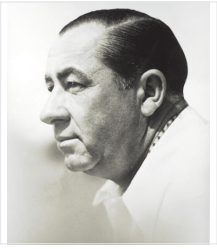
Most Finals



6 by **Walter Hagen** (winner, 1921, '24, '25, '26, '27; runner-up, 1923)
5 by Sam Snead (winner 1942, '49 and '51; runner-up, 1938 and '40)
5 by Byron Nelson (winner, 1940 and '45; runner-up, 1939, '41 and '44)
4 by Jim Barnes (winner, 1916 and '19; runner-up, 1921 and '24)
4 by Gene Sarazen (winner, 1922, '23 and '33; runner-up, 1930)
3 by Denny Shute (runner-up, 1931; winner, 1936 and '37)
3 by Leo Diegel (runner-up, 1926; winner, 1928 and '29)
3 by Chick Harbert (runner-up, 1947 and '51; winner, 1954)
3 by Walter Burkemo (runner-up, 1951 and '54; winner, 1953)

Most Times in Semifinals

8 by Walter Hagen (1916, '21, '23, '24, '25, '26, '27 and '29)
7 by Gene Sarazen (1922, '23, '28, '30, '31, '33 and '41)
6 by Byron Nelson (1939, '40, '41, '42, '44 and '45)
5 by Sam Snead (1938, '40, '42, '49 and '51)
4 by Denny Shute (1931, '34, '36 and '37)
4 by Jim Barnes (1916, '19, '21 and '24)
4 by Jimmy Demaret (1942, '46, '48 and '50)
4 by Walter Burkemo (1951, '53, '54 and '57)

Most Consecutive Times in Finals

5 by Walter Hagen
(runner-up, 1923; winner, 1924, '25, '26 and '27)*
3 by Byron Nelson
(runner-up, 1939; winner, 1940; runner-up 1941)
**Hagen made it into finals in 1921, but did not play in the 1922 PGA Championship.*

Most Years Qualified for Match Play

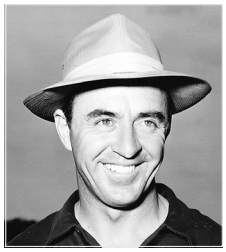
28 by Gene Sarazen	18 by Denny Shute
21 by Vic Ghezzi	17 by Horton Smith
20 by Al Watrous	17 by Sam Snead

Most Matches Played

82 by Gene Sarazen	50 by Walter Hagen
64 by Sam Snead	47 by Vic Ghezzi
51 by Denny Shute	45 by Byron Nelson

Most Holes Played in Match Play

2,221 by Gene Sarazen
1,580 by Walter Hagen
1,546 by **Sam Snead**
1,374 by Denny Shute
1,305 by Byron Nelson



Most Matches Won

57 by Gene Sarazen
50 by **Sam Snead**
40 by Walter Hagen
37 by Byron Nelson
35 by Denny Shute

Highest Winning Percentage (Minimum of 15 Matches)

82% by Byron Nelson	37 wins-8 losses
82% by Walter Burkemo	27 wins-6 losses
81% by Ben Hogan	22 wins-5 losses
80% by Walter Hagen	40 wins-10 losses
78% by Sam Snead	50 wins-14 losses
77% by Jim Barnes	24 wins-7 losses

