

They Wore What?

Featuring Violet Pooley-Sweeny

Athlete Article



Violet (Pooley) Sweeny was certainly a trailblazer of her time. She was born in 1886 and at the young age of 8 she began golfing. Violet's interest in golf was sparked by her father who was very involved with the Victoria Golf Club and one of the clubs' founding members.

Being a child and a woman made it difficult for Violet to learn golf, so she was mostly self taught in her earlier years. When Violet got a little older she learned more about golf when she caddied for her father.

It was in her late teens that Violet began her golf career as a member of the Victoria Golf Club. As well as excelling in golf, Violet was an avid tennis player, who won the Mainland of BC Championships in 1910. She moved to Vancouver and married SC "Bimbo" Sweeny in 1919 (a well-known rower and rugby player active in the Vancouver Rowing Club). Violet joined the Jericho Golf Club and continued to work for the betterment of the sport

even after she stopped competing.

Violet's other accomplishments include:

- Held numerous Victoria City golf titles.
- Captured the Pacific Northwest title seven times; 1905, 1909, and 1914 with the Victoria Golf Club, and 1920, 1923, 1927, and 1928 with the Jericho Golf Club.
- Runner-up three times (1906, 1912 with Victoria, 1929 with Jericho).
- Won the BC Championship nine times; 1905, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1914 with Victoria, and 1920, 1922, 1923, and 1929 with Jericho.
- Member of the Canadian Ladies Championship team that competed in Montreal in 1913.