



SPORT



WHYS AND OTHERWISE

AS SEEN BY
H. L. G.

Some champion not all sport fans know about: Welker Cochran, leader among the professional cue wielders; Argentine polo team supreme among the world's best; Louis Meyer, automobile racing speed king; Tazio Nuvolari of Italy, winner of Vanderbilt Cup contest in auto racing; Charles Warren and John Murphy won year's biggest bowling event, by capturing the 36th annual renewal of the American Bowling Congress tournament.

Father Billy Stanton, who was killed last week, was one of the outstanding rugby coaches of Canadian rugby between the years 1907 and 1913. He was responsible, by the way, for many innovations in football. He developed the secondary defence which he built up to protect his kicking ace, Phil Cornhill, 135-pound booter, who was one of the greatest distance kickers ever seen in the Canadian rugby game. He had his team discard the old canvas vests in favor of light sweaters. He claimed that the vests restricted breathing and picked up pounds of useless mud. Some of Stanton's dressing room advice to his players was similar to the late Knute Rockne for fighting spirit. Of curious note is that the late Father Stanton decorated his pulpit sermons with baseball and football allusions.

Landlocked yachtsmen who were forced on the beach when their season closed in October and their shore-going cronies who don't know much about ships and rudders and the tang of the sea, but who want to learn, can go nautical again for eight glorious days beginning on Friday during New York's curious but popular annual fixture known as the National Motor Boat Show. As usual, it will be a fascinating but perfectly safe cruise, not beset by rocks, reefs or hurricanes. Every one of the 120 pleasure craft of assorted size will be anchored and made fast securely on the floors of the Grand Central Palace at Lexington Avenue, and although thousands of sightseers' feet will climb boarding ladders and pace decks, no one will run to the rails because of ground swells or rolling waves. Instead, to their heart's content they can inspect every nook, locker and gadget on 1937's fleet of cruising yachts, admire the shiny chromium and glistening paint and hope for an early spring when they can weigh anchor and set a course.

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What Fans Should Know About the Hockey Rules

Below is the first of a daily summary of the rules of ice hockey, as drawn up by the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association, and which apply to all amateur hockey in the Maritimes, including intercollegiate and high school hockey. The Daily Mail is presenting these rules in order that the ordinary fan may be well informed on plays as they happen and the regulations now in practice. The rules follow:

(Continued)

4. On all rinks 200 feet or over in length a line is to be drawn 60 feet from the goal line. On all smaller rinks the ice is to be divided into three equal sections between the goal lines. The goal crease, 8 feet wide and 5 feet in depth, is to be made by extending that goal line one foot on either side of the goal posts and extending five feet out from the goal line.

The ice line between the goal posts should be the width of the goal posts and should be red in color. Other ice lines should be of dark blue color. Referees are instructed to see that the ice is properly marked and no game is to be played unless the ice is so marked. That portion of the ice surface in which the goal is situated shall be called the "defending zone" of the team defending that goal; the central portion shall be known as the "neutral zone;" and the portion further from the defended goal is the "attacking zone." The lines drawn across the ice shall be blue in color.

5. Each rink shall be provided with seats or benches for the use of players of both teams. Such seats or benches shall have accommodation for at least fourteen persons and shall be placed immediately alongside the ice as near to the centre of the rink as possible and conveniently adjacent to the dressing rooms. None but players in uniform, manager, trainer and coach shall be permitted to occupy the bench so provided.

6. Each rink must be provided with a bench capable of seating eight persons, for the use of penalty timekeeper, timekeeper, scorer and penalized players.

7. Each rink must be provided with a gong or other suitable sound device for the use of timekeepers.

8. The puck shall be made of vulcanized rubber or other approved material, one inch thick and three inches in diameter and of approved make.

9. Hockey sticks shall not exceed 53 inches in length from the heel to the end of the shaft and 14 3/4 inches from the heel to the end of the blade. The stick shall be made of wood and without any projections. The blade of the stick shall not exceed 3 inches in height, except in the case of the goal-keeper's sticks, which shall not exceed 3 1/2 inches.

10. The leg-guards worn by the goal-keepers shall not exceed ten inches in extreme width when on the leg of the player.

11. The use of pads or protectors made of metal or of any other material likely to cause injury to a player is prohibited.

