Reading the Greens

GOLF MADE EASY

By Mark Allerton and R. Browning

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Books on Golf from the Arthur W. Schultz Collection
Few sporting activities have produced a more extensive published literature than the game of golf. From biographies and manuals to atlases and novels, golf books have long commanded the fascination of professionals and amateurs alike. Over the past century, the literature of golf in all of its forms and formats has continued to grow as the popularity of the game has increased and as golfers, courses, and tournaments have spread around the world.

While the extent of golf literature is impressive, its growth has been a relatively recent development. A primitive version of golf was played in Scotland as early as the fifteenth century, but only a few scattered references to the beginnings of the game survive in manuscripts, legal documents, and occasional published sources. It was not until the later nineteenth century, with the rapid growth of interest in the game and expansion of courses to accommodate increased participation, that books on golf became a literature in their own right. Golf was a fresh experience, propelled to wider popularity by easy railroad and highway access to courses, reduced costs and improved reliability of golf equipment, substantial increases in leisure time, and a new middle-class obsession with the outdoors and physical fitness. For men and women, college students and children alike, golf was an irresistible new expression of the contemporary age. Along with bicycling, gymnastics, tennis, and other sporting enthusiasms of the late nineteenth century, golf and books about golf rode a sweeping wave of social change into the dramatically reshaped culture of modern times.

"Reading the Greens" takes a new look at this enduring phenomenon, not by studying the lay of the course, the slope of the turf, or the site of the cup, but by examining the rich array of published literature that the game has produced. One of the earliest and most continuously popular of published golf genres, the instructional book, is represented by a large group of texts spanning the decades from Golfing; A Handbook to the Royal and Ancient Game (1887) and The Gist of Golf (1922) to more recent titles such as Golf with Seven Clubs (1956) and Timing Your Golf Swing (1957). The implemenents of the game and the caddies who have carried them from hole to hole claim their specialized books, as do the skills and achievements of the many women who have played the game, among them May Hezlett, an Open Ladies' Champion of the 1890s and author of Ladies' Golf (1907).

Writers like Henry Cotton, in his Golf; Being A Short Treatise for the Use of Young People (1931), urge children to early starts on their stance and swing, while other golfing advisers contribute thoughtful counsel on The Mental Side of Golf (1939) and furnish encouragement to the large audience of amateur players in books such as Grantland Rice and Clare Briggs's The Duffer's Handbook of Golf (1926). The rapid-fire quips of Bob Hope and the droll humor of P.G. Wodehouse provide cheering and welcome comfort to the less-consistent player, while the stories of John Cheever, Ian Fleming, and other novelists offer an intriguing and frequently exciting escape from the fairways into the realm of fiction.

In recent years, the golf course and the famous players who master its challenges have become an increasingly important focus of much golf literature. From Alister Mackenzie's pioneering text on Golf Architecture (1920) to the published work of contemporary designers such as Tom Fazio and Robert Trent Jones, Jr., golf books trace the imaginative reshaping of the natural landscape into the distinctive fairways, roughs, bunkers, and greens of thousands of individual golf courses.

Exhibition Checklist
Reading the Greens:
Books on Golf
From the Arthur W. Schultz Collection

INTRODUCTION
Bookplate for The Arthur W. Schultz Golf Collection,
The University of Chicago Library.

Caring For Your Collections... Foreword by Arthur W. Schultz.


George Duncan and Bernard Darwin. Present-Day Golf.
Illustrated by Photographs by G.W. Beldam. New York: George H. Doran, 1921.

Arthur W. Schultz. In Praise of America's Collectors;
Their Secrets Reveal How to Be a Successful Collector.
Santa Barbara, Ca.: Santa Barbara Museum of Art, 1998.


