

Mrs. Mason Defeats Mrs. Tracy To Annex Third State Golf Crown

BY HARRY NASH

If there was any question as to Mrs. Marge Mason's place in state golf annals it is now dispelled. The Ridgewood Country Club star joined a select group yesterday when she defeated Mrs. William Tracy of Glen Ridge, 5 and 4, to win the women's state championship for the third time.

Maureen Orcutt and Charlotte Glutting, who attained a measure of international celebrity, are the only four-time winners of the state crown. Mrs. Mason joins Mrs. Martha Parker Amend, Mrs. William Hockenjos and Mrs. Laddie Irwin Homer as the only other players ever to win the title more than twice.

Mrs. Mason scored her initial victory over the Nos. 3 and 4 nines of the Montclair Golf Club, defeating Mrs. Catherine Fox Park, 8 and 7, in the 1946 final. Three years later the Ridgewood linkswoman defeated Mrs. Hockenjos, 1 up, at Canoe Brook and yesterday it was again at Montclair Golf Club that Mrs. Mason triumphed, retrieving the tiara from Mrs. Tracy to whom she surrendered it last year.

Mrs. Mason didn't have what could be called a difficult match. She finished second to Charlotte De Cozen in the qualifying round, vanquished Mrs. Joseph Frelinghuysen, 6 and 5, in the first match play round, disposed of Mrs. Catherine Fox Park, 6 and 4, in the second round and eliminated Jane Goss of Somerset Hills, 4 and 3, in the semi-final.

The highlight of the tournament for the defending champion was her 5 and 4 victory over Charlotte De Cozen, who had defeated Mrs. Phillip Cudone in a first round match that went 21 holes.

But the silky putting touch that featured Mrs. Tracy's play against Miss De Cozen was absent yesterday as she lost the third hole of the morning round and never could make up the deficit.

Three putts cost Mrs. Tracy the fourth and she went 3 down when Mrs. Mason contrived a birdie four on the ninth. For the next seven holes the champion lost no further ground, but she dropped the 17th

and 18th to Mrs. Mason's par and birdie.

Uncertainty around the greens cost Mrs. Tracy at least three holes of the outgoing nine in the afternoon and she still was 5 down with nine to play. Mrs. Mason made it 6-up when her adversary plopped a shot into the water on the second

hole of the No. 4 nine. While Mrs. Tracy took the next hole with a par three, Mrs. Mason continued her steady play for halves on the next two holes to run out the string.

The best golf of the day was played by Mrs. Cudone in defeating Essene De Cozen, 8 and 7, in the final of the championship flight. Mrs. Cudone was out in 35, three under women's par.

For a change, five days of perfect golf weather prevailed for the championship and the contestants couldn't have staged their event on a better conditioned course. The greens were lightning fast, but little if any fault could be found with the well-cushioned fairways.

Contestants had nothing but praise for the solicitousness of Arthur Thomas, Montclair Golf Club manager, and, as an added fillip, champagne punch was served during the presentation of prizes. This detail had been taken care of by John F. Foster, club president.



VICTOR AND VANQUISHED—Mrs. Joseph J. Mason, left, and Mrs. William Tracy shake hands on outcome of match in which Mrs. Mason defeated Mrs. Tracy for state women's golf crown yesterday at Montclair Country Club. Mrs. F. M. Hoffman, center left, president of the Women's New Jersey Golf Association, and Mrs. J. Joseph Connor, chairman of the tournament, look on.