

# HERRON, JONES, QUIMET, EVANS AND KIRKBY LEAD IN GOLF RATING FOR SEASON IN THAT ORDER

## HERRON HEADS LIST OF 1919 LINKSMEN

### Ranking of Amateur Golfers Places Champion at Top, with Jones in Second Place.

### QUIMET IS NEXT IN LINE

#### Old Titleholder's Standing Regulated by Showing in National Tourney. —Evans and Kirkby Follow.

Now that the golf and country clubs have decided to give way in favor of cold weather and to tuck the files and trophies back on the shelf for a few months, immediately the arguments and discussions over the season just ending are launched. All the championship titles were put into competition again for the first time since 1916, and the next few weeks will afford ample opportunity for sizing up the passing year as a whole. In fact, perhaps, there is more reason for a thorough appraisal of the 1919 golfing year because of the unexpected turn of events in some of the tourneys. The open championship, re-turged to professional ranks, after having been held by amateurs for two years, 1915 and 1916, but most sensational of all was the revolutionary turn among the amateurs at their own championship affair.

Chick Evans went to Oakmont as national amateur champion, having taken the title away from Robert A. Gardner in 1918 at Merion, but he came away after seeing an outsider, a brand new linksman, crowned with the highest laurel of all. S. Davidson Herron, the chubby home club man, led the field around Oakmont for the week and wound up in the grand finale by defeating Robert T. Jones. Herron had been known locally, but was practically unnoticed in national circles. He was not even mentioned as a representative American golfer to meet the Canadians in the international matches in July.

Golfers have been asking themselves a question ever since that notable day at Oakmont: Is Herron the best amateur golfer in America today? The question will never be decided satisfactorily. Unfortunately for the winter league meetings, the U. S. G. A. does not give a ranking of the leading golfers. The eligibility list for the national championship has in part superseded the grouping of the headliners, but it has in no manner shuffled the top-notch performers on the links into any particular order.

If the records for the season of 1919 are investigated with care, the events of the year and the work of each golfer can be distinguished. Probably there are more individuals playing golf than any other amateur sport, not excepting tennis, and in some instances the performances are confusing. As in other sports, no one leader is protected infallibly from defeat. A reverse in a minor tourney or match is possible any time. Neither is it always easy to distinguish between the actual playing this season from that which a golfer is capable of. In the case of Francis Ouimet, the 1913 open and 1914 amateur champion very evidently did not perform during the season just ending as well as he can normally. Ouimet entered the Oakmont event a sick man; qualified, defeated E. C. Cleary and Chick Evans, and then lost to J. Wood Platt in the third round by up after two extra holes. Ouimet can do better than that, and undoubtedly will do so next year. Yet the fact remains that for the season of 1919 he did play inferior golf to other men.

**Pennsylvanians in Lead.**

On the strict basis of the ability and performances during tournaments of the past season, and not taking into consideration any other year, the ranking of the ten leading golfers could be made as follows:

1—S. D. Herron.	6—W. C. Fownes, Jr.
2—Robert T. Jones.	7—G. W. Hoffner.
3—Francis Ouimet.	8—J. Wood Platt.
4—Charles Evans, Jr.	9—Max R. Marston.
5—Oswald Kirkby.	10—Paul Tewkesbury.

Herron, Platt, Fownes, Hoffner, and Tewkesbury are Pennsylvanians, Kirkby a New Yorker, Ouimet a Massachusetts man, Evans is from the West, Jones from the South, and Marston is still betwixt and between. Until September, and while at the Oakmont tournament in August, he represented New York. Business and other interests beckoned him to Philadelphia and in the Lesley Cup matches in October Marston was found representing the Quaker State.

