

Iwentsche Golf Club
Hengelo. b.

June 25th/30

Dear Douglas,

Yours to hand re team for Belgium. I do not consider that my letter was at all in the nature of a rotten letter. I was purely and simply giving my considered opinion. Furthermore I do not know who are on the selection committee.

In a way I do consider that I ^{was} omitted from the team from personal considerations. You are no doubt mostly all in the habit of playing to-gether from time to time, and of course I being quite an appreciable distance away am in consequence not blessed with the opportunity of playing with you and when I have, I have been glad of a rest as my work here is pretty tying with the clubhouse work also, and to leave the place for other people to run is out of the question. We've had some.

Now you stress the point that I have finished 3rd three times on my own course. You will be the first to agree that to play on your own course in a competition is no great help. May I ask where you for instance have finished in competitions on your own course? It's a fair question as you stress it in my case.

I think most of you have been here often enough to do a little better, but apart from the 1st three the scores have been simply appalling. The Hague is not my course I know little about it but the fact that I did finish 3rd there gives at least some criterion as to my form in competition play.

I don't know anything about the records of the association going back to 1925. I think present form is the best system of choosing a team.

Now may I mention a few names in your team? They may be better players than I am, (we are at least not to be regarded as particularly brilliant performers as regards the playing part of the game). In this respect we seem to be very much wanting without exception but this is perhaps beside the point. I will first mention Mr Woodward. Was he a member in 1925? He is, or may be a good player, I should imagine that he is, but how is he chosen? As far as I know he has only played in one competition here at my club. Now Mr King does he suggest to you a place I've played with him three times. We have been drawn to-gether. I was on each occasion many many strokes in front of him. These are outstanding facts. Now Mr Blair may be a good player but what has he done to be considered better than me? I mean where does the committee get their statistics from. Of Mr Dunn I make no comment. He is a good player. Let us say. Now as regards yourself. How do you become chosen? I do not suggest that you should not be in the team, but I hope that I may be allowed to suggest that it is not absolutely essential that the secretary is chosen. Naturally the committee choose you and I support of course on form.

Now as regard this game against Belgium. When it's a question of a match of this sort the right idea would be (may I suggest it?) to hold a competition, and the eight or ten as the question may be who return the best scores become automatically chosen (Prize money to be given by the association).

Naturally I am writing this not to you personally and none of my remarks are in any way to be considered personal. I

am just assuming my right to criticise "to the Selection Committee"

I am naturally not elated at being considered the worst professional player in Holland as it is a title that I have not earned. You had as a committee sufficient data and there should not have been the slightest hesitations in including me. With several of those included there is absolutely no reason for inclusion.

To me it is absolutely in the nature of a disgrace not to be included in 9 out of about 11 possible players. Simply because I am not in the habit of going about with the other boys and playing. This is no excuse as you (the committee) had sufficient figures to go off.

Now you can see that I have been absolutely fair in my criticisms as one man to another but to avoid any unpleasantness in future (members should vote by proxy on any matter) and a different system of selection adopted.

May I also suggest that all our competition results be sent up to the P.G.D. Journal as this is seldom done.

One point in your letter I rather take offence at is "my assertion that I was not getting fair play is disgusting". I have at least every right to be very much disgusted as I have absolutely proved up to the hilt. Then you mention "two can play at that game" surely that is an unwarranted way of writing and the question does not arise. I was annoyed, I still am, and you would be also.

I am.
Yours Sincerely
Frank.