



THE SCRIBE

THE JOURNAL OF THE JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Volume XXVI, No. 1

2007



"Handbook" Gleneagles Golf and Country Club

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE:
LINKS TO THE PAST

IN THIS ISSUE

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The Society welcomes submissions for publication relating to western Canadian Jewish history. All articles should be typed, double-spaced and appropriately credited. Electronic submissions are strongly encouraged. Send to: jhsofbc@direct.ca.

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Website: <http://digitalgroup.ca/jhs> (hosted by roca IT & Design, Maple Ridge, BC)

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Household...\$36

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Institutions/Organizations...\$40

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Back issues and extra copies (1978-2005) are \$10.00 including postage.

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ISSN 0824 6048

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Front cover - Graphic used by the Gleneagles Golf and Country Club "Handbook" and the Jewish Western Bulletin to advertise golf notices and reminders. 1958.

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INTRODUCTION

Up until now, no official history of the establishment of Jewish golf clubs in British Columbia has been chronicled. Although the B.C. Golf Museum has extensive archives, no records exist of what actually transpired with the purchase and re-development of the Gleneagles property or the transition, founding and development of the Richmond Golf and Country Club. Unfortunately, all those records were destroyed in a fire at the Richmond clubhouse.

The quest to rectify this situation began with a search for artifacts, records, letters, maps, publications, photographs, slides and golf memorabilia. Further information was gleaned from personal interviews and taped oral histories stored in the JHSBC archives. No doubt, all will be illuminated with this publication.

Sarah H. Tobe

LINKS TO THE PAST

The First Ones

Next time you stroll along Jericho Beach, you might meander over the grassy knolls of the adjacent Jericho Park. This unique topography, now intersected by Fourth Avenue, was once the gently rolling terrain of a viable eighteen-hole golf course. The sandy shores are vestiges of an earlier natural links golf course, initiated by members of the Vancouver Golf Club and considered to have been the first golf course west of the Mississippi. The natural links Jericho Golf Course ceased to exist after 1939 when the Canadian military occupied the site.

There is some discrepancy as to which golf club was actually the first one in British Columbia. Some believe that golf may have begun on Vancouver Island, either in Duncan or in Beacon Hill Park during the 1890s. The Victoria Golf Club, which now has the distinction of being the oldest continuous golf course in one location in North America, claims that their members were already playing golf on their course in 1893. But historical precedence is given to the Vancouver Golf Club (VGC) because records state that Duncan and Harold Bell Irving and Campbell Sweeny held the first meeting 3 November 1892, at 524 West Cordova Street, while the Victoria Golf Club held their first meeting 10 November 1893. However when it comes to firsts, Montreal can boast the first properly constituted golf club on the continent, even before those developed in the United States. Canada's Scottish immigrants were responsible for building the first club, the Royal Montreal Club, which opened for play in 1873.

VGC members played on Jericho's wild dunes from 1892-94. Their erstwhile fairways, six of them, sparse with vegetation and often strewn with ocean-washed driftwood, were accessible by boat or by slogging through the adjacent woods. Empty tomato cans buried in the sand sufficed for holes. Golf devotees sallied forth in the classic tradition of the Calvinist Scots who, long before them, battled the elements on the old, natural links of Scotland. Jericho was akin to those wind-swept strips of sand along the northern Scottish coast where there were no fairways, no tees and no greens, simply agreed upon starting and finishing points. But British Columbia's coastal tides could not be reckoned with and so the VGC soon

abandoned their unreliable link course.

After that initial foray, VGC members played golf at Stanley Park's Brockton Point in 1895, where they encountered different impediments: nearby cricketers, archers and lacrosse players. Although they continued to find various venues for golf, it was not until 1905 that VGC returned to the original link grounds at Jericho to build a new course. Later on, another group of Scots held a meeting at the Terminal City Club, 22 November 1910, and formed the B.C. Golf Club. It was their intention to construct a twenty-seven-hole golf course on the Austin family's farm in Coquitlam. This proved to be too ambitious an undertaking, and although the course opened for play in 1911, by 1913 it was known as the Vancouver Golf Club. This is the second oldest extant course in the province.

The Golden Years

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company (CPR) financed and built the Vancouver Lawn Tennis and Badminton Club and the Shaughnessy Heights Golf Course. The sixty-seven acre tract of land, located at 33rd and Granville, was developed as a golf course as further inducement for the wealthy to settle in the CPR's new Shaughnessy Heights subdivision. Restrictive covenants ensured that only the affluent would be able to afford to live there. Yet when the CPR offered the lots for sale, hundreds of people lined up in the street outside their office. Eighty-percent of Vancouver's Social Register would be listed as residing in the elite subdivision. They were for the most part newly made millionaires, having amassed their wealth in real estate, lumbering, fishing and mining during the Golden Years of 1901-11. Shaughnessy Heights Golf Club was founded in the spring of 1911. Entrance fees for associate memberships were \$50 for men and \$25 for ladies. The club was given a twelve-year lease on the clubhouse and a fifty-year lease on the course. The first nine holes officially opened for play 2 November 1912.

In 1913, Shaughnessy arranged their first professional golf match between Scotland's great legend of the links, Harry Vardon, and Ted Ray. The prize was \$400, with Jericho and VGC each contributing \$100 towards the cost of the match. The next year, Vardon would win an unprecedented sixth British Open.

Post World War I

Lean years followed those lofty Golden Years. A recession, which began in 1913, continued to fester all through the First World War, from 1914 to 1918. When the Great War finally ended, the Canadian government had to contend with massive unemployment. In Vancouver, various public work-projects were organized to provide employment. Some 2,000 men were encamped at Hastings Park, where they were assigned to build a nine-hole golf course.

War memorials and monuments were eventually erected when the postwar economy was on the upswing. Exports out of the bustling Port of Vancouver quadrupled. People were gainfully employed and population numbers increased. A burgeoning construction boom reconfigured the city's skyline, while down on its busy streets, the horse and buggy vied with electric trams and motor cars that chugged noisily by at twenty miles per hour. Those fortunate enough to own such vehicles drove them on the left hand side of the street in the British tradition until 1922. Streets surfaced with large wooden planks, red bricks or granite blocks as well as dirt or gravel roads would, in due course, be re-surfaced

with a new type of pavement called asphalt. Prosperity stimulated further interest in building swimming pools, parks and other recreational sites, and especially golf courses. Both Point Grey and Marine Drive Golf and Country Clubs opened for play in 1923. The following year, Hastings Park Golf Club completed their eighteen holes and another nine holes were added to the Jericho Golf Course. Quilchena Golf Links was built in 1925; Langara Golf Links in 1926, Gleneagles (West Vancouver) in 1927, Peace Portal in 1927 and the University Golf Links (near the University of British Columbia) started their construction in 1928.



President Harding observed putting on the green at Shaughnessy Golf Course, 1923.

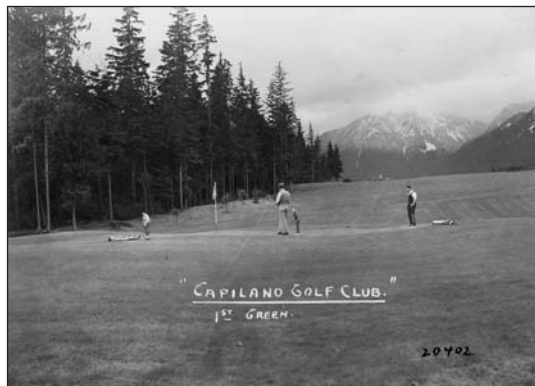
Golfing enthusiasts followed the dapper Walter Hagen around Shaughnessy in 1924, and then again in 1928 and 1929 when he played Langara Golf Links. "The Haig" was without peer in the 1920s and Langara was "unrivalled as a public course on the West Coast of North America."