OBSCURE ORIGINS


Club histories and other publications pay tribute to some of the best known of these courses: Chicago's Onwentsia Club, Olympia Fields, and the Chicago Golf Club, the first course in the United States; famous American courses such as The Country Club of suburban Boston; Shinnecock Hills on Long Island, and Pinehurst in North Carolina; and rapidly proliferating golf links spreading from their original home in the British Isles to Western Europe, South Africa, Australia, Japan, and elsewhere around the world. The acknowledged masters of these courses, great players like Jack Nicklaus and Gene Sarazen, Bobby Jones and Arnold Palmer, Patty Berg and Nancy Lopez, have come to personify the popular image of golf in the twentieth century. Books by these and other masters, from "Babe" Didrikson Zaharias's *Championship Golf* (1948) to Gary Player's *395 Golf Lessons* (1972), define the performance standards and set the personal goals of millions of golfers who play the game.

The contemporary fascination with golf has also spurred the popularity of large-format books focusing on the greatest courses and most challenging golf holes in the world, works such as Davy Hoffman's *America's Greatest Golf Courses* (1987) and André-Jean Lafaurie's *Golf: Great Courses of the World* (1991). Lavishly illustrated with double-page color photographs, these books present the game of golf at its most beautiful and most ideal, the early light streaming across clipped grass or hanging over the waters of a still pond, an inviting and beguiling green dreamscape for golfing enthusiasts at any level of skill.

These richly detailed photographs bring the printed page as close as possible to the actual sensations and stimulations of the golf environment; equally important, for fans of golf manuals, novels, histories, biographies, and other species of golf literature, they are a welcome invitation to set the books aside and re-enter the real game with a fresh approach to reading the greens.

Books and other golf materials on display in this exhibition are drawn from the Arthur W. Schultz Golf Collection in the Department of Special Collections, which includes more than 1,600 books on the history of golf presented to the University of Chicago Library by Arthur W. Schultz. Titles in the collection reflect an avid golfer's interest in the historical, social, and technical aspects of the game. Arthur W. Schultz is an alumnus and Life Trustee of the University of Chicago.

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**RULES OF THE GAME**

**Harry Fullford.** *Potted Golf.* Glasgow: Dalross, 1910.


**William Ralston.** *K., B., & D'A.* *North Again: Golfing This Time, According to the Badminton Library.* London: Simkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent, [1894].

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**The Rules of Golf; Valentine's Series of Pictorial Postcards.** Illustrated by Charles Crombie. Dundee: Valentine [1906].

**Swinley Forest Golf Club.** *Rules.* Reading, England: Bradley [1910].


**GRIP AND SWING**


**Daryn Hammond.** *The Golf Swing; The Ernest Jones Method.* New York: Brentano's, [1920].

**Charles Herndon.** *Golf Made Easier.* Illustrated. Los Angeles: Parker, Stone & Baird, [1939].

**Henry Hughes.** *Golf for the Late Beginner.* New York: Robert M. McBride, 1929.

**Dave Hunter.** *Golf Simplified; Cause and Effect.* Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, Page, 1921.


H. B. MARTIN. *What's Wrong with Your Game?* New York: Dodd, Mead, 1930.


WILLIAM PARK, JR. *The Game of Golf.* ...London: Longmans, Green, 1896.


GENE SARAZEN and DENNY SHUTE, RALPH GUILDAHL, JOHNNY REVOLTA. *From Tee to Cup by the Four Masters.* ... n.p.: Wilson Sporting Goods, 1937. Signed by Ralph Guldahl.

HARRY VARDON. *The Gist of Golf.* Illustrated from Photographs Posed by the Author. New York: George H. Doran, 1922.

**IMPLEMENTS OF THE GAME**


GENERAL CATALOGUE AND RETAIL PRICE LIST OF EVERYTHING REQUIRED IN PLAYING THE EXHILARATING AND FASCINATING, ROYAL AND ANCIENT GAME OF GOLF. ... Dayton, Ohio: Crawford, McGregor & Carby, 1913.

HORACE G. HUTCHINSON. *Golf.* ...With numerous illustrations by Thomas Hodge and Harry Furniss. The Badminton Library of Sports and Pastimes. London: Longmans, Green, 1890.

LLOYD MANGRUM. *How to Break 90 at Golf.* ... Greenwich, Conn.: Fawcett, 1952.


KENNETH SMITH. *Golf Club Alterations and Repairs; A Professional Shop Manual of Instruction.* ... Kansas City, Mo.: n.p., 1965.

