

MRS. DEMPSEY SET TO DEFEND CROWN

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67th Metropolitan Golf Title to Start Tomorrow at Essex Fells in Jersey

By MAUREEN ORCUTT

The Women's Metropolitan Golf Association's 67th annual match-play championship gets under way at the Essex Fells Country Club in Essex Fells, N. J., tomorrow and continues through Friday.

Mrs. Thorne Dempsey of Meadow Brook, winner last year over the St. George's Golf and Country Club course in Stoney Brook, L. I., is set to defend her title. This past week while playing in the Long Island 54-hole stroke play championship, Mrs. Dempsey gave notice that she is playing well by winning the title in a play-off with Mrs. Pat Cici of Cedar Brook.

Mrs. Cici, a former Metropolitan champion, isn't entered this year, but the field of 60 entries, includes three other former winners. Mrs. Marge Mason of Ridgewood, victor in 1960; Mrs. Walter Cooperstein of Glen Oaks, the 1962 champion and runner-up to Mrs. Dempsey last year, and Mrs. Albert Bower of Pelham C. C., 1966 winner, are among those slated to see action.

Mrs. Crawford in Field

Three newcomers trying for the title will be Mrs. Charles T. Crawford of Apawamis, the former Jean Ashley, who was National amateur champion in 1965; Mrs. James Noble, Morris County C. C., former Pennsylvania State champion and Mrs. Joseph Ruvane of Canoe Brook. Mrs. Noble and Mrs. Ruvane teamed to win the Garden State better-ball of partners match-play championship.

Other strong contenders will be Mrs. A. Sherburne Hart of the neighboring Essex County Country Club, the New Jersey State champion; Mrs. Manny Doppelt of Brae Burn C. C.; Mrs. Gordon McGrath of Piping Rock, and her sister Mrs. Justine Cushing of Meadow Brook, winners of the qualifying medal in 1968; and two home club players, Mrs. William Tracy, who was runner-up for the Met championship in 1968 and Mrs. Lee Beard, runner-up in 1967.