The 1930s

The whole country was scarred by the Great Depression, which followed the drastic stock market crash of 1929, driving the economy into the doldrums. Plagued by high unemployment, Prime Minister R.B. Bennett passed the Unemployment Relief Act in 1930 providing funds for make-work projects. Vancouver men on relief found work clearing, planting and building the municipal Fraserview Golf Course. To further alleviate



Langara Golf Links aerial view.



Capilano Golf and Country Club, British Pacific Properties Ltd. 1937.

depression hardship during the Hungry '30s, the Vancouver Parks Board approved livestock grazing and vegetable farming on the unfinished portion of the course.

Even during these difficult years, golf courses continued to be built throughout the 1930s: Beach Grove in 1933, Fraserview's last nine holes in 1935 and British Pacific Properties' Capilano in 1937.

Bobby Jones appeared in an exhibition match at Shaughnessy in 1934, just after his own Augusta Course was built. Jones, the century's most esteemed amateur player, had retired in 1931 after winning the "Grand Slam" of golf: the U.S. and British amateurs and the U.S. and British opens.



Vancouver's Golden Jubilee tournament crowd at Shaughnessy, 1938.

Celebrating Vancouver's Golden Jubilee in July 1936, Shaughnessy held an Open Tournament that featured star attraction Byron Nelson. He may have won his first cheque as a professional, but a 24-year-old amateur club member won the competition. Kenny Black (son of local pro David Black) shot a sizzling 63 to set a new course record.



Jericho Golf Links, 1930.

Vancouver's Jericho course was conquered by an Englishwoman, the great Joyce Wethered, who in 1935 broke the course record with a 79. Amateur Jericho golfer, Violet Pooley Sweeny, won a record nine provincial championships (the last in 1929) and is honoured in the B.C. Hall of Fame.



Violet (Pooley) Sweeny.

Wartime

During the Second World War, Jericho Golf Course was one of many locations occupied by the Western Military Command. Archival maps indicate that the stretch of land, now known as Jericho Beach, was named Jerry's Cove when it was surveyed by the Royal Engineers in 1863. This strategic site had been selected as a Colonial government military reserve by the Engineers' commander, Colonel Richard Clement Moody, in collaboration with Governor James Douglas and naval commander Rear Admiral Robert L. Baynes.

From 1939 to 1945, service men and women were stationed throughout the Vancouver area and up the coast. Thousands of troops were transported to the west coast by train and by airplane. (Trans-Canada passenger air service from Montreal to Vancouver did not begin until 1939.) In addition to the huge military presence, wartime needs generated new industries. Munitions, ships and aircraft were being manufactured. Highways and bridges were built. Steel fabricators, mining sites and lumber-mills proliferated, while exports reached unprecedented numbers.

A wartime fundraiser in 1944 brought golfing great, Ben Hogan, to Shaughnessy Heights Golf Course, where he drew large crowds. Sam Snead, Ben Hogan, Fred Wood and Vancouver's Stan Leonard played an exhibition match on that course in 1945.

Jewish Golfers

Beginning in 1945, the postwar civilian population of Vancouver increased dramatically. Demobilized war veterans who had been stationed in the vicinity during the war, returned to settle in Canada's Pacific Northwest. Prairie people emigrated west to the warmer climes of "beautiful British Columbia," looking for employment or business opportunities. With increased mobility, new immigrants gravitated to BC's promising economy. Holocaust survivors arrived looking for a new homeland. The Jewish community also assisted in the settlement of war orphans. During the decade of 1941-1951, the Jewish population of Vancouver grew significantly from 2800 to 5700 persons.

By contrast, in the 1920s there were little more than 250 Jewish families, double the approximately 125 families present before 1918. However small their number, Jewish golfers were competing on Vancouver's public courses in the 1920s and 1930s. They organized their own tournaments in which the winners were awarded either the Harry J. Allen or the I. J. "Hicky" Klein trophies. During the summer of 1933, Larry Berg, Dave Franks, Alter Silverson and Harry Boyaner was a winning foursome in one of these matches.

It was not until 1948 that a group of local golfers, thirty-six men, resolved to form the first Jewish golf club in Vancouver. At a meeting held Monday night, June 28, officers were selected for the first term: President, Abe Charkow; Vice-President, Myer Brown; Secretary, D.L. Silvers; treasurer, S. Pelman; General Executive, Moe Levine, Max Vernon, Hermie Nemetz, Morris Belkin, Al Miller, Sid Corman, Murray Krasnoff and Jack Cohen. "The meeting was addressed by the newly elected President, and Messrs. Silvers and Belkin. Emphasis was placed on the fact that this Club will set its goals to eventually purchase a golf course, and develop its own fine golfers. The purpose of the Club is also to foster a closer association of the members, and also to promote competition between golfers. There will be a program presented that will have tournaments, smokers and other functions of interest to the membership."

The response was enthusiastic. "Sol Fishman spoke on behalf of all of the members, expressing confidence in the success of the Club and the ability of the officers selected." Cedarcrest Golf Club was adopted as the name of the newly formed organization. Their first banquet and presentation of prizes was held at the Pacific Athletic Club on Thursday, September 23. "The feature of the evening was the presentation of the beautiful Army and Navy Department Stores trophy to Dr. Milton Share, the first open champion of the club." Presentations were also made to the various flight winners.

A large number of members were in attendance that evening as the membership had "grown tremendously in the last three months." Earlier in the week, on Sunday, September 19, sixty-eight members played in a "one-round medal handicap tournament." Prizes were "liberally awarded for every feat, from the longest drive to the best-dressed golfer on the course." Awards were made to



*Golfing Foursome, 1933.
L. to R.: Larry Berg, Dave Franks,
Alter Silverson, Harry Boyaner.*

twenty-two golfers who participated in the tournament. While camaraderie, humour and good times were important, not to be forgotten were the rules and integrity of the game. Before they departed that evening, the executive requested that all members continue to turn in their scorecards so that proper adjustments for handicaps could be made.

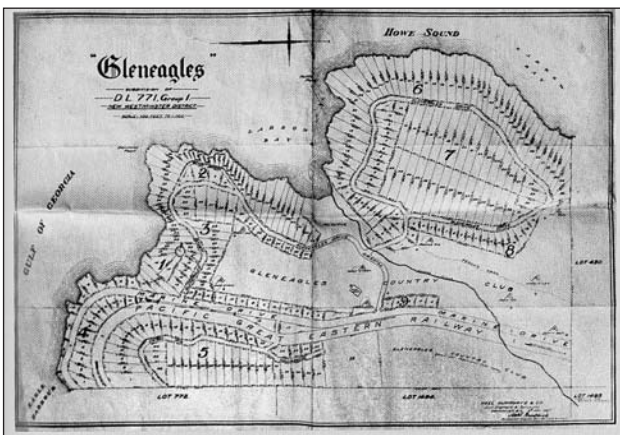
Their golfing times and tournaments were still limited to availability at municipal courses such as Langara Golf Links, Fraserview or Peace Portal. Waiting in line to get on the course was always frustrating. Esmond "Bud" Lando reflected that if you brought a bottle of scotch for the starter, it usually helped to get them on faster.

