

CHESHIRE TITLE

Won by Wallasey Player

E. Coventry, of Wallasey Villagers, won the Cheshire amateur golf championship at Sale on Saturday by defeating H. C. Holden, a member of the Bowdon Club, in the 36 holes' final by 8 and 7. The new champion hails from a district which from time to time produces a golfer of merit. He is stockily built, has a very free swing, and plays with a quiet confidence which makes him an ideal match player. Holden, though he had a two holes' lead in the early stages, never gave the impression that he would win. None of his shots had the accuracy or the crispness of Coventry's, and once the Wallasey player had squared there was little doubt of his ultimate success. It was Coventry's second shots that won him his first championship. Whether he used a wooden club, an iron, a mashie, or a mashie niblick he was always deadly accurate. Holden, however, usually had the greater length from the tees.

Holden became two up at the third in the morning, and this was the position at the seventh, which was actually the turning-point of the match. There Holden went into the rough from the tee and blundered with his next two shots, so that Coventry had little difficulty in reducing the lead. A sliced tee-shot and a pulled second cost Holden the ninth, and he was lucky to halve the eleventh, where Coventry, after playing one of his brilliant seconds to within a few feet of the pin, was laid a stymie. Coventry took the lead at the thirteenth, and he also won the fourteenth and fifteenth. At one of those holes Coventry played one of the greatest shots of the day from a bunker, the ball coming to rest two yards from the pin. Going to the eighteenth Coventry was three up, and there he played another brilliant second, so that he finished the round with a lead of four holes, which he had obtained with an approximate score of 76 against 81.

There was a curious incident in the afternoon at the sixth, where Holden won his only hole of the round. Coventry played a mashie shot to within a few feet of the pin and Holden followed with a shot which seemed to come to rest beyond the green. Holden, after having played his third, drew the referee's attention to the fact that he had played the wrong ball, and it was then stated by a number of spectators that Holden's second shot had struck Coventry's ball on the green with the result that the latter had shot over into the rough whilst Holden's remained near where Coventry's ball had been. The referee decided that Coventry must play the ball which Holden had played for his third shot. Coventry recovered a seven holes' lead at the eighth, and the match ended three holes later.

The first division handicap competition resulted in a win for E. Williams (Sale) with 78-6-72. In the second division the winner was A. J. Roscoe 83-14-74. Dr. Robinson (Ringway) 85-10-75, J. G. Lord (Ringway) 84-9-75, and W. W. Wilson (Sale) 85-10-75 tied for second place.