



THE AMERICAN GOLFER will gladly answer any inquiries from subscribers on questions relating to the Rules.

Chicago, Ill., Oct. 12, 1908.

MY DEAR MR. TRAVIS :—My chief occupation outside of my business is to get away from masculine conversation about bridge-whist and golf and female conversation on clothes.

Please do not invade my retreat with a copy of THE GOLFER, but let me wish you success with my golf-mad countrymen.

Very truly yours,

[Ed. Note:—Delicacy forbids us to give the name of our correspondent, who evidently detests the ladies—all—everyone of them, and who abhors the men—or most of them—but we hasten to assure him that, in the circumstances, the sanctity of his retreat will not be invaded by THE AMERICAN GOLFER.]

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New York, Oct. 16, 1908.

MY DEAR MR. TRAVIS :— Can you tell me of any rule of the United States Golf Association which will cover the following points:

1st. In playing the final rounds for a cup last Sunday, I was forbidden by the committee to take a practice swing within a club length of the ball, both on the tee and on the fair green.

2d. I was forbidden by the committee to take a practice swing or putt on the putting green under any circumstances.

3d. I was told that both my competitor and myself must play stymies, although neither of us were desirous of doing so.

I called into question the committee's decision under the United States Golf Association rules on the first and second rulings, and on the third stated frankly that I did not know, but accepted their decision.

I regret having to trouble you, but should like this point settled definitely so that in other matches there can no such question arise.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. C. D.

[A. In regard to the first and second points raised, the committee were quite right, except in so far as the practice swing on the tee was concerned. A ball on the tee is not in play and consequently a man can take any number of practice swings as near the ball as he wishes without subjecting himself to any penalty, as there is no violation of the rules.

The rule in question is No. 11.

With respect to point 3, inasmuch as stymies form an integral part of the game, you and your opponent were obliged to play same, in competition.]