When Dr. Max Nacht took over as president, he reiterated that it was time for the Jewish community to have their own golf course. This optimism would have to wait just a few more years. When David Sears became president in 1949, with Irving Chertkow, treasurer, and Hal Zlotnick, secretary, the search for a suitable course began in earnest.

Anti-Semitism was an issue then and remains problematic today. It was an era when owning real estate in certain areas was still prohibited. Although there may not have been legal restrictive covenants, there surely was a bias. High society tacitly excluded Jews from its inner sanctum. In 1950, the *Vancouver Province* reported that the Supreme Court upheld the sale of land to a Jew and that "Groups of Jews, Chinese, Negroes and East Indians...felt the upholding of their rights by the highest court should give pause to property owners in Shaughnessy [and] Kerrisdale...who enforce such discrimination." Since there was also antipathy towards Jewish membership in private golf clubs throughout the metropolitan Vancouver area, the Jewish golfers were determined to establish a course of their own.

Gleneagles Golf Course

By January of 1951, the Cedarcrest Golf Club "had about 100 members golfing at Langara, where the situation" had become "rather awkward...We were somewhat less than welcome elsewhere."



*Gleneagles Golf Course and Subdivision Map. 1927.
DL771, Group 1, New Westminister District.*

to remedy this state of affairs, a committee of Cedarcrest members drove out to West Vancouver to look over the seventy-acre Gleneagles Golf Course, which was for sale for fifty thousand dollars. "The nine-hole golf course had been sadly neglected, and the sisters who inherited the property were not inclined to maintain it. There were no buildings except for an old shack." Some adjacent land was also available, lots still remaining from the Gleneagles subdivision of 1926. The golf course had been featured as part of an overall development concept. When completed in July 1927, it was prominently advertised as "A New Resort for West Vancouver." The available unsold lots were near some railroad tracks, utilized by the defunct Pacific Great Eastern

Railway, which ran through the property to Larson Station. Pioneer Peter Larson had sold the real estate developers 204 acres (of his 223 acre Crown Grant acquired in 1900 for \$319). However, over the years, due to the Depression and the train no longer operating, many of the subdivided properties proved difficult to sell. As ownership changed and the economy fluctuated, Mr. Larson's retained equity in the development was also in limbo. That is until 1933, when the new ownership resumed responsibility and the property was re-financed as Gleneagles (1934) Limited.

Notwithstanding the condition of the course, the Cedarcrest committee was impressed with the beauty of the site, nestled alongside the mountains beside the sea and looking out to Howe Sound. Committee members Meyer Brown, Alter Silverson and David Sears brought back their findings and recommendations. They proposed the purchase of the Gleneagles course and the lots, but there were a number of hurdles to overcome first. Of great importance was the concern in the general community about Jews owning this property. It was necessary to find a way to legally circumvent this issue. Then there were the problems relating to financing to be dealt with: how could they convince people to participate, and how would they entice enough members to support this venture?

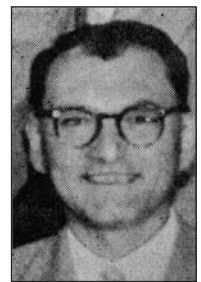
The meetings that ensued were stormy; many felt that they had neither the numbers nor the strength for such a major undertaking. Of the fifty to sixty people who attended that meeting, only eighteen signified their intention of paying \$500 to join. Core members such as David Sears, Esmond Lando, Dr. Eastwood Landa, Harry Boyaner and Harold Freeman began to circulate deeper in the community, endeavouring to find more members and raise more capital. David Nemetz and Sam Rothstein, who had no intention of participating, contributed their monies to support them because it was a Jewish venture. The committee reached their first fifty members and managed to scrape together enough money and notes (which incidentally were personally endorsed by Lando and Sears) to issue a cheque for the initial deposit. According to the municipal archivist, "the shares of Gleneagles (1934) Limited had been acquired in the names of two individuals, Esmond Lando and David Sears but the property remained registered in the name of Gleneagles (1934) Limited." The ownership contention was circumvented when Lando arranged for a trust company to incorporate them and hold the shares in trust.

Gleneagles Golf and Country Club

The dream had become a reality. Esmond Lando, a key figure in the original purchase of the Gleneagles property and incorporator of the Syndicate, had given freely of his legal advice, time and generosity. He was elected honorary president of the new Gleneagles Golf and Country Club. David Sears, the Syndicate's co-founder, was elected their first president, Meyer Brown, vice-president, Irving Chertkow, treasurer and Harold Zlotnick, secretary.



Esmond Lando, Q.C., honorary president of Gleneagles Golf & Country Club.



David Sears, first president, 1952-1953.

No membership dues were collected that first year, but "outside revenue of \$6,702.02" helped with expenses. Re-development of the golf course got underway with the extension of the sixth hole. A new seventh hole was hacked out of the woods, new drainage ditches were put in, new bridges crossing over

the streams were built, new equipment purchased to keep the greens in shape, new tee-off places arranged for and new mats obtained. The transformation had begun, with Sam Wasserman in charge of the Greens' Committee.



Moe Levine, golf pro Al Nelson, Harry Boyaner and Arthur Sereth check over plans for the new clubhouse, still under construction.

The Building Committee's Alvin Narod, Harry Ablowitz, Sam Conn and Herman Nemetz set in motion plans for construction of a club-house-by-the-sea. Architectural drawings were finished, topographical studies of the land were made and costs of construction were calculated. The following year the Building Committee, under the chairmanship of Arthur Sereth, scrapped all of the original plans. They did not have the funds for any further development. It was decided that a Panabode building should be erected and furnished at a nominal cost. This temporary clubhouse would serve their needs until they could afford a larger one.

membership reached approximately 100 in 1952 resulting in increased revenue. Additional income came from fifty shares sold at \$500, the sale of wood for \$600, and another \$600 came in locker fees. More equipment was purchased to keep the fairways in shape and to haul soil wherever it was needed. Plans were underway to break open the other end of the property and complete changes to the course. Huge ditches were to be dug, hills moved and swamps filled.

The Finance Committee's Irving Chertkow and Saul Lechtzier, along with Harry Fainstein the club's secretary, actively solicited for increased membership. Syndicate

Membership had soared to 200 by 1953. After this number was achieved, twenty-five more memberships were opened at \$750 each. When this quota was oversubscribed, ten more memberships were made available. "Gleneagles was open to anyone who met the qualifications of membership, regardless of race, creed or colour, and there were several non-Jewish members in the club." From what had originally been a defensive move, Jewish golfers were now enjoying comfort levels on their own course without anti-Semitic overtones.



Gleneagles Golf and Country Club members pose in front of their first Panabode clubhouse, 1952.

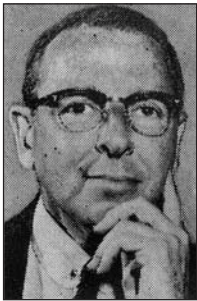
The newly formed Gleneagles Ladies' Division, which consisted of both golfing and social members, was an integral part of the club. The Ladies' Social Committee planned the Club's inaugural cocktail party for May 1953. The temporary Panabode clubhouse could not hold all the members and guests who planned to attend the gala affair, so the committee arranged for a circus tent to be erected to accommodate them all. It was shortly thereafter that construction of another, much larger Panabode clubhouse got underway.

