Metropolitan Golf Association trophy in 1913, 1919, and 1924; the U.S. Women's Amateur in 1921; and the Pebble Beach Golf Championship eight times.

From Chapter One: *She made a fortune in oil, speculating against expert opinion in the Kettleman Hills.*

*She was a Suffragette.*

*She is the touselled, determined looking ten-year-old in a sailor suit. She is the seductive 19-year-old looking out at the camera with a glass of champagne in her hand from her bed aboard the LUSITANIA. She is the woman with the appearance of a “collapsed awning” winning an exhibition match shortly before her death. She is the rider on a bay gelding looking down on land above Santa Cruz that she will buy, with grand plans in mind. She is the woman who packs into Big Sur, consolidates a group of homesteading properties into a purchase of 20 square miles of that coast, with plans to develop a rural retreat. She is a prankster and a gambler, with a highly developed sense of humor.*

The U.S. Amateur was held west of the Mississippi Basin for the first time in 1929. It was played at Pebble Beach. The defending champion, Bobby Jones, who had won medalist honors the day before, was defeated in the first round of match play by Johnny Goodman,† who arrived by cattle train from Omaha.

After his quick elimination, Mr. Jones had time to explore the grandeur of Santa Cruz, Monterey, Pebble Beach, and Carmel. It so happened that the opening day match at Pasatiempo came at just this time. Miss Hollins, who created Pasatiempo, invited Mr. Jones to join the premier match comprised of Cyril Tolley, the Amateur Champion, Glenna Collett, Miss Hollins, and subsequently Mr. Jones.

It was on this trip and on the golf courses he played on this trip that Mr. Jones was drawn to his decision two years later to commission Alister Mackenzie to design his golf course—the one that would become Augusta National. It was generally assumed at the time that Mr. Jones would hire Donald Ross for the work. There was some unhappiness in Pinehurst about Mr. Jones’s choice.

† see *Johnny Goodman - The Last Amateur Golfer to win the U.S. Open* by Walter J. Curtis, Sr., 1997.

When Augusta was in the preliminary stages of construction, Mr. Mackenzie was requested to come to Augusta. Unable to make the trip, he wrote to Mr. Jones that he was sending his “associate, Marion Hollins” in his stead. Such was his regard for her design discernment.

This 1998 book is filled with just such stories that give credit where due, and respect where earned.

### GOLF ARCHITECTURE IN AMERICA by George C. Thomas, Jr.

Searching for the ideal climate in which to grow roses, George C. Thomas, Jr. moved from Philadelphia to Beverly Hills in 1920. Before moving crosscountry, Mr. Thomas designed three courses in the East. Upon arriving in Los Angeles he joined the Los Angeles C.C. which was expanding to 36 holes under the direction of Herbert Fowler.



TAG GALYEAN, *THE 8TH AT PEBBLE BEACH*

One thing lead to another and by 1930 Mr. Thomas had designed 11 notable California courses with the help, on all but two, of William Bell. They include: Los Angeles (North), Palos Verdes, Ojai, Bel-Air, Riviera, and Stanford.

In 1927, nearly at the end of his golf architectural work, he wrote this book describing the principles he found to be essential. Being a methodical and meticulous sort, Mr. Thomas reveals the treasure of the strategic approach. Many photographs and sketches are included.

### GOLF BETWEEN TWO WARS by Bernard Darwin

All the books already appearing on this list lead to this one. As previously mentioned, Bernard Darwin is the finest golf writer in our game’s long history, as well as the best player to write articulately about golf.

During the 20 years between World War I and II, golf flourished on both sides of the Atlantic. The book’s 21 chapter names are an outline of this era, if that’s not too big a word for a period of time when accomplished people chased balls with sticks in beautiful places and others wrote about them. To name a few chapters: *The American*

*Invasion, The Immortal Bobby, The Ladies, Worplesdon, The Walker Cup, The Ryder Cup, The President's Putter, Architecture ...*

This book, published in 1944, is good reference for a specific event or personality. It needn't be read in order, but together the chapters present a dynamic time as only Mr. Darwin's erudition in and love for the game has produced to date.

### THE AMATEUR (1885 - 1995)

by John Behrend

The story of the Amateur Golf Championship lies at the pure heart of the game. John Behrend, the author of this book and past Captain of both the Royal & Ancient and Royal Liverpool, elegantly describes the amateur game in his introduction:

*Clubs and balls, clothing, the length and condition of the courses have all changed, but the challenge of matchplay golf has not. One shot, good or bad, a giant putt holed or a drive out of bounds can swing the initiative. A long lead disappearing sees one player's confidence and serenity give way to uncertainty and despair, whilst the hope and determination of his opponent grows. All golfers who have competed in a close match, whether it be a championship or a club captain's prize know that feeling of tension as they prepare to drive from the final tee .... think rhythm, or at the moment of truth, when they face a yard putt to win, and they battle to prevent the hands tightening on the grip of the putter, in the slender hope of producing a smooth slow stroke. Sometimes they do and there is the joy of winning against the odds and sometimes it is the pain of defeat, when victory had seemed assured.*

*This book is a collection of stories about individuals who have experience all these emotions. It has no heroes, and no villains, just winners and losers.*

THE AMATEUR was published in 1995 by Grant Books [see page one, paragraph two]. Readers of this letter may be particularly interested in the 1954 contest between Doug Bachli and Bill Campbell.

