



JOHN BRUCE MACKIE (Jack)

1878 - 1953

John Bruce Mackie (Jack) was the eldest of the four Mackie brothers who had a huge influence on the development of the game in USA. Although he was born in the west his family moved to Earlsferry shortly after he was born and to all intents and purposes we are treating him as an Earlsferry son. His father was a journeyman mason and they lived in Waldeve on the shore at Earlsferry. Whilst all four Mackie brothers were successful in the USA it was Jack who pioneered the way by arriving in New York in 1899 although we cannot find a record of his arrival. He was the first professional and involved in the layout of Roseville N.J.

Jack Mackie has been engaged as professional of the Yountakah Country Club. He will take charge of the Nutley greens on March 15. He has been the professional at the **Roseville Golf Club** for several years.

1906



Later, George Pearson was professional there. He then moved to Dinwoodie and in 1916 he moved to Inwood. This is from the Inwood website:

..... Jack Mackie, whose tenure began in 1917. Mackie improved the course further, bringing it to championship caliber. An important figure in American golf, he was vice president of the PGA for two years, and treasurer for ten. He retired from Inwood in 1950,

Inwood Golf Club (below).



GOLFERS ORGANIZE.

Eastern Association Formed With Professionals From This State.

The Eastern Professional Golfers' Association has at last been fairly launched. Its second meeting was held in New York last week, when the constitution and by-laws recently drafted by the executive committee were adopted, with a few minor changes.

Prior to the meeting the "pros" sat down to dinner in a body at the Astor house, among those present being George Low, Baltusrol; Will Anderson, Apawamis; Willie Norton, Lakewood; **Jack Mackie**, Roseville; **Jack Jolly**, Newark; Tom Wells, New York; **Jack Hobens**, Englewood; Chris Crosby, Arsdale; Donald Ball, Philadelphia; William Collins, Oakland; A. G. Griffiths, Westbrook;

He was also heavily involved in golf administration in the New York area (left).

DUNCAN STARS AT GOLF

DUNCAN LOSES GOLF MATCH, BUT IS INDIVIDUAL STAR

Isaac Mackie and Herbert Strong Defeat Aberdeen Visitor and Jack Mackie by Perfect Team Work.

George Duncan is a Scotchman, long and rangy of build and a phenomenal golfer. For the past few weeks he has been playing in exhibition best ball matches with the leading professionals of this country, and has invariably come out at the top. Yesterday at the Dunwoodie Golf Club, the visiting pro, had for a partner Young Jack Mackie, the home club professional, and although Duncan made the best individual score of the day, they were beaten by 4 up and 2 to play by Herbert Strong of Apawamis and Isaac Mackie of Fox Hills.

Jack Mackie made the best individual score in the morning half of the thirty-six hole match, and it was largely due to him that his side was 1 up at the turn. In the afternoon, Duncan's individual score was four strokes lower than that of either of his opponent's, yet the Fox Hills and Apawamis professionals took the lead almost immediately after the resumption of play.

Mackie and Strong Fitted In Perfectly.

It was a case of two heads being better than one, for Isaac Mackie and Strong fitted in perfectly together. Individually they made many mistakes, but never coincidentally, so that one or the other was able to either equal or better the score of Duncan. The individual card of the latter for the afternoon round also represents the best ball score for himself and his partner, whereas the best ball score of Isaac Mackie and Strong was nine strokes lower than the individual effort of the Fox Hills man, and ten strokes under that of the Apawamis expert.

Duncan proved himself the best golfer of the quartet. All of them get a long ball from the tee, but Duncan's was nearly always the best. When it came to fast play, and none of the professionals concerned in the match can be termed slow, Duncan again shone. Whether trying to get distance on the fair green, or going after a long putt, Duncan was as speedy and apparently careless as is his custom. Sometimes the Aberdeen man would be playing a short before the ball of one of the other players had stopped rolling, and in consequence they went the distance in record time for a best ball match.