Tuesday was Ladies' Day at Gleneagles. Forty-six women turned out for golf the spring of 1954. Meanwhile, a ladies' committee undertook responsibility for furnishing the newly constructed clubhouse. Another group organized the Annual Members' Dinner to coincide with the official opening and dedication. Four hundred people attended their dinner dance on 3 July 1954. The members socialized in the new clubhouse lounge that featured two large river-rock fireplaces. The new dining room could accommodate 300 dinner guests. Other facilities included "locker-rooms and shower rooms as well as a steam-room (with plans for a masseur in attendance on weekends)."



Members of the Ladies' Auxiliary enjoying ladies' day at Gleneagles L. to R.: Mrs. S. Wasserman, chairman of the Auxiliary, Mrs. P. Waterman, Mrs. B. Ellison, Mrs. S. Kalensky and Mrs. M. Brown.

Members of the golfing Syndicate, especially those not residing on the North Shore, recalled how much they enjoyed the picturesque drive out to Gleneagles, over Lions' Gate Bridge (for which they still had to pay tokens) and along West Vancouver's meandering Marine Drive. Golfing and boating enthusiasts, Harold and Marge Lando, would sail their *Zanera* from Vancouver across Burrard Inlet to Gleneagles, anchoring in the cove at Larson Bay for the day. After they disembarked, they would make their way up through the old Larson apple and pear orchard, ever on the alert for bears helping themselves to the maturing fruit. David Sears had hoped Club members would "someday develop Larson Bay into a yacht basin, as this was another area where" he felt that "we were *persona non grata*."



Alfred Evans, second president, 1953-1955.

Through the busy years from 1953 to 1955, Alfred Evans served as Club president. Under his leadership, a new clubhouse was built and the golf course was further transformed with five new holes completed: one, two, three, four and seven. Hole three was known as "Cardiac Hill" and played 296 yards straight up.

The first Panabode clubhouse remained in use as part of the Club's expanded golf facilities, functioning as the pro-shop. Prominent golf professionals who spent their early days at Gleneagles were David Dixon, succeeded by Al Nelson, Mel White and then Vic Smith. House Rules and Golf Course Rules were published with various directives. At the pro-shop, only the Caddy Master could assign available caddies. Caddy fees were \$1.00 and a gratuity could not exceed \$1.00.



Gleneagles Golf and Country Club Executive, 1956-57. L. to R. seated: Al Miller, Leo Nagler, Sam Wasserman, Dr. L. B. Fratkin, Arthur Sereth, Dr. Abe Kanee; standing: Al Jenkins, Rocky Myers, Alfred Evans, David Sears, David Lesser, Dr. Norman Hirschberg, Jack Bell, Dr. I. Stoffman, and Herman Nemetz.



Dr. Leonard Fratkin, third president, 1956-1957.

Dr. Leonard Fratkin was elected as the third president in 1956. During his tenure, the front verandah facing out to English Bay and Georgia Strait was glassed in and converted to a "dance room with a maple floor and orchestra stage." Membership was closed at 250 members. A waiting roster required an initiation fee of \$250 applicable against the price of a full membership when available. The Syndicate's original \$50,000 investment in 1951 had matured into a golf and country club valued at \$250,000.

Every year, Gleneagles hosted and welcomed the Jewish golfers from Seattle's Glendale Golf Club for a weekend of "Home and Home" competition with social functions arranged by the Ladies' Division.

Dr. Irving Snider, who lived nearby at Copper Cove, was in charge of the club's first annual Calcutta, which was a "great social, athletic and financial success."

The Ladies Division Golf Fixture of 1956 scheduled weekly golfing events. Every month there were charity sweeps at different clubs: Quilchena, Vancouver, Shaughnessy, Marine Drive, Capilano, Gleneagles, Point Grey, Beach Grove, University, Fraser and Seymour. The Moloff Trophy was awarded that year to the Gleneagles Ladies' Club Champion, Mrs. S. (Alice) Kalensky. The next year, Alice was runner-up to Mrs. W. (Violet) Moldowan, the Ladies' Club Champion in 1957.



Several members of the Gleneagles Ladies Executive, 1958. L. to R. seated: Mrs. J. Bell, Mrs. H. Harrison, Mrs. M. Jarvis, Mrs. L. Nagler, Mrs. C. Davis; standing: Mrs. D. Sears, Mrs. A. Cherverover, Mrs. H. Boyaner, Mrs. A. Kanee, Mrs. A. Silverson, Mrs. N. Ludwig, Mrs. N. Fox

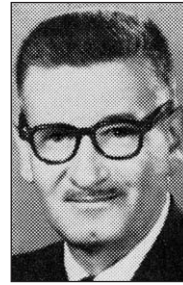
The Army and Navy Trophy was awarded to the Gleneagles Men's Golf Club Champion. In 1955, this trophy went to Aser Rothstein. The Charkow Trophy was awarded to winners of the Spring Handicap Tournament, Harry Cristall in 1955 and David Sears in 1956.



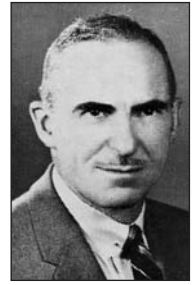
Dr. Sam Moscovich, 1957 Gleneagles Golf Champion (right), receiving Army and Navy Trophy from golf pro Vic Smith.

Gleneagles Golf and Country Club published a yearly *Handbook*. Their 1958 publication was dedicated to the British Columbia centenary, 1858-1958. Various Centennial celebrations were planned. The *Handbook* updated members on the Club's achievements, activities, rules and regulations. Each year the Executive and Board of Directors were listed as well as members of the Syndicate, their addresses and telephone numbers. "Social Fixtures," "Golf Fixtures" and a "Calendar of Golfing Events" column appeared in every issue. Scattered throughout the booklet were advertisements. The centenary publication also featured a photograph of Dr. S. R. (Sam) Moscovich "receiving from Vic Smith, golf pro, the Army and Navy Trophy, emblematic of the Gleneagles Golf Championship which he won in 1957."

Arthur Sereth was president in 1957. Together with Sam Wasserman and Jack Bell, this trio was authorized to arrange for the sale of unused club land, the lots situated between the new Upper Levels Highway and the P.G. & E. railway tracks. Proceeds realized from the sale of the lots paid off all indebtedness to the bank as well as the mortgage on the property. Sam Wasserman, president in 1958, presided over the burning of the mortgage celebrated at the annual President's Ball held that April.



*Arthur Sereth,
president, 1957.*



*Sam Wasserman,
president, 1958.*

Planning to Move

A summer of negotiations followed the decision to sell Gleneagles and develop a larger course in the Municipality of Richmond. The Syndicate knew it would realize the best return if the land was sold for development as a residential subdivision. A tentative plan was prepared indicating lots served by internal roads. Suggested prices ranged from \$3750 to \$9000. To be excluded was the clubhouse and grounds, which might be converted to a restaurant. An area on the northeast corner was available for an expansion of the Gleneagles School site and also a gas station.

Originally, the Syndicate asked \$400,000 for the property. West Vancouver Municipality countered with \$275,000, but the Syndicate already had a firm offer of \$350,000 from another interested buyer. However, they indicated that they would prefer to see the golf course in the ownership of the municipality. This prompted the Municipal Council, Parks and Recreation Commission, the Board of Trade, other concerned committees and the ratepayers to approve the purchase of Gleneagles for \$350,000. Under the agreed upon terms, "the Club was to receive the cash payment within 30 days of final passing of the by-law and have a lease of the course until 31 March 1959. This request was in order that the Richmond course would be made ready for play in the intervening months." The chairman of the finance committee, Jack Bell, undertook negotiations with Alfred Evans and Sam Wasserman.