It is perhaps surprising that golfers of the calibre of Jesse Guilford, Nelson Whitney, Jerome D. Travers, Robert A. Gardner, and some of the 1919 phenomenon such as Jess Sweetser, Harry G. Legg, L. Walker, Jr., and Richard Bockcamp cannot be included in the reckoning. But on the basis of this season's records, and not on their ability, it is necessary to discard them in favor of those who did actually play their way to the top. Guilford, for instance, won the Massachusetts open, but he did not figure in the national championship. Whitney's victories in the U. S. G. A. series and in the Trans-Mississippi championship are hardly enough to overcome his showing at Oakmont, where he lost to W. J. Thompson. Travers is the sole scratch man on the Metropolitan handicap list, yet the two times when he appeared among company of national importance brought him defeat. C. B. Waldo, Jr., of Detroit beat him 8 and 7 in the first round at Oakmont, and Thomas took his measure in the international series with the Canadians. Similarly, perhaps the others have more ability than is shown by their 1919 record, but the line must be drawn in making the ranking between what they did and what they didn't do. Herron is the national champion, but that fact alone should not be considered exclusively of other details in placing him first. He won the greatest competition against America's amateurs, and he won it conclusively, decisively, and without the semblance of a fluke. His was no close margin over Platt in the semi-final round, but a victory by 3 and 6 over this conqueror of Ouimet, who in turn had beaten Evans, the title holder. Neither was there a hair's breadth separating him from the second man in the final round. He humbled Bobby Jones by 3 and 4.

### Played On His Home Links.

The argument can always be advanced that Herron gained his victory over his home club links. Oakmont is regarded as one of the toughest propositions of eighteen holes in the United States. This favored Herron and acted as a handicap to every other competitor. But the fact remains that Oakmont was selected by the U. S. G. A., and it was there that the golfing leaders vied for the greatest crown of all. Herron cannot be held to blame because he had the advantage of knowing the course well for the five series. The outcome in 1920 may be an entirely different matter. Herron's playing may justify the contention of perhaps a majority of golfers that he cannot repeat his feat by winning the amateur title on a foreign course. He may or may not have won his best form when he lost to Kirkby in the Lesley Cup matches. Similarly, his brilliancy in triumphing in the Piping Rock final over a crowd of representative New Yorkers may have been a matter of luck. Yet Herron, whatever occurs in 1920, will go down in history as one of the longest drivers of all time and one of the greatest handlers of a mangle rickety. These are the two sticks that brought him his title, and their reliability next season remains to be seen. Bobby Jones would seem to deserve second place, not merely because of his

work at Oakmont, where he defeated Mannion, Gardner, Knopfer, and Fownes, but also because of his remarkable golf throughout the season. He tied for second place in the Canadian open with the mighty Jim Barnes and with Karl Keffer in September; Jones was second to Barnes in the Southern open, only a single stroke behind the great pro on the seventy-two holes. Jones will be remembered always as having come closer to the title at Oakmont than the score indicates. The careless behavior of one of the marshals of the course as Jones was playing a shot will never be forgotten. And the Atlanta youngster has the additional point to his credit of making the performances that he does by sensational golf and nothing else. He has not the benefit of long years of experience and training in important matches. He is young and not yet at his best.

### Ouimet's Place in the List.

Since Ouimet has been startling the golfing world with his work, he has been regarded as a leader of all. Yet, on the basis of his playing this season, no higher ranking than third can fairly and justly go to him. It has been argued that Ouimet can defeat Herron in four out of five matches. Possibly so, for he has certainly played greatly superior golf than he did at Oakmont, yet his regrettable illness should not, in fairness, reduce the prestige of others. His defeat by Platt was about as close as defeats go in golf. They were all square after two rounds, and Platt finally nosed out the victory on the thirty-eighth hole. If Ouimet can do that, what is to be expected of a well and healthy Ouimet? The Woodland star more than counterbalanced his defeat by his work during the season and, naturally, deserved a ranking higher than Platt. In the international matches at Hamilton, Ontario, Ouimet defeated W. J. McLuckie, the Canadian amateur champion, by 2 up. During the Massachusetts amateur championship, which he won from Jesse Guilford by 8 and 6, Ouimet shot one round in 68 strokes.