### THE BRITISH OPEN (1860 - 2000)

by Francis Murray

*The British Open is the oldest and most prestigious tournament in golf and the only true world*

*championship among the four majors. It is played on the links courses of Scotland and England, where the unpredictable playing conditions and imaginative shot-making requirements make it golf's most exacting test.* - from the cover's introduction.

Our list can not be without a history of the Open Championship. This one was published in 2000, following Tiger Woods' victory at St. Andrews, but the story begins in 1860 with Willie Park, Sr.'s victory at Prestwick. There are hundreds of photographs, succinct descriptions of each year's competition, maps and descriptions of the Open rota courses, Open records, results, milestones, facts and figures.

### THE U.S. OPEN (1895 - 1995)

by Robert Sommers

The *most difficult* championship in golf ... true or false—a respectable or silly pretension—it is the premise upon which the U.S. Open has prided itself since nearly the beginning. While the United States Golf Association has understandably modeled its operation after the British founders and their Clubs, they have never succeeded in assuming the seniority for which they long.

What has been established through the 120 years of the American championship is an uninterrupted trail of struggle, excellence, and contentious bravado. The fact that we always seem rather new in our approach to the royal and ancient game comes with the sometimes desperate aspiration to overcome our historical inferiority.

Robert Sommers' book, second edition published in 1995, traces the evolution of our national golf championship from the championship with 11 entrants and a \$150 first prize, through all that have followed, including:

- John McDermott's first win by an American;
- Walter Hagen, who nearly quit golf for baseball after his miserable 1913 loss, but was resurrected by his victory the following year;
- Bobby Jones' 1930 win at Interlachen after a controversial ruling by Prescott Bush;
- Ben Hogan's will to win at Merion in 1950 following his maiming automobile accident;
- Arnold Palmer's brilliance at Cherry Hills;
- Ken Venturi's tenacity at Congressional; and
- Curtis Strange's back-to-back victories.

From Newport to Shinnecock, Mr. Sommers illumi-



nates U.S. Open statistics and facts with portraits of the players, their struggles and the courses they played.

## THE WALKER CUP (1922 - 2003)

by Gordon G. Simmonds

While there are older and perhaps more excruciating golf competitions, the Walker Cup has justifiably earned the title of GOLF'S FINEST CONTEST, as Gordon Simmonds' subtitle to this important work attests. Indeed, his erudition that comes from playing golf well, studying it wisely, and putting his thoughts on paper brought him to this finishing thought in the introduction:

*[The governing authorities] view was, and continues to be, that the Walker Cup match is a forum for preservation of the amateur ideal, a unique sporting occasion to showcase golf's rich traditions and heritage.*

Yet another Grant Books publication, this one was originally published in 1999 - then updated in 2004. Everything is here: the competition's origins, the match narratives, the players' profiles, their individual Walker Cup records, the venues, captains, a list of the Walker Cuppers who have won two or more major championships, and a notable afterword by Bill Campbell.

## THE MASTERS

by Curt Sampson

From the Columbia University Oral History Department's research into the life of President Dwight Eisenhower sprang 878 transcriptive pages of 15 interviews conducted over four years with Clifford Roberts, Jr., co-founder of Augusta National and creator of the Masters Tournament. Mr. Roberts, one of Gen. Eisenhower's



For G:

*"The eye of the Oldest Member was thoughtful and reflective. When it looked into yours you saw in it that perfect peace, that peace beyond understanding, which comes at its maximum only to the man who has given up golf."*

P. G. Wodehouse  
ORDEAL BY GOLF

closest friends, imposed one restriction: "... that no use of any kind whatsoever is to be made [of it] until 20 years after my death."

GOLF, MONEY, AND POWER IN AUGUSTA, GEORGIA—the 1998 book's subtitle—tells the stories about the Augusta National that lie at the heart of Mr. Clifford's meticulous recollections, as well as influence of television, Arnold Palmer and soda—more than just azaleas.

## FOLLOWING THROUGH

by Herbert Warren Wind, 1985

America's finest golf writer, Herbert Warren Wind, brings into historical focus much of what you have just read as well as much of what you may remember from years ago. The selections in this book were written by Mr. Wind beginning in 1962 for *The Sporting Scene* pages of THE NEW YORKER. From *The Call of the Masters*, *Mr. Crosby*, *Trevino*, *Pebble Beach and the Open* and 23 other pieces, we are treated to great detail and reflection on the game before it was overwhelmed by its equipment. As Mr. Wind wrote:

*For one reason or another, golf seems to provide more fun and humor than any other game, and yet at the same time it has achieved the finest body of literature of any game.*

## ART & ARCHITECTURE OF

## THE ROYAL AND ANCIENT GOLF CLUB

by Peter N. Lewis, Fiona C. Grieve, Keith Mackie

The title of this 128-page book, published in 1997, speaks for itself. The art treasures of the R&A are extensive and unique. From the original Royal Medal presented by William IV, to the full scale painting of Freddie Tait that hangs in the Big Room, to President Eisenhower's portrait of Francis Ouimet that was presented to the Club by Bobby Jones, the collection is rare, fine, eclectic, and helps to visualize much of what you have read.

Yours vry truly,

Gary A. Galyean  
Editor & Publisher

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