More Golf Courses

Access to Richmond was made easier after the 1957 construction of the Oak Street toll Bridge over the Fraser River. Moreover, Highway 99, and a proposed new freeway going south through the George Massey (Dease Island) Tunnel to Ladner Trunk Road, Delta and the U.S. border, prompted further urbanization south of Vancouver.

Independent of the Syndicate, Jewish entrepreneurs invested in other golf courses and driving ranges in the lower mainland. Amongst these entrepreneurs were Jack Bell, David Sears, Esmond Lando and their associates, who developed the Greenacres Golf Course (which was later sold). Esmond and Harold Lando purchased 200 acres in Surrey and built Surrey Golf Course. This was followed by another venture, their Delta Golf Course.

While increased demand for recreational land dedicated to building more golf courses was seemingly insatiable (whether in marshes or on mountainous terrain), much of Vancouver's own golf geography was changing. In South Vancouver on the Fraser River flats, the historic McCleery farm was demolished

in 1959 to make way for the McCleery Golf Course. When the Shaughnessy Heights Golf Course lease was no longer open for renewal, CPR subdivided the property for redevelopment. A new Shaughnessy Golf and Country Club was built at Southwest Marine Drive on farmland leased from the Musqueam Indian Reserve. Hastings Park Golf Course disappeared in 1954 when the City made room for the British Empire and Commonwealth Games. The original 1925 Quilchena Golf Club ceased to exist when that property was re-developed for a new school and housing in 1955. Another Quilchena Golf Course was built two years later in Richmond.

Richmond Golf Course and Country Club

The Gleneagles Syndicate, flush with the 350,000 dollar proceeds from the sale of their Gleneagles Golf and Country Club, purchased “130/140 acres of farmland” within the municipality of Richmond in the summer of 1958. Some members of the Syndicate were confident they now had enough prior experience to make the leap. Plans were soon underway for an extensive eighteen-hole golf course. It would be a heroic and ambitious undertaking.

In the interim, the Syndicate had arranged for a lease with the West Vancouver Municipality to continue golfing at Gleneagles through the rest of 1958 up until 31 March 1959. This transition was somewhat contentious. Esmond Lando had warned the Syndicate that the purchase price of \$1000 per acre for the new course was too high and that their exorbitant plans to spend about \$4 million “were getting too grandiose.” In protest, he resigned as the Syndicate’s honorary president. (Although this relationship was severed, he would remain a long-time member of the new Richmond club.) Lando liked the Gleneagles course and was reluctant to abandon it. After all, he had initiated the original purchase. He had been considering the property for himself when it first came up for sale, but then recommended to the Cedarcrest group that they inspect it as a future golf course for the Jewish community. Despite all the improvements over the years, the Gleneagles course was still only nine holes. David Sears wanted an eighteen-hole course with long championship-type fairways so players could use their “drivers and not be restricted to hitting mostly irons as they had been at Gleneagles.”

Golf course architect, A.Vernon Macan of Victoria, was hired to design the new Richmond course. Macan had designed the Shaughnessy and Marine Drive golf courses. During his career, approximately eighty courses in the Pacific Northwest used his strategy and design approach, well before the advent of computer technology. His design for Richmond included “unique elevated greens, in some cases inverted, emulating the famous Scottish and English greens.” Sears claimed that this is what made the Richmond course unique from all the other courses.



Construction on Richmond/Gleneagles golf course, March 1959.

Sears was also proud of the coordinated efforts of the members who helped complete the course, as well as the net savings on the project. “It had cost Shaughnessy four times that amount” to develop their course. Dr. Leonard Fratkin, for instance, spent endless hours planning what types of trees to plant and ordering them from all over the country. Some trees were acquired from various sites along the new freeway system that was being

constructed nearby. Golf pro, Ben Colk, had persuaded some of the foremen to salvage the trees for re-planting on the course. He was invaluable in organizing the new golf course and its operations.



*Fairways and young trees,
August, 1963.*

The successful design and maintenance of a contemporary golf course requires a sophisticated and integrated knowledge of agronomy, geology, drainage, engineering, forestry, machinery and heavy construction. The Richmond course was built by Northern Industries Ltd. under the supervision of Jack Bell and his agronomist, Heinz Knoedler. Bell's company was low bidder for the project, yet when the final costs came in



*Construction of
Richmond/
Gleneagles dikes.*

and they were even lower than anticipated, he passed all the savings on to the club.

The clubhouse, designed by Architect Harald Weinreich, was built by Narod Construction Ltd. with Alvin Narod at the helm. Members volunteered to work on the myriad of projects required to make everything "operational and comfortable." On 27 September 1959, the Richmond Country Club at 9100 Steveston Highway opened its doors to welcome members. Sam Wasserman was president of the first Board of Directors with vice-president, Jack Bell, and secretary, Dr. William Morris.



*Golfing foursome at Richmond.
Esmond "Bud" Lando, honorary
president 1951-1958; Jack Bell,
president 1960-1961; Arthur Lipman,
president 1961-1962;
Heinz Knoedler, agronomist*

Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, weddings, anniversaries and other social functions such as golf awards dinners were celebrated at the club. In anticipation of the postwar Baby Boom generation, which was maturing during the 1960s, the members decided to build a swimming pool and three outdoor tennis courts, and to expand the clubhouse.



*Announcement of social evening
showing movies and slides of RCC life.*



*Richmond crest on blue jacket presented to
Harold Lando, Richmond Club Champion 1966,
and Gleneagles Club Champion 1959.*



Dr. Irving Snider in his golf cart.

The anticipated growth in membership and increased activity was, in fact, spotty. Instead, some of the Baby Boomers were attracted to the counter-culture movement. Vancouver had become a mecca for transient youths, dropouts and draft dodgers, the “Hippy Capital of Canada.” The official 1961 metropolitan population of 385,000 did not include their influx. Meanwhile, with the increasing threat of atomic warfare, there was a proliferation of back yard nuclear bomb shelters. In contrast to the general community, Vancouver Jews were optimistically focused on building a new community centre at 41st Avenue and Oak Street on land purchased from the C.P.R. Funding that venture was a major priority. The old

community centre on west 11th was sold so that the growing community would be further served by a more modern and much larger cultural and sports facility. Key members of Richmond Country Club, amongst them Alvin Narod, who was founding president of the new Jewish Community Centre from 1958-1962, participated in the planning and funding.

In 1966, Muni Evers was president of the golf club. He wrote a letter to members who had not attended the General Meeting, informing them that the board had cut costs and reduced debt, but would need to assess each member \$50.00 for the year. Membership had reached 302 under the guidance of Jack Aceman, the largest it had ever been. It was now suggested that membership should be cut off at 350.

Fire!



Richmond Review photo of firefighter's truck and burning building. Wednesday, 24 Oct. 1979:1.

The years passed without any major critical incidents, that is, until 22 October 1979. Club members were celebrating the annual President's Ball, a formal evening with dancing and dining, one of the highlights of the year just as it had been at Gleneagles. After the night's festivities were over, everyone left the premises. In the wee hours of the morning, the clubhouse was totally engulfed in flames. As the Richmond firefighters battled the blaze, the flames threw an orange glow onto the pre-dawn sky that was visible for miles. The three-alarm fire destroyed the banquet rooms, coffee shop, dining room, men's and ladies' lounges, saunas and whirlpools.