There are more reasons than his defeat at the hands of Ouimet for ranking Chick Evans fourth. In the international matches, Evans had a better opportunity to defeat when he confronted George Lyon, the Canadian senior, whereas Ouimet defeated McLuckie. In comparison with Herron, however, Evans enjoys much the same prestige as Ouimet, but only next year can settle the contention that he is superior on neutral ground.

In winning the Metropolitan amateur championship, the next in importance for the season, to the national event, Oswald Kirkby showed beyond doubt where the ranks this year. It should be fifth, but no higher because of his other ups and downs. It is hard to picture Kirkby, the winner over Herron in the Lesley Cup event, as having failed to qualify at Oakmont. Yet, the metropolitan titleholder had a day of such surprisingly poor golf that he was actually below H. J. Fopping and Jess Sweetser on the list of those who entered the qualifying test.

### Fownes Leads Hoffner.

The next three places would appear to go to W. C. Fownes, Jr., George W. Hoffner, and J. Wood Platt, all Pennsylvanians. Fownes, although one of the defeated Americans in the international matches, showed such good form at Oakmont as to give him the place over his Quaker mates. He defeated Hoffner in the third round match and entered the semi-final, where he was downed by the youthful Jones. Fownes had a bad day on the start of the Lesley Cup event when he lost to A. F. Kammer by 1 up, but on the following day won from one of the Massachusetts leaders, Larry Paton, by the same score. Hoffner appears to give Fownes the closer race, however, on the basis of the season's records. Although defeated at Oakmont, he led representative Pennsylvanians in winning the Shawnee invitation and also the Philadelphia championship, and in the Lesley Cup event he took both singles, defeating John G. Anderson and Estabrook.

Platt has to his credit the victory over Ouimet this season, but little else to commend him for higher rank. At Southampton he lost by a wide margin to Jess W. Sweetser, although on the following day he defeated F. C. Newton in the Penn-Massachusetts tilt.

For ninth place, the season's record would seem to favor no other than the active, busy Max R. Marston. Indeed, his performance in 1919, including the minor invitation tourneys, must be written large in the annals of golf, but in the two important title events he showed unexpected weakness. Early in June Marston lost to Walker in the semi-final round match for the Metropolitan championship and at Oakmont he was stopped in the first round of match play by Robert A. Gardner, the 1916 champion. He repaid his defeat by Walker in October when he conquered the Columbian student at Southampton, and showed throughout the year an uncanny ability to capture qualifying medals at club affairs, but his showing against other leading amateurs in the really important events was somewhat poorer. Paul Tewkesbury, another Quaker, seems to deserve tenth position. As a busy, active headliner throughout the season, Tewkesbury has probably played no better than such New Yorkers as Gardner, W. White, Sam Graham, or Walker, yet in the matches which count he has held his own with apparent ease. He started at Oakmont with a brilliant qualifying score which tied him for the medal with Herron and J. S. Mannion. In the first round Tewkesbury defeated Dean, but lost the next day to Platt. A happy draw at the Lesley Cup event matched him against Gardner White, and here the Quaker pulled out ahead of the Metropolitan star by 2 up.