JOSHUA TAYLOR. *The Art of Golf.* ... London: T. Werner Laurie, [1912].

MEX TUTHILL. *Golf without Gall.* London: Hutchinson, [1917].

**CADDES**


**WOMEN ON THE LINKS**


MAY HEZLET. *Ladies' Golf.* ... London: Hutchinson, 1907.

CECIL LITCH. *Golf.* ... Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott, 1922.


SHARRON MORAN. *Golf is a Woman's Game; Or, How to Be a Swinger on the Fairway.* New York: Hawthorn Books, 1971.


GARDEN (GRANT SMITH [and others]). *The World of Golf.* ... London: A.D. Innes, 1898.


ENID WILSON and ROBERT ALLEN LEWIS. ... So That's What I Do! London: Methuen, 1935.

**EARLY STARTS**


[CATALOGUE]. Newark, Ohio: [Burke Golf Company], 1922.

HENRY COTTON. *Golf; Being a Short Treatise for the Use of Young People Who Aspire to Proficiency in the Royal and Ancient Game.* London: Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1931.
Robert A. Cromie. *Golf for Boys and Girls.*
... Chicago: Follett, 1963.

Illustrated by Frank C. Murphy. Action
Photography by Don Honick.

Doug Ford. *Start Golf Young.*
Diagrams by Howard Morris.


Eddie Merrins and Michael McTeigue.

**THE MENTAL SIDE OF GOLF**

With Forewords by Rolf Creasy and John Henry

James Currie Macbeth. *Golf from A to Z.*

David C. Morley. *Golf and the Mind.*

Alex J. Morrison. *Better Golf without Practice.*
New York: Simon and Schuster, 1940.


... London: Methuen, 1922.

... London: Macmillan, 1912.

**THE DUFFER’S GAME**


Morie Morrison. *Here’s How to Play Money Golf.* ... Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1953.


Grantland Rice and Clare Briggs.


**A DROLL GAME**


Fore! *Golf Cartoons from The Wall Street Journal.* Selected by Charles Preston.


Reg Manning. *From Tee to Cup.*

London: Herbert Jenkins, [1927].

New York: Doubleday, Doran, 1940.

**GOLF TALES**

Patrick Cake. *The Pro-Am Murders.*


St. Mungo Golf Balls reproduced from
General Catalogue and Retail Price List. ... Dayton, Ohio: Crawford, McGregor & Canby, 1913.


**IMAGINING THE COURSE**


**CHICAGO COURSES**


*Chicago Women's District Golf Association; [Yearbook], 1955.* [Chicago: Chicago Women's District Golf Association, 1955].

*Chicagoland Golf.* Vol. 1, nos. 1, 2, 6 (1952).


*The Clubhouse; Tam O'Shanter Country Club.* [Chicago: Tam O'Shanter Country Club, 1950].

Gordon H. Ewen. *Indian Hill; The First 75 Years, 1914-1989.* [Winnetka, Ill.: Indian Hill Club], 1989.

*Golf... Where the Best Courses Are... And the Best Course to Take in Reaching Them.* [Chicago: Outing and Recreation Bureau, n.d.].


*Skokie Country Club Year Book; Fiftieth Anniversary.* Glencoe, Ill.: Skokie Country Club, 1947.


**AMERICAN COURSES**


*The Jekyll Island Club.* [Brunswick, Georgia: Jekyll Island Club, n.d.].


COURSES AROUND THE WORLD


Golf Clubs of the Empire: The Golfing Annual... London: Clougher, 1930.

No. 122 of 150 copies bound in quarter-leather, signed by the author. With an envelope of San Serriffe ephemera.


MASTERS OF THE COURSE


GREEN DREAMS


Above left
“Miss A. Graham: Driving.”
The University of Chicago Library

This checklist has been published in conjunction with

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Mark Allerton and Robert Browning.
Golf Made Easy. ... London: Cassell, 1910.

Front cover, background
"The First or Bridge Hole at St. Andrews."
From Robert Clark, editor. Golf; A Royal & Ancient Game.
... London: Macmillan, 1883.

Back cover
R.B. Townshend, Inspired Golf.
... London: Methuen, 1922.