Afterwards, members trickled in to view the burnt-out ruins. Although shocked by the all too tangible devastation to their clubhouse, the rear guard immediately began to rally. Fortunately, the eighteen-hole golf course and other outdoor amenities, the swimming pool and tennis courts, were unscarred by the blaze. Membership and staff co-operated in arranging for temporary facilities and the club continued to function under these difficult circumstances.



Skeleton of charred clubhouse.



Burned golf clubs & bags.

President David Stuart, the board of directors and board of governors held many meetings to formulate plans before committing to re-build. The demographics had changed somewhat; younger generations were joining other private clubs for recreational and sporting activities and many were participating in

activities at Vancouver's Jewish Community Centre. Although Richmond had a membership of 360, most of the members were older than sixty. The financial burden of rebuilding would be tremendous. To help resolve this situation, Dr. Lyall Levy headed up a membership drive that brought in 300 new members. Roy Kantor and Morley Koffman represented the finance committee, with Merwin Chercover and Myer Goldberg heading up the building committee. Frances Belzberg, Bea Goldberg and Ralph Schwartzmen were responsible for the interior furnishing. Members like Joe Cohen, Leo Lowy, Lionel Fishman, Arthur Hayes, Bill Libby, Lil Tishler and the Ladies' Division all gave unstintingly of their time.



Club entry under construction.

Insurance proceeds, the sale of shares and a small mortgage helped to finance a new 85,000 square foot clubhouse designed to include indoor tennis courts with an upper viewing gallery, squash and racquetball courts, accommodation for social and banquet occasions, new lounges for men and women, showers, saunas, whirlpools, changing rooms and lockers. Construction of the \$4 million facility commenced in 1981.

RCC in 2007

The facility people see today is much altered from the clubhouse designed by the firm of Carlberg Jackson, completed in June 1982. The clubhouse underwent further



Club entry today.

renovations in 1991, designed by architects Hemingway Nelson. More recently, in 2004, architects Downs Archambault changed the façade. The entire clubhouse was updated and transformed from its rather Spartan origins to reflect a more luxurious ambience. The seasonally planted gardens and the outdoor swimming pool and its environs help to create an attractive setting for the Club.

New rooms on the lower clubhouse level contain a fitness centre with up-to-date exercise machines and a racquet centre with courts for racquetball and squash. There are comfortable new furnishings in the men's and women's lounges, and modernized locker and changing rooms, washrooms, saunas, showers and whirlpools. Nearby, hallway display cases feature plaques and cups commemorating the champions of golf and tennis tournaments.

A facilities tour of the main floor includes a welcoming foyer, dining and banquet facilities, a mixed lounge, junior lounge, men's, ladies' and mixed card rooms and a tennis viewing lounge. A hallway gallery prominently displays photographs of past RCC club presidents and a nostalgic composite of Gleneagles' executive board members.

While RCC is still basically a Jewish club with a seventy-percent Jewish membership, there are no membership restrictions based on race, colour or creed. Membership categories are golf, tennis or social. As of June 2006, out of a membership of 1400 there were 927 members paying dues, with 545 male golfers and 203 female golfers.

The golf club is represented at every level of golf: the RCG, Royal Canadian Golf Association, the BCGA, British Columbia Golf Association, Pacific Northwest Golf Association and Regional Zones. Richmond is Zone 4. Each zone elects directors to represent their club.



*Three Generations of Golfers.
Dr. Leonard Fratkin, his son,
Judge Ronald Fratkin,
and grandson, Jesse.*

Charities in the Jewish and general communities raise funds by holding golfing events at RCC. Club members also organize charity functions. There are interclub golf and tennis competitions with both male and female golf teams competing throughout the season. There are wintertime tennis competitions for doubles and singles. Tennis clinics and lessons are available as well as golf instruction. Scholarships and funding are made available to encourage junior players. During the summer, juniors attend on-site training camps. As a result of this nurturing, third generation golfers are not uncommon at Richmond.

The golf course has matured through the years having undergone many changes, such as the re-design of fairways, new bunkers and new tee placements. Greens superintendents have grown vastly improved grass strains. Of the original 5000 trees, many were removed and new varieties planted. Outer storage buildings house an extensive inventory of heavy equipment. Pruning and other horticultural care, including fertilizing, coring, aerating, sanding, mowing,

watering, drainage and irrigation, are amongst the myriad of maintenance responsibilities.

But golfers who step up to the tee box and observe the lovely landscaped acres before them need not be concerned with maintenance problems, except those dictated by the rules of the game. Momentary distractions might occur, a coyote could saunter across a far fairway, hawks may screech spiralling skyward. When you walk along the periphery looking for a wayward ball, you might look up to find an owl peering down at you and a nest nearby. Birds fill the air with their conversations while bald eagles circle above. Some years you may find moles have left their dirt mounds dotting the fairway. Squirrels scurry out of the way; occasionally a beaver shows up, a muskrat or even a large turtle. The ponds attract herons, ducks and croaking frogs. Regardless, one must concentrate on the game, manoeuvring the bunkers, dodging the roughs and avoiding the water hazards. When playing on such superbly manicured fairways, do not be lulled into forgetting the tricky greens that await your approach shot.



Plan of Richmond golf course.

Richmond's course is not strictly categorized as either penal or strategic. The gold tees are there to accommodate senior

golfers. But whether you start from the gold, white, green, blue or black tees, the game of golf is a sport for everyone; for duffers with limited skills, moderate players with promise, good players who are constantly challenged and great players who can conquer the course.

Sarah H. Tobe ©2007



First hole, 2006.



Sixteenth hole, 2006.

AT THE NINETEENTH HOLE

RCC Course Lore

Amateur golfers like to kibitz during those long hours spent on the course. Socializing is conducive to telling jokes, making wisecracks and maybe catching up on a little gossip. Jokes told by one person sometimes travel around the club and end up being re-told to the originator. Oftentimes, at that point, it is almost unrecognizable. One joke that made the rounds at RCC ended up with Christmas cookies as a substitution for *mandelbrot*, a very different ethnic interpretation altogether.

In terms of cultural assimilation, this also works in reverse. Jewish and non-Jewish members play together in their regular weekly groups. Once a Jewish man objected to playing in the winter when the fairways were wet and muddy. Using the Yiddish word for mud, he told his buddies that he did not enjoy playing in the *bloteh*. This expression caught on so well that when one of the non-Jewish members of the group was asked in the locker room why he was not playing that day, he replied, "because of the *bloteh*."

One Passover, a club member walked up to the counter and ordered a hot dog for lunch. When he was given a hot dog with a piece of matzoh, he complained that he wanted a bun and then loudly remarked that it was the biggest cracker he had ever seen. Bob Ramsey, always respectful of Jewish tradition, chastised him. "Don't complain. Because you are a member here you need to abide by the rules. There are three things you should remember: no bacon, no golf on Yom Kippur and no bread on Pesach."



Twelfth hole today.

There have been characters galore in Richmond's history. Seymour Vineberg, who liked to fish, stocked the pond at Hole #12 with fingerling trout. His fly fishing rod and golf clubs would be in his golf cart and when he came to that hole, he would cast his line into the water while waiting to tee off. Sometimes he would just wander out to the 12th hole to do some fishing, using special hooks and returning any fish he caught unharmed.