It was noticeable even to the most casual eye that there was rain in New York yesterday, and Dunwoodie was no exception. It did not begin until fairly late in the afternoon, however, and not a member of the gallery permitted the storm to interfere with his watching the finish of the match. They all went to the bitter and bedraggled end and enjoyed every minute of an exceptionally clever match.

Always Ready to Help Out.

The extent to which Isaac Mackie and Strong assisted each other may be seen at a glance at the score. In the afternoon round, up to the sixteenth hole, where the match was concluded, the individual scores of the two men were only alike at three holes. At the fourth both got down in 4 and at the thirteenth and fourteenth each got a 3 and a 4. This was remarkable team work and the best ball score at 65 was something pretty hard to beat.

After the match was over and the four men were going to the seventeenth, Jack Mackie got into a bunker. The other

three reached the green in 2. It is 455 yards from tee to pin. Of the three Strong was the only one to use wood for his second shot, and then Duncan added to the pleasure of the moment by running down a thirty-foot putt for a 3. Jack Mackie had done the same thing at this hole during the morning round.

Although Duncan and his partner were the first to win a hole, they soon lost the advantage, and at the turn in the first half of the match the Mackie-Strong combination was slightly in the lead. They increased this at the eleventh and thirteenth, Isaac Mackie pitching a mashie shot dead at the latter hole. Luck changed at the fourteenth and the Duncan side came in for a succession of four holes, which put them 1 up at the close of the round.

Halved First Five Holes.

The afternoon round opened with five halved holes, Duncan playing spectacular golf. At the sixth Strong came to the fore and won the hole with a fifteen-foot putt for a 4. This squared the match, Isaac Mackie, not to be outdone, ran down a twelve-footer at the seventh for a 2, and Strong came back at the eighth with a fine 3. Jack Mackie had driven out of bounds.

There was no beating this sort of golf and Duncan was playing a lone hand, to a certain extent. He and his partner turned two down, but at the tenth Duncan made a sensational pitch out of a bunker dead to the pin and won the hole with a 3. At the eleventh Strong ran down his second fifteen-foot putt and won the hole, his side becoming dormie at the fifteenth, the result of a good approach and putt by Isaac Mackie, who also won the sixteenth, which terminated the match.

There was a special prize for the best individual medal score of the afternoon match and all the players holed out their putts. Duncan was much the best, having a 79 to his credit. Isaac Mackie was next with a 74.

There Were the Scores of the Day:

MORNING ROUND.	
Strong and I. Mackie:	
Out	4 4 3 2 5 4 3 3 4-34
Duncan and J. Mackie:	
Out	3 4 5 3 4 5 3 4 4-35
Strong and I. Mackie:	
In	4 4 3 4 4 5 4 5-37 71
Duncan and J. Mackie:	
In	4 5 4 5 3 3 4 3 5-36 71
Strong and I. Mackie:	
Out	34 4 4 4 2 3 4-33
Duncan and J. Mackie:	
Out	3 4 4 4 4 5 3 4 4-35
Strong and I. Mackie:	
In	4 3 3 4 3 3 5-33 65
Duncan and J. Mackie:	
In	3 4 3 4 3 4 5 3 6-36 79
Individual scores.	
MORNING ROUND.	
J. Mackie:	
Out	3 4 5 4 4 5 3 4 4-36
In	4 5 4 5 4 3 4 3 5-38 74
I. Mackie:	
Out	4 3 3 4 5 4 3 3 4-34
In	4 5 4 2 4 5 5 4 6-39 75
Duncan:	
Out	4-6 6 3 4 5 3 4 4-39
In	4 5 4 5 3 4 4 4 5-38 77
Strong:	
Out	4 5 2 5 5 3 4 4-34
In	4 4 4 4 4 5 6 4-41 77
AFTERNOON ROUND.	
Duncan:	
Out	3 4 4 4 1 3 3 4 4-33
In	3 4 3 4 3 4 3 3 6-35 70
I. Mackie:	
Out	3 6 4 4 3 5 2 4 5-40
In	3 4 3 4 3 4 5 3 6-35 79
Strong:	
Out	4 4 5 4 4 4 5 3 4-37
In	5 3 4 4 5 4 4 4 5-38 75
J. Mackie:	
Out	3 6 4 4 4 6 3 5 6-39
In	4 4 3 4 3 5 5 5 6-39 78