### The Second Ten.

There appears to be less doubt concerning the ranking of the second ten amateur golfers of the United States. There are sectional champions in the division, such as Nelson M. Whitney and Harry G. Legg. Especial claim for a ranking within the second ten is made also by those golfers such as Gardner, White and Grant A. Peacock, who can be found high up among the qualifiers in most of the important championship and invitation tournaments throughout the season. They are the players who keep the sport so much in favor from spring until cold weather. No little credit is due to White, Peacock, Walker, Dean, and others for the tremendous interest that is growing at present in the great game on the links. When a tournament committee of a comparatively minor golf club obtains publicity, there are assurances of a successful event. Gardner W. White of Nassau probably plays by brilliantly and as often as any other contestant in the country, and he deserves first place in the second ten. Except for his defeats during the season at the hands of Hoffner in the national amateur championship and Tewkesbury in the Lesley Cup matches, White would have gained the coveted first group. Another New Yorker, A. L. Walker, Jr., holds the intercollegiate and Vermont titles and has been active in metropolitan tourneys since June. Third place goes to Henry G. Legg of Minneapolis, the Western amateur and Minnesota State champion, who failed to qualify in the national event. Nelson Whitney of New Orleans, Southern and Trans-Mississippi title holder, should come next. The others would follow in the order of Grant A. Peacock, Jesse Guilford, who

won the Massachusetts open, but who did not enter the national amateur championship; Richard Bockcamp, Robert A. Gardner, who scored one defeat over Marston in the national event; Simpson Dean, the especially active Princetonian; Jess Sweetser, a New Yorker who appears certain to climb higher next season, and J. E. Mannion of St. Louis, who tied with Herron and Tewkesbury for the qualifying medal at Oakmont.

The following is the 1919 record of chief importance in which they were competitors:

**S. Davidson Herron.**  
 Aug. 18—Tied for qualifying medal at national amateur championship, Oakmont, with Paul Tewkesbury and J. S. Mannion at 168.  
 Aug. 23—Won national amateur championship by defeating Robert T. Jones in final round, 5 and 4. Defeated the following others in match rounds: W. H. Platt, 2 and 1; A. N. Stearns, Jr., 7 and 6; W. J. Thompson, 8 and 7; J. W. Platt, 7 and 6.  
 Adv. 24—With Grant A. Peacock won play-off for American Golfer Trophy, 75 to 70, from J. Simpson Dean and Richard M. Haight.  
 Oct. 3—Lost to Oswald Kirkby, 5 and 4, in Lesley Cup tournament.  
 Oct. 4—Defeated F. W. Whittemore, 3 and 1, in Lesley Cup tournament.  
 Oct. 10—Menist Piping Rock invitation tourney with G. Peacock, second, 77.  
 Oct. 11—Won Piping Rock tourney, defeating Sam J. Graham in final round, 5 and 4.

**Robert T. Jones.**  
 July 25—Defeated Canada's McLaughlin, 5 and 3, in international matches against Canadians at Hamilton, Ont., in open championship with Jim Barnes and Karl Keffer at 204. J. Douglas Edgar won, with 201.  
 Aug. 24—Runner-up to S. Davidson Herron in national amateur championship, Oakmont, losing final round, 5 and 4. Defeated the following during match rounds: J. S. Mannion, 3 and 1; Robert A. Gardner, 3 and 4; R. E. Knopfer, 3 and 2; W. C. Fownes, Jr., 5 and 4.  
 Sept. 10—Second in Southern open championship, with 204—one stroke more than the winning total of 203, made by Jim Barnes.

**Francis Ouimet.**  
 July 12—Won Massachusetts amateur championship from Jesse Guilford, 8 and 6, in thirty-six-hole final match at Winchester C. C. During the tourney Ouimet made one round in 68.  
 July 25—Defeated W. J. McLuckie, 2 up, in international matches against Canadians at Hamilton, Ont.  
 Aug. 21—Lost third round match in national amateur championship to J. Wood Platt, 1 up in 28 holes. Ouimet was ill during the tourney. Defeated E. C. Cleary, 2 and 1, in first round, and Chick Evans, Jr., 1 up, in second round.  
 Sept. 10—Second in Southern open championship, with 204—one stroke more than the winning total of 203, made by Jim Barnes.

**Charles Evans, Jr.**  
 July 25—Defeated George Lyon, 4 and 3, in international matches against Canadians at Hamilton, Ont.  
 Aug. 20—Lost second round match in national amateur championship at Oakmont to Francis Ouimet, 1 up. Defeated D. W. Armstrong, 7 and 6, in first round.