Birdie Chercover loved to golf. She also liked to feed the ducks. Whenever she played the seventh hole, the ducks would come quacking out of the water to greet her on the fairway and to get fed.

Old-timers still chuckle when they remember the "Sniff 'n' Snort" nine-hole winter tournaments. Every foursome had a bottle of liquor. The winner of each hole got to have a snort, the losers just a sniff. Sometimes one player would win a number of holes and be rewarded with so many snorts he would become a little *fahrshishket*, too "pie-eyed" to see the ball anymore. Nobody was really sober when they finished.

Eddy Dozer once introduced a friend from Winnipeg, supposedly a very good player, to the rest of his foursome. Things were going along rather smoothly until the twelfth hole when his guest hit a ball into the water and insisted on finding it, even though they were holding up the group behind them. Dozer suggested his friend “leave that ball to his wife in his will.” The foursome continued playing, but his friend became increasingly unnerved. Finally, at the tee on hole eighteen, he took a swing at the ball and whiffed. Embarrassment and dead silence followed. Dozer wisecracked to his buddies, “Shsh, don’t say nuthin, he’s working on a no-hitter.”

Golfers vent their frustrations over bad shots in different ways. A club might be hurled into the water, smashed until it is bent or broken, tossed over a fence or be forever banished. Witnesses relate a more unusual response from a golfing partner who was having a particularly bad day on the course. He had so many strokes he was losing his concentration. At the seventeenth hole he just “blew it.” Walking over to his pull-cart, he unfastened his golf bag and removed it. Lifting it high above his head, he began to *schockle*, rocking back and forth as if on the *bema* (synagogue altar), and recited *kadish*, the prayer for the dead.

A familiar group of golfers at RCC, known affectionately as the Polish Brigade, started playing together under the leadership of Leo Lowy. They were all Holocaust survivors and golf was not familiar to them. Leo decided to take up the game. Six months later he persuaded his friends that they too could learn to play golf. He gathered them together and started teaching them himself. They never did have professional lessons. Leo was left-handed and so they were additionally handicapped when trying to physically transpose his demonstrations. At first Leo took them to a Par 3 course near the airport, then to Langara, where they “hacked up the course a little.” Leo introduced his protégés, David Feldman, Henry Zimmerman, Aaron Szajman and Larry Brandt to Richmond Country Club, where they all became members. When they began playing at the Club that first fall, he would constantly remind them to “watch the ball,” but more often than not they missed hitting it. He tried another tactic, insisting they “take the club back,” usually a suggestion for improving one’s swing. When they asked him to show them how they were supposed to take the club back, Leo shouted in frustration, “No! Take it back to the store where you bought it.”

Acknowledgements: David Ehrlich, David Feldman, Harold Lando, Jack Rosenblatt and Doreen Rosenheck.

Origins Of Golf

During the Roman occupation of Europe, a game called *Paganica* was introduced to the Netherlands. This evolved into an outdoor game referred to as *Colf*, which was played on ice or land. Flourishing trade between Scotland and the Netherlands existed during the 14th and 15th centuries, suggesting that seamen probably observed *Colf* being played and may have been responsible for introducing the rudiments of the game to Scotland. *Kolven* from Holland and *Chole* from Belgium were similar games that did not require a hole.

During the 15th C., the sport of *Gouff* became so popular in Scotland that parliament had to issue a decree (6 April 1457) entirely banning “Fute Bal and the Gouff” from being played on Sunday. There were fears that *Gouff* was interfering with the military practice of archery, necessary for the defence of the kingdom. This act was repealed after the Treaty of Glasgow, when King James VI of Scotland ascended the English throne as James I and introduced golf to Blackheath, England.

Early German, British, Scottish and French artists depicted golfers in drawings, prints and paintings. Mary Queen of Scots allegedly played golf in France, where her attendants were French military cadets. The modern usage of caddies may have derived from a French word, but caddies as such originated in the towns of 18th C. Scotland, where golfers hired a “cady” to carry their bag. One “fore cady” was hired for each group. It was his responsibility to go ahead of the golfers on the fairway to mark where their shots landed. Eventually, golfers alerted by the cry “Fore caddie,” shortened this to “Fore” as a warning that a shot was about to be played.

Golf has a lengthy, anecdotal, amusing, interesting and convoluted history.

Equipment



*A. Vernon
Macan,
course
architect of
RCC.*

Significant advances have been made in the design and manufacture of golf clubs and balls since the early days of the sport, which has contributed to dramatic differences in scoring. For example, early links courses called for some unusual clubs, amongst them the track iron used for hitting out of cart tracks, and the baffling spoon, the most lofted of the wooden clubs. Golfing irons were made by blacksmiths in the 1700s.

With the gradual evolution of golf balls from hand-sewn, leather-wrapped featheries to the cored gutta-perchas, from wound balls with various dimples and surfaces to the specialty-specific balls of the present, balls can be hit dramatically straighter and further. Over the years, putters were altered to adapt to the various balls. In the days of the feather ball, a golfer required two putters; one driving putter for

approaching the green and the other for playing on the green. But during the gutta-percha era, putters were used only on the green. Eventually hand-shaped wooden putters were modified and replaced with blades of iron or brass and then aluminum. Grips on clubs, like the leather-wrapped strips over wool that accommodated the two handed grip, were abandoned when Harry Vardon introduced his popular overlapping grip, which required a hand grip with a smaller diameter. When rubber and other composites grips were pioneered, it allowed for a firmer grip in wet weather.

In the 1920s when steel shafts were initiated, some people were still content with their hickory-shafted clubs. (Bobby Jones remained faithful to his hickory clubs.) The first modern-style sand wedge was invented in 1920. Aerodynamic and technological advances, from steel drivers with laminated persimmon heads and hard inserts to graphite and titanium drivers with much larger heads, have made it significantly easier to hit the ball even further, much further.

A Personal Golf Profile of the Author, Sarah H. Tobe, a.k.a. "Sally"

The golf bug bit me when I was a teenager. I bought my first full set of clubs in 1951 at the age of sixteen and was castigated because no Jewish girl in Kitchener, Ontario, had ever taken up the game. I practiced at a driving range and played on the Rockway Golf Course, a public course that was home to the great Canadian golfer, Moe Norman.

My husband, Allan Tobe, was also a teen-age golfer. When he was nineteen and a student at Queens University, he was employed during the summer as assistant pro for the Niagara-on-the-Lake golf course, just down the street from his family's historic home, re-built after the War of 1812. We golfed together on those lakeside links where the boulders that dotted the course, vestiges of the old fortress that guarded the first capital of Upper Canada, were part of the topography.

Through the years, we golfed on other Niagara escarpment courses as well as many other places in the world. There was a long hiatus from golfing in the years after we were married in 1955 (medical school, a growing family, financial concerns) until we started again in the late 1960s. The single exception was one game that Allan played in a medical school competition, which he won (the prize was a camera).

From 1959 to 2000, we resided on Vancouver's North Shore. We golfed first at the municipality's Gleneagles Golf Course with the infamous third hole, "Cardiac Hill," and were sailing members of the West Vancouver Yacht Club. Eventually, we joined the Richmond Country Club. When the clubhouse burned down in 1979, all the records and trophies were destroyed, except for one large trophy, the Birdie Chercover trophy, which survived because I had it on temporary display at our home in West Vancouver. This trophy had been presented to me as winner of a tournament. Of course, it was returned to the club after the fire. It is now called The Richmond Cup. Allan had his first hole-in-one on Richmond's ninth hole. He was a board member for many years and Club Captain.