1905 with Isaac 1952 and famous story of the moving oak tree

Inwood was where Bobby Jones won his first major, the 1923 US Open, but it was Jack Mackie's instant architecture at the USPGA in 1921 which springs to mind when Inwood is mentioned, Walter Hagen had found a strategy to play the 17th by driving up the parallel fairway on the 18th. The evening before the championship began Mackie and a greenkeeper dug up a fifteen-foot weeping willow in the woods by the 16th fairway and replanted it to divide the fairways. On arriving at the tee Hagen remarked that he had never seen such fast-growing trees. Two minutes later the wind caught the supporting wires and the tree fell leaving the 18th fairway open to Hagen.

OLD TIMER RETIRES—Jack Mackie, professional and greens superintendent at Inwood since the minds of most men can't remember to the contrary, has retired. Jack's been ill for a couple of years.

Mackie took over the work at Inwood back before the first PGA championship. That was 1916. In 1921 the championship was played at Inwood. And thereby hangs a tale. More than one of those willows now growing at Inwood dates from that championship. Where Mackie saw the pros take short cuts—up went a tree.

Those little willows that march in a line up the left of the 10th, the ones that have to be driven over, were Hagen trees. The Hail took too many trips, successfully, up the short way. So Mackie planted trees.

There's hardly a hole on that Inwood course that doesn't bear Mackie's stamp. A little touch here, a little there! The present playing of the 12th, 13th and 14th is almost strictly Mackie.

It's hard realizing the strength, and importance, of a professional until years have passed—or until, as now, the forceful character is through. Then it dawns. Strong characters' work gives shape to courses, and to the clubs that engage them.

What also comes out is the vitality of a club. When Jack was hale and eager, Inwood saw fine competitions. As he tired, Inwood slipped from the tournament scene, and more's the pity. Good competition is a vast part of golf, and the life of a golf club. Oddly, when competition goes, it isn't noticed at once. But gradually the club finds that there's something missing, but rarely is competition picked out as the reason. But it most often is.

For over 20 years, Jack Mackie was as eager a man as there was in the game. He was a powerful force in the PGA. And a bit of a Machiavelli on the side. He had a few spots on every Inwood green picked out as "tournament spots" and that's where he'd have the pins set—to his intense, if not always evident, amusement.

One spot on the back right of the third green was his prize. Old Jack delighted in seeing the strong blast two shots up near the green and then, lacking the tricky shot to the flag, struggle. Usually the hope for a birdie faded into a struggle for a par. Or worse yet, into a struggle to avoid a bogie.

He died three years later in 1953 .

J. B. Mackie, Noted Golf Pro

Inwood—Final Masonic rites will be offered today at his home, 118 Bayview Ave., for John B. Mackie, Sr., 74, golf professional for 33 years at the Inwood Country Club, who died on Sunday.

Religious services will be held tomorrow at 2 P.M. Mackie, a native of Scotland, came to this country at the age of 21. Before joining the staff at the local club he was a pro at the Dunwoodie Country Club in Yonkers.

Among the golfers he coached was his son, John B. Mackie Jr., former state amateur champion.

He was founder, former presi-

dent and secretary for 18 years of the Professional Golf Association of America. He was a former deputy grand master of the Masonic order.

Besides his son, he leaves his wife Annie; a daughter, Margaret, two brothers, Daniel and Issac Mackie, and two grandchildren.



118 Bayview Avenue, the family home