



**Joseph "Joe" Coble**

A native of Italy, Joe Coble was born in 1897. He arrived in the United States when he was seven and started caddying at the Baltusrol Golf Club when he was ten. He only caddied a few years but that was enough to get him interested in the game. At that time if a person worked as a caddy after the age of 16 he was deemed to be a golf professional by the USGA. As a young man Coble worked as a waiter in a restaurant and each morning he was one of the first golfers on the course. He served two years in the United States Army during World War I. After that he moved to Philadelphia because he had heard great things about its public golf course, Cobbs Creek Golf Club. He honed his game by playing at Cobbs Creek each morning before work. In 1923 he made the semi-finals of the National Public Links Championship and the next year he won the tournament at Dayton, Ohio. In the finals he defeated Hank Decker, who later worked as an assistant professional at the Philadelphia Country Club. After winning the public links championship in 1924 Coble turned pro and worked at Cobbs Creek as an assistant where he learned the art of club making under the professional, Horace Gamble. In 1926 he went to the Philmont Country Club as the assistant to Charles Hoffner. When Hoffner moved to the Ocean City Golf Club later that year Coble became the head pro at Philmont. With a staff of five golf professionals, Philmont was one of the elite professional positions in the country. The next year he won the Philadelphia Section Championship, making a hole-in-one and breaking the course record at the Concord Country Club on the way to winning the title. He qualified for the national PGA Championship three times. In 1929 Philmont brought in Joe Seka as the head professional and later Leo Diegel succeeded Seka. Coble stayed on at Philmont and worked for both Seka and Diegel as the teaching pro through 1936. He left Philmont in 1937 to be the head professional at the Glendale Golf Club.

# Coble Plays Fine Golf And Wins

DAYTON — Joe Coble, of Philadelphia, by his masterful playing against Frank Dolp, 19-year-old Portland, Ore., lad in Friday's semi-final matches earned the right to go against Henry Decker, of Kansas City, as the result of the latter's victory over R. S. Delury, of Boston, in the national public links golf championship here.

Coble's victory over Dolp came as a surprise to almost every one in the large gallery which kept up with the playing of the youngster ever since he teed off for the first hole in the qualifying match. Dolp lost six down and five to go, playing under the handicap of having to show his wares before the largest galleries to follow a match around the course.

Dolp had trouble in laying his putts while Coble's shots went dead to the pin and dropped. In this department only # did the winner outplay Kolp, as the latter was driving them further and more accurately than his opponent.

Dolp never once gave up hope and congratulated Coble at every nice shot during their match.

Decker had a hard time of it in defeating R. S. Delury, but managed to do so after a grueling match 3 up and 2 to go. Decker played better than par in his match with Delury, making a total of 71 for the 18 holes, one higher than the course record set by Earl MacAlver.

## NEW KING OF MUNY LINKS

Joe Coble, new champion of the nation's many-links golfers, is in the restaurant business in Philadelphia. Coble will compete in the national amateur in his home city later in the season.

Philadelphia has two national golf



JOE COBLE

champions, Max Marston, national amateur king, and Joe Coble, monarch of the nation's municipal links players.

Marston is a hold-over champion from last summer. Coble won his title in the recent municipal tournament at Dayton, O. Like Gene Sarazen, former open champion, Coble is an Italian.

1924

THIRD AMATEUR PUBLIC LINKS CHAMPIONSHIP

Held at the Community Country Club, Dayton, Ohio, June 24-28. 140 Entries, 132 Starters.

Qualifying Score	1st Round	2nd Round	3rd Round	Semi-Finals	Final Round (36 Holes)
150*	Earl McAleer (Washington)	McAleer,			
160	W. L. Vance (Chicago)	1 up	McAlleer,		
157	Irving Peterson (Racine)	Shorey,	4 and 2		
162	James C. Shorey (Washington)	2 and 1		Decker,	
155	James Brewer (Chicago)	Brewer,		7 and 5	
161	William J. Myler (Cincinnati)	4 and 3	Decker,		Decker, 3 and 2
159	Henry Decker (Kansas City)	Decker,	1 up		
163	Irving Ralph (Buffalo)	3 and 2			
153	Joseph Ford (New York)	Ford,			
161	Walter Delscamp (Dayton)	5 and 4	Ford,		
158	George J. Voigt (Washington)	Voigt,	2 up		
153	Raymond J. McAuliffe (Buffalo)	4 and 3		De Lury,	
155	L. J. Smith (Cincinnati)	De Lury,		1 up	
162	R. S. De Lury (Boston)	3 and 2	De Lury,		
160	A. Fons (Milwaukee)	Voisinet,	3 and 1		
163	W. E. Voisinet (Buffalo)	2 up			
151	William F. Serrick (New York)	Serrick,			
160	Russell Winters (Detroit)	6 and 4	Coble,		Joseph Coble, 2 and 1
158	William A. Sixty (Milwaukee)	Coble,	11 up		
163	Joseph Coble (Philadelphia)	4 and 3		Coble,	
155	William A. McGuire (Washington)	Behm,		3 and 2	
162	A. Behm (Cleveland)	3 and 2	Behm,		
159	Matt Jans (Chicago)	Sweitzer,	5 and 4		
163	Henry Sweitzer (Cleveland)	1 up, 19 hls.			Coble, 6 and 5
154	Frank Dulp (Portland, Ore.)	Dolp,			
161	Samuel Graham (Pittsburgh)	5 and 4	Dolp,		
158	William Wallace (Chicago)	Wallace,	6 and 5		
163	Walter M. Pacer (Toledo)	6 and 4		Dolp,	
156	Edward Curtin (Newark, N.J.)	Sahre,		7 and 5	
162	Joseph Sahre (New York)	1 up, 21 hls.	Kauffmann,		
160	Carl F. Kauffmann (Pittsburgh)	Kauffmann,	4 and 2		
164	Walter Barrow (Chicago)	6 and 4			

\*Medalist.

Second Amateur Public Links Team Championship, Harding Trophy, 18 entries, June 24-25.

Won by Washington team (four-man team), 636 for 36 holes (George J. Voigt, 158; Earl McAleer, 150; James C. Shorey, 162; Charles T. Agnew, Jr., 166). Second, New York team, 643 (William Serrick, 151; Joseph Ford, 153; Richard A. Walsh, 169; John Frauser, 170).

**1924**—Joseph Coble, a 27-year-old Philadelphia waiter and semi-finalist the previous year, won the third Championship at the Community Country Club, Dayton, Ohio. After being down at some point in every match, he defeated Henry Decker, of Kansas City, Mo., 2 and 1, in the final. The medalist was Earl McAleer, of Washington, who scored 150. The team competition was extended to 36 holes and Washington scored its first victory with a four-man total of 636. Walsh did not defend.