(To Be Continued)

GREETINGS TO TOURISTS

PORT ARTHUR, Ont., Jan. 4.—Port Arthur merchants had an eye to future business when they mailed their Christmas greetings this year. Through co-operative efforts, picture cards were mailed to all tourists who visited here in 1935.

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Maritime Boys Score Leaders

LIMIT USE OF CLUBS IN GOLF; CADDIES' LUCK

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—In one of the most revolutionary steps in the history of the ancient game, the United States Golf Association announced that starting Jan. 1, 1938, players will be limited to not more than fourteen clubs each in all competition.

The U.S.G.A. and the Rules Committee of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, governing body in Great Britain, are acting as one in this innovation.

There is nothing in present rules which specifies the number of implements a competitor may carry in his bag. However, the preambles to the rules of golf will be amended as follows:

Wording of Amendment

"The game of golf consists in a ball being played from the teeing ground into a hole by successive strokes with clubs, not exceeding fourteen in number, and balls made in conformity with the directions laid down in the clause on form and make of golf clubs and balls."

The amendment was voted by the executive committee at its meeting Nov. 19, after an investigation occasioned by the continual increase in the number of clubs used.

Most tournament players carry anywhere from 18 to 25 weapons, some of them duplicates except for round or square heads and slight differences in the loft or pitch of the faces. Albert (Scotty) Campbell, Seattle amateur, carried more than 24 clubs during the last national championship.

The committee's "inquiries supported its conclusion that limiting the number of clubs would tend to restore to the game individual shot-making skill lost through the introduction of an excessive number of clubs in finely graduated and matched sets," said Frank M. Hardt, secretary of the U.S.G.A.

Limitation of the number of clubs, in the association's opinion, should accomplish these "desirable objectives."

(1). Relief for caddies from unfair burdens; (2) Reduction of delays in play, as the player will spend less time in deciding what club to use; (3) Give players who cannot afford an unlimited supply of clubs an opportunity to compete with others on a more equal basis.

British View

LONDON, Jan. 5.—Suggestion today by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club that golfers be limited to 14 clubs in any one round was regarded generally as pointed at American golfers rather than Britishers.

The rule change announced today in the United States will be considered as first business at the Royal and Ancient's next committee meeting, and it is considered likely to be passed to become effective Jan. 1, 1938.

TORONTO, Jan. 5.—B. L. Anderson, Secretary of the Royal Canadian Golf Association, said there was a possibility the question of limiting the number of clubs used in competition by Canadian golfers would be discussed at the association's annual meeting here in February.

The association had received communications from several clubs asking that the question be brought up. Anderson said, in commenting on decision of the United States Golf Association to adopt the fourteen-club limit, starting Jan. 1, 1938.

Anderson said Ross Somerville of London, former United States open and Canadian amateur champion, carried from fifteen to sixteen clubs and Jack Nash of London had the same number in his golf bag. The average among Canadian pros and outstanding amateurs is thirteen or fourteen.

Germany Seizes Another Spanish Steamer

(Special to The Daily Mail)
BERLIN, Jan. 4.—Germany has seized a third Spanish steamer and Great Britain has protested to the insurgents against the stopping of two British steamers. Now this act of aggression on the part of Germany has been confirmed by Valencia.

Bill Cowley, Formerly of Halifax Wolverines, at Peak --- Jackie Keating Continues to Head Former Maritimers in International-American Loop.

MONTREAL, Jan. 4.—While Eddie Wiseman of New York Americans was on the sidelines through illness last week flashy Bill Cowley of Boston Bruins fired in two goals and assisted in another to move into first place among former Maritime point-scoring in the National Hockey League, one point ahead of the Newcastles, N. B., boy.

The one-time Halifax Wolverine has 15 points, seven goals and eight assists, while Wiseman has one assist less. Right behind is Ray Gettiffe, Cowley's line-mate and former Saint John Beaver, with 13 points.

Gordie Drillon, Toronto's young star recruited from Moncton juniors, is next in line with 11 points, followed by Joffre Desilets, another old Saint John Beaver, who has 10.

Joe Lamb, native of Sussex, N. B., scored his first goal of the season last Thursday, but it was not enough to prevent the fading Amerks from going down to a 4-2 defeat before the fast-stepping Detroit Red Wings.

Bill Miller, who starred for Moncton Hawks when that club was winning Allan Cups, boosted his total to three on the Canadian lineup when he blasted home a goal on Saturday night and then duplicated on Sunday night. Both games were against the Amerks.