At the Nineteenth Hole. L. to R.: Dr. Allan Tobe, Arnold Palmer, Sarah (Sally) Tobe and Harold Lando after Palmer finished playing in the GTE Kaanapali Classic, Maui, Hawaii, January, 1990.

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GOLF GLOSSARY

Baffling spoon - A pre-twentieth century lofted or angled wood-shaft club no longer in use.

Caddie/Caddy - The person who carries a player's clubs and offers him/her advice and assistance in accordance with the rules.

Calcutta - A type of betting. In golf it is most common at tournaments featuring four-person teams. The golfers bid, auction style, on the player or team they think will win (you can bid on yourself or your own team). Whoever chooses the winning team gets a pre-determined payout from the pot.

Fairway - The area of the course between the tee and the green, which is carefully groomed and maintained to permit a good lie for the ball.

Green - In the official rules, the entire golf course is called the green. However, the term is commonly used to mean the putting green or putting surface of a hole.

Links - Originally a long, narrow, sandy seaside golf course that followed the natural contours of the land, it now refers to any golf course.

Penal and strategic courses - Early golf courses were designed either in the penal style, where players were penalized for the shots they were forced to take but could not complete due to the design of the course (such as landing in a water hazard), or the strategic style, where players were given some topographic leeway to think or strategize their way from tee-off to cup. Today there are other approaches, including mixing the architectural styles of holes.

Tee - The area on the course where the golfer “tees off” or begins to play a hole. Also the small pin the ball sits on when a golfer plays their opening shot on a hole.

Track Iron - An old fashioned club with a metal head used to loft balls onto the course from tracks and carriageways.

Definitions compiled by Ronnie Tessler from various sources.

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- Page 11: Alfred Evans, second president, 1953-1955. (Gleneagles Handbook, 1954-1955, p. 3)
- Page 11: Gleneagles Golf and Country Club Executive, 1956-57. L. to R. seated: Al Miller, Leo Nagler, Sam Wasserman, Dr. L. B. Fratkin, Arthur Sereth, Dr. Abe Kanee; standing: Al Jenkins, Rocky Myers, Alfred Evans, David Sears, David Lesser, Dr. Norman Hirschberg, Jack Bell, Dr. I. Stoffman, and Herman Nemetz. (Gleneagles Handbook, 1956-1957, p. 16)
- Page 12: Dr. Leonard Fratkin, third president, 1956-1957. (Gleneagles Handbook, 1957, p. 3)

- Page 12: Several members of the Gleneagles Ladies Executive, 1958. L. to R. seated: Mrs. J. Bell, Mrs. H. Harrison, Mrs. M. Jarvis, Mrs. L Nagler, Mrs. C. Davis; standing: Mrs. D. Sears, Mrs. A. Chercover, Mrs. H. Boyaner, Mrs. A. Kanee, Mrs. A. Silverson, Mrs. N. Ludwig, Mrs. N. Fox (*Gleneagles Handbook, 1958, p. 20*)
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- Page 19: Sixteenth hole, 2006. (*ibid.*)
- Page 20: Twelfth hole today. (*ibid.*)
- Page 22: A. Vernon Macan, course architect of RCC. (*PNGA Website, Hall of Fame: <http://www.thepnga.org/AwardsAndHonors/halloffame.asp>*)
- Page 23: At the Nineteenth Hole. L. to R.: Dr. Allan Tobe, Arnold Palmer, Sarah (Sally) Tobe and Harold Lando after Palmer finished playing in the GTE Kaanapali Classic, Maui, Hawaii, January, 1990. (*Courtesy S. H. Tobe*)

ANNOUNCING
the
JEWISH MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Opening to the public Monday, 26 March 2007

The Jewish Historical Society of British Columbia has been a presence in our community for thirty-five years. It is the major repository of our individual and communal histories, records, photographs, documents and memorabilia.

It is incumbent on every community to preserve its history for future generations. If we do not, our memories and the face and soul of our community will disappear and our roots will be lost.

So it is that over four years ago, the Jewish Historical Society of British Columbia began to develop its plans for a museum and archives worthy of our community. A year later, a steering committee of board and community members was on board. Their first major step was to hire exhibit consultants, Aldrich Pears. Henriquez Partners Architects came on board to design the space. Catherine Youngren, JHSBC past president, worked with both firms as space consultant. Trasolini-Chetner was awarded the contract for finishing the space and Panther Construction the exhibit fabrication contract. This diverse team was held together by museum consultant, Donna Bryman, with Irv Nitkin as project manager.

Bill Gruenthal, JHSBC president, appointed Gary Averbach and Shirley Barnett to work with him on fund raising. Yosef Wosk became lead contributor, followed by many others in the community, not least the Averbach family. Grants were received from the BC Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch, Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Vancouver, Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver and Isaac and Sophie Waldman Foundation. (The full list of contributors, committees and professionals will be available in the museum's commemorative book.)

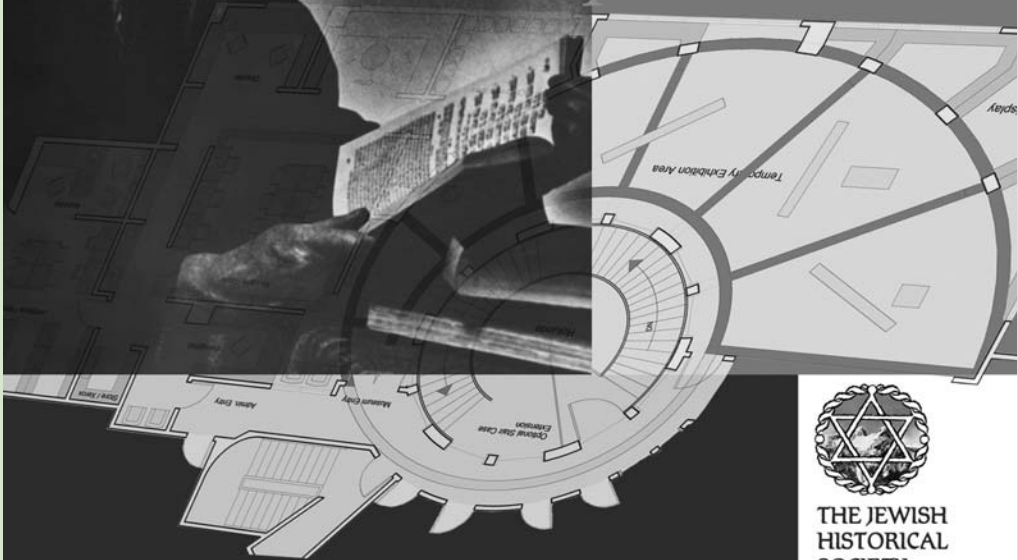
The Jewish Museum and Archives of British Columbia will open its doors to the public on Monday, 26 March 2007. It is located on the third floor of the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver, 950 West 41st Avenue in Vancouver.

Please join us in every way that you can! We would love your support, your attendance and your stories, documents and photos. To contribute, please call the JHSBC office at 604-257-5199.

Carol Fader, opening committee event coordinator



commemorate
participate
preserve



THE JEWISH
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
of BRITISH
COLUMBIA

Jewish Museum & Archives of British Columbia

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