

Israel's busy winning title in Met golf

Barbara Israel won't be playing on Century's Metropolitan Interclub Tennis League team Tuesday. . . she's been temporarily benched for failure to practice. At least that's her good-humored explanation.

This week she was too busy playing golf to worry about her tennis game, and playing golf so well that she defeated Pelham's Bea (Mrs. Albert) Bower for the Women's Metropolitan Golf Association Championship over Long Island's picturesque but grueling Meadowbrook Club course.

A winner over the defending champ by a 3-and-2 margin, Barbara started Friday's 36 final in torrid style, going three under par in the first five holes and making the turn at 3-up with a 35.

Despite a 42 on the back side ("What I call really steady golf," she joked), the Century champ took a two hole advantage into the afternoon round and won the first three holes to go five up.

"Naturally I responded by losing six, seven and nine," she observed. "More of that steady golf."

Excellent trap shots kept her out of trouble and in the lead while Mrs. Bower, a two time winner of this event, had uncharacteristic trouble on the greens.

"Bea is usually so good with her putter I didn't think I had much of a chance when we started," Mrs. Israel acknowledged. "But today she just couldn't sink a putt. They simply didn't drop for her. The rest of her game was great."

Describing herself as "amazed to have won," Mrs. Israel was planning to celebrate her victory Friday night with Hungarian food and champagne.

"My whole attitude has changed so much towards my game," reflected the attractive blonde. "I'm much more lighthearted than I was in the days before I took up tennis . . . then I'd be out on the practice tee every day and out playing 36 holes. It's a lot more fun now that I'm not playing so much."

Maybe this week Barbara will be able to get back to her tennis. When she wins a championship in that sport she can credit it to her golf game.

The WMGA Sanford Cup went to New Jersey teenager Louisa Silvestrone of Pike Rock, who defeated Bedford's Joan Parker on the 18th hole. This week's Championship was the first WMGA Louisa entered. —
L.B. FURLONG

Israel 'relaxes' —to play tennis

By JOHN M. BRENNAN

What does a comely blonde like Barbara Israel do after winning the prestigious Women's Metropolitan Golf Association Championship?

"It will be all tennis for me for the next 10 days," said the 29-year-old Century Club ace after turning back seasoned Bea Bower of Pelham, 3 and 2, yesterday in the 36-hole final in the 72nd edition over the sprawling Meadow Brook Club course.

"I'm involved in a team effort in a tennis league and although I would like to be back playing golf, I must put aside my clubs for my racquet. But I'll be playing in the Tri-County Championship next month, trying for my second major triumph."

Bea Bower, who beat Mrs. Sherburne Hart in the Met final over the same course in 1966 and has been a three-time winner of the title, extolled Barbara for her victory. "She was due to win sooner or later-bound to be a champion," declared the Pelham ace who has been a leading golfer for 40 years, during which time she won state titles in her native Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts and New York.

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BARBARA, who led the qualifiers with a sparkling 73, one over, in horried weather, was never down to Mrs. Bower in the final after winning the first two holes.

She used only 16 putts on the first nine and was one-under par. She was three up going to the 10th. After being four up at the 14th, she reached the 18th two up.

After the luncheon respite, Barbara won the first three holes of the afternoon round, going five up. Her long drives that usually bisect fairways became erratic from then on and at the 27-hole juncture, her margin was reduced to two.

Barbara, undaunted, recovered her poise to win the 28th and following hole to go four up. From then on, she was having trouble with her driver and putter and was extended to the short 16th, where she won with a halved three.

Although Barbara had won the club title at Century and captured the Sanford Cup for leading the second flight of the Met in 1967, this was her first major crown.

A year ago, before a gymnastic accident that put her on the sidelines for a year with a back ailment, Barbara was a one-stroke player in the WMGA. She now carries three shots, but most likely will revert to one in the wake of yesterday's victory.

The 1975 Women's Metropolitan Golf Association's Championship was held at the Meadow Brook Club, Jericho, Long Island, from June 16th through June 20th.

We were very fortunate to have beautiful weather for the entire week. Seventy seven players, teeing off at five minute intervals, competed in the qualifying round. The first team was sent off at 8:30 am and the last twosome at 11:55 am. The caddie fee was \$9.00 a bag and no one was permitted the use of carts.

Mrs. Thomas Israel of Century was medalist with a score of 36-37-73, one over par on the 5,903 yard course.

Contestants phoned the Club on Monday evening from 6 PM to 7:30 PM for their starting times on the following day. The Meadow Brook Club was most gracious and served danish pastry and coffee each morning.

The following women served as hostesses for the entire week and were extremely helpful in many ways.

Mrs. F. Leffler
Mrs. M. Sykes
Mrs. S. Baum
Mrs. J. McLellan
Mrs. A. Beard

The Club served a special luncheon Monday thru Friday. A choice of Chef Salad - Avocado stuffed with crabmeat - or Club Sandwich for \$3.75.

Prizes were sent to the Club by Mrs. Stackhouse, the Prize Chairman, a week before the Championship. They were Steuben animals and seem to delight all the recipients.

Mrs. Adrian J. Wallace took pictures of the Championship throughout the week and sent them to the Tee-Talk Editor.

The finalists in the Championship Round were Mrs. Thomas Israel of Century and Mrs. Albert Bower of Pelham. The morning and afternoon rounds were refereed by Mr. Gil Cavanaugh, the Professional at Meadow Brook. At the end of the morning round, Mrs. Israel, with a 77, was two up on Mrs. Bower, who shot a 79. The afternoon round ended on the 34th hole, with Mrs. Israel winning 3 and 2.

Miss Luisa Silvestrone of Pike Brook was winner of the Sanford Cup in a very exciting match against Mrs. Laurence Parker of Bedford.

With the help of a most efficient committee, a very willing staff and beautiful weather, it was a very successful Championship at the Meadow Brook Club.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. William Robertson Jr.
Chairman

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