Jack Keating, "Doggie" Kuhn and Sammy McManus, Providence Red's all-Maritime front line, kept up their goal-gunning in the International-American Hockey League last week and have a total of 56 combined scoring points, statistics showed today.

HEAVYWEIGHT MAT SITUATION WAS A TANGLE

1936 Was Same as Other Years So Far as Settling on a Champ Went.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—The situation in wrestling, almost serene a year ago, was covered with confusion, so far as the world heavyweight title was concerned, in 1936. Claimants to the crown, which generally was regarded as in the sole possession of Dan O'Mahoney when the year was young, sprang up profusely, and as the months rolled by there was hardly a geographical location that did not have its "world champion."

The trouble started with the defeat of O'Mahoney at the hands of Dick Shikat last March. Shikat threw the Irishman and promptly claimed the title. He risked it against Ali Baba, and lost, and the latter held himself out as champion.

Then Ali Baba was thrown by Dave Levin, who, naturally, claimed the crown. His pretensions were shattered when Dean Detton pinned him to the canvas.

The situation became so muddled that the New York State Athletic Commission washed its hands of championship recognition and declared that, so far as it was concerned, the world heavyweight wrestling title was non-existent.

The fact that a "champion" should meet defeat seemed to mean little. O'Mahoney, for instance, after having lost to Shikat, continued to bill himself as the titleholder, and risked his claim regularly, win or lose. Among those to defeat him and claim the title were Yvon Robert, who in turn was vanquished by Cliff Olsen.

That Olsen had conquered Robert meant little to the latter, who still calls himself champion, a title that Olsen, naturally, considers his own.

Wrestling had a prominent place in the Olympic games, both catch-as-catch-can and Graeco-Roman matches being staged. The United States garnered one championship in the catch-as-catch-can, but drew a blank in the Graeco-Roman. Frank Lewis was the sole American grappler to gain a title, winning the welterweight championship.

The Oklahoma Aggies won six individual crowns and the team championship in the National A. A. U. tournament, while Penn State, with three individual victories, took the Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association's team honors.

PANTHERS WERE ENTERTAINED ON THE COAST

Rose Bowl Conquerors From Pittsburgh Are Shown the Hollywood Studios.

PASADENA, Calif., Jan. 5.—The Golden Panthers of Pittsburgh, conquerors of Washington in the Rose Bowl, looked over the calendar and promised to come back next New Year's Day.

As the praises of Pitt echoed, the Panthers relaxed and enjoyed their first real experience of smiling after a solid month of stony-faced determination. Even Coach John B. Sutherland showed signs of restrained hilarity.

Washington was keenly disappointed over the 21-0 licking Pitt handed out in the annual Tournament of Roses gridiron battle, but Jimmy Phelan's outfit is hardly the brooding type.

Annual Trip to Studios

Pittsburgh players were guests of the Los Angeles Turf Club at the Santa Anita races, and the Washington squad made a round of the Hollywood studios, an annual event for Rose Bowl teams.

Washington will leave for home tomorrow night, and Pitt, after taking in the movie lots Monday morning, is scheduled to start back East early this afternoon.

Tournament of Roses officials beamed happily over the outcome of their twenty-second football attraction. The 1937 edition, born in a storm of dissent over the selection of Pitt and its record of three defeats in the Bowl, moved from one stage to another and finally into a tremendous success.

Record Crowd Saw Game

It drew the biggest crowd in Bowl history, 87,196, in a sell-out accomplished in one week; it was played under ideal weather conditions after an all-week rain storm subsided, and the game itself was a smashing, bruising battle despite the 21-0 outcome.

Furthermore, the boys who said Louisiana State University should have been invited to the Bowl had nothing to say today. Santa Clara took care of that yesterday.

Pitt backers firmly believe their team will be better than ever next year and that it stands an excellent chance of coming back to Pasadena's Bowl.

YEAR 1936 HAD PLENTY OF CONTROVERSIES - ALL LINES

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—Every other major sport has its controversies over the rules, just as is the case in football. In golf, which leads all others in the number of persons actively participating, the current bone of contention is the stymie. Ever since Scottish shepherds got the idea of hitting rounded pebbles across the sea coast moors with sticks having curved ends, golfers have grumbled and groused about the stymie, that exasperating contingency wherein the line between one's golf ball and the cup is blocked by an opponent's ball.