**Oswald Kirkby.**  
 June 7—Won Metropolitan amateur championship, Brooklawn, from A. L. Walker, Jr., 3 and 1.  
 July 25—Defeated Geoffrey Turpin, 2 and 1, in international matches with Canadians, Hamilton, Ontario.  
 Aug. 10—Failed to qualify national amateur championship, Oakmont.  
 Oct. 3—Defeated S. Davidson Herron, 5 and 4, in Lesley Cup matches.

**W. C. Fownes, Jr.**  
 July 25—Lost to Hobbitzel, 3 and 1, in international matches against Canadians at Hamilton, Ontario.  
 Aug. 18—Defeated C. L. Maxwell, 3 and 2; C. G. Waldo, Jr., 6 and 5, and George W. Hoffner, 2 and 1, in national amateur championship, Oakmont. Lost third round match to Robert T. Jones, 5 and 6.  
 Oct. 2—Lost to A. F. Kammer, 1 up, in Lesley Cup matches.  
 Oct. 4—Defeated Larry Paton, 1 up, in Lesley Cup matches.

**George W. Hoffner.**  
 June 14—Won Shawnee invitation tourney from Pat Grant, 1 up.  
 June 28—Won Philadelphia championship from H. Maxwell, 2 and 1.  
 Aug. 18—Defeated Geoffrey Turpin, 7 and 6, and Grant A. Peacock, 1 up (21 holes), in national amateur championship, Oakmont. Lost third round match to W. C. Fownes, Jr., 2 and 1.  
 Oct. 2—Defeated John G. Anderson, 3 and 2, in Lesley Cup matches.  
 Oct. 4—Defeated Estabrook, 3 and 2, in Lesley Cup matches.

**J. Wood Platt.**  
 Aug. 18—Defeated John G. Anderson, 4 and 3; Paul Tewkesbury, 5 and 1, and Francis Ouimet, 1 up (28 holes), in national amateur championship, Oakmont. Lost semi-final match to S. Davidson Herron, 1 and 6.  
 Oct. 3—Lost to Jess W. Sweetser, 6 and 4, in Lesley Cup matches.  
 Oct. 2—Defeated F. C. Newton, 3 and 2, in Lesley Cup matches.

**Max R. Marston.**  
 April 24—Medalist, Shawnee Spring tourney.  
 May 17—Won Garden City tourney, from John M. Wark, 6 and 3. Was medalist also.  
 May 22—Medalist, Hobbs Hollow tourney.  
 June 1—Lost semi-final match to S. D. Herron, 1 up, in Metropolitan amateur championship, to A. L. Walker, Jr., 4 and 3, at Brooklawn.  
 June 20—Medalist, Philadelphia tourney. Won final from Grant A. Peacock, 2 up.  
 July 17—Medalist New Jersey State championship tournament. Won New Jersey State title at Deal from E. M. Wild, 3 and 1.  
 July 25—Defeated Beth, 8 and 7, in international matches against Canadians at Hamilton, Ont.  
 Aug. 2—Won Latham Cup tournament at Elkwood, from W. W. Paton, 1 up.  
 Aug. 18—Lost first round in national amateur championship, Oakmont, to Robert A. Gardner, 3 and 1.  
 Oct. 2—Defeated A. L. Walker, Jr., 4 and 3, in Lesley Cup matches.  
 Oct. 4—Defeated E. C. Cleary, 1 up, in Lesley Cup matches.

**Paul Tewkesbury.**  
 Aug. 20—Tied for qualifying medal national amateur championship, Oakmont, with S. Davidson Herron and J. S. Mannion. Won first round match, from J. Simpson Dean, 3 and 1, and lost second round match, 3 and 1, to J. Wood Platt.  
 Oct. 2—Defeated Gardner, 7 and 6, in Lesley Cup matches.