Generations of golfers have argued that the player is entitled to an unobstructed putt, but tradition is so revered by the Royal and Ancient Society of St. Andrews that all protests against the stymie have been fruitless.

George Low, Scottish golf philosopher, has aptly defined the stymie as "the undeserved reward of a missed putt." He does not refer to the self-laid species, but to the stymie laid against you by a rival who putts faintly heartily. We Americans, less tightly bound to tradition than the St. Andrews die-hards, are now taking steps to outlaw the stymie, golf's public enemy number one. In recreational golf the stymie already has become a dead letter by common consent.

Of late, sentiment against the stymie has been growing in official U.S.G.A. circles. At the last executive meeting, in 1935, the stymie was upheld by the margin of eight votes to five, but that shows in which direction the wind is blowing. It seems reasonable to believe that only deference for the St. Andrews tradition and a hesitancy to smash precedent has kept the U.S.G.A. from following the lead of the liberal Western and

Massachusetts associations in abolishing the "blockade principle."

Stymie to End all Stymies

Perhaps the stymie to end all stymies was that laid by Johnny Fischer against Jock McLean on the thirty-fourth green of the 1936 national amateur tournament final at Garden City last year. One up at the time McLean was prevented from winning the hole and becoming dormie 2 when he encountered a dead stymie. Thus was Scotland hoist by its own petard. Deciding he would not be able to curve the ball around the obstruction McLean attempted a dramatic jump shot with his niblick, but the ball did not leap-frog into the cup. So Jock had to be content with a half and eventually lost the match and the title on the first extra hole.

Undeniably the stymie is unjust to the man who has the inside path to the cup, yet it has an exciting appeal for the spectators. A nicely judged "borrow" or a clever niblick jump shot is one of the prettiest strokes in golf.

Players have been accused of laying stymies deliberately. Those so accused invariably retort that since the ball has a diameter of 1.68 inches as against the cup's width of 4.25 inches, it would be much easier to hole the ball than to lay an intentional stymie. A shrewd golfer, however, can aim for the side of the hole which faces his opponent's ball, so that if he misses the putt a stymie may result.

Many Complaints

Right now the air is filled with squawks from hockey players, managers and fans. The players find fault endlessly with the rulings of the officials regarding whether a player making a shot for goal was in the crease or not when he fired, or whether this or that player was offside. Manager Red Dutton of the Americans has been particularly vociferous in his protests and has sought redress by asking that one game his team lost be thrown out. The fact that both sides argue so vehemently and with such apparent sincerity seems to be sufficient proof that the rules must be clarified.

The spectators' chief complaint is that there is too much defensive hockey and many alleged remedies have been put forward. Some of them are fantastic, but one that seems to have merit is simply that the defending side be compelled to carry the rubber out of the defensive zone instead of passing it out. While such a rule would not force a team to play wide open hockey it would remove all excuses for playing tight hockey.

Horse racing also has some points which arouse much public disaffection. Chief of these has been the nose finish, when the horse you see as the winner demands on the angle from which you view the finish. Much of the squawking over this has been eradicated by the use of the high speed camera to photograph the finish, but there still are occasional outbreaks of public disapproval of near-miss propositions, as happened at a Western track a few days ago. Another thing that puts the race track customers in a nervous mood is an imperfect start in which the favorite is left floundering.

Agreement in Boxing

The arguments in boxing are by no means confined to those between the fighters in the ring. There always have been squawks over decisions and there always will be. In boxing the decision is merely the personal opinion of one or three men and somebody always disagrees with the official verdict, no matter how one-sided the fight may be. If it's close the disagreement is violent. For example, several years ago the Boxing Commission carefully rehearsed its three supposedly best officials in the scoring rules and then put them to work on a fight to show that when honest and intelligent men who knew the rules were put on the job there could be no disagreement. Imagine the commissioners' embarrassment when the three hand-picked officials rendered three separate and distinct verdicts on the fight in question.

An epidemic of fouls several years ago threatened to ruin boxing out of existence in this State, but the commission disposed of that peril by the simple expedient of doing away with fouls—the much-discussed foul rule. Regardless of how this rule may be regarded elsewhere it has been a great success here.

Every sport, it seems, has these controversial points. In baseball it is the intentional pass; in track sports, the jockeying of runners on the turns; in basketball, the block which takes a defending player out of the play; in tennis, the footfault.

The moral, if any, would seem to be that with good sportsmanship and common sense officiating all sports will survive despite some necessarily imperfect rules.

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