Most Consecutive Matches Won

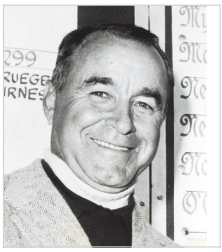
22 by Walter Hagen–(five in 1924, five in 1925, five in 1926, five in 1927, two in 1928); streak was broken in the quarterfinals of 1928 with Leo Diegel's 2 and 1 win
14 by Denny Shute–(six in 1936, six in 1937, two in 1938); streak was broken in the 3rd round of 1938 with Jimmy Hines' 2 and 1 win
13 by Gene Sarazen–(six in 1922, six in 1923, one in 1924); streak was broken in the 2nd round of 1924 with Larry Nabholtz's 2 and 1 win
11 by Jim Barnes–(five in 1916, five in 1919, one in 1920); streak was broken in the 2nd round of 1920 with Clarence Hackney's 5 and 4 win
11 by Walter Burkemo–(six in 1953, five in 1954); streak was broken in the finals of 1954 with Chick Harbert's 4 and 3 win
11 by Leo Diegel–(five in 1928, five in 1929, one in 1930); streak was broken in the 2nd round of 1930 with Harold Sampson's 1-up (38) win
11 by Byron Nelson–(six in 1940, five in 1941); streak was broken in the finals of 1941 with Vic Ghezzi's 1-up (38) win
10 by Walter Hagen–(five in 1921, five in 1923); streak was broken in finals of 1923 with Gene Sarazen's 1-up (38) win*
**Note Hagen did not play in the 1922 PGA Championship*

Most Wins in First Round

22 by Gene Sarazen
16 by Sam Snead
14 by Ed Dudley
14 by Vic Ghezzi
13 by Denny Shute

Most Holes Played in One Championship

194 by **Gene Sarazen** in 1923:
1st round 29, 2nd round 26, 3rd round 34, Quarterfinals 36, Semifinals 31, Finals 38
188 by Walter Hagen in 1923:
1st round 33, 2nd round 27, 3rd round 34, Quarterfinals 32, Semifinals 25, Finals 38
182 by Harold McSpaden in 1937:
1st round 16, 2nd round 20, 3rd round 34, Quarterfinals 39, Semifinals 36, Finals 37



Champions Taking the Fewest Holes to Win

154 by Leo Diegel in 1928: 1st round 28, 2nd round 32, Quarterfinals 35, Semifinals 28, Finals 31
154 by Leo Diegel in 1929: 1st round 27, 2nd round 27, Quarterfinals 34, Semifinals 34, Finals 32
155 by Ben Hogan in 1946: 1st round 17, 2nd round 15, 3rd round 32, Quarterfinals 32, Semifinals 27, Finals 32
157 by Gene Sarazen in 1933: 1st round 29, 2nd round 33, Quarterfinals 31, Semifinals 32, Finals 32

Biggest Winning Margin of Victory, 12 and 11

Jim Barnes beat George Denback in the 1st round, 1923
Jim Barnes beat John Cowan in the 2nd round, 1923
Willie Ogg beat Carl Anderson in the 2nd round, 1923
Walter Hagen beat George McLean in the semifinals, 1923
Mortie Dutra beat Albert Alcroft in the 1st round, 1927
Johnny Revolta beat Alex Gerlak in the 1st round, 1933
Ky Laffoon beat Vic Bass in the 1st round, 1942

Biggest Winning Margin of Victory, 12 and 10

Ky Laffoon beat George Smith in 1st round, 1934
Doug Ford beat Wally Ulrich in the 3rd round, 1955

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Biggest Winning Margin of Victory in a Final

Paul Runyan beat Sam Snead, 8 and 7 in 1938
Ben Hogan beat Mike Turnesa, 7 and 6 in 1948
Sam Snead beat Walter Burkemo, 7 and 6 in 1951

Playoffs in the Finals

1923–Gene Sarazen beat Walter Hagen on the 38th hole
1934–Paul Runyan beat Craig Wood on the 38th hole
1937–Denny Shute beat Harold McSpaden on the 37th hole
1939–Henry Picard beat Byron Nelson on the 37th hole
1941–Vic Ghezzi beat Bryon Nelson on the 38th hole

Most Playoffs

7 by Claude Harmon	2 wins — 5 losses
7 by Harold McSpaden	4 wins — 3 losses
7 by Sam Snead	3 wins — 4 losses
6 by Chick Harbert	4 wins — 2 losses
6 by Byron Nelson	3 wins — 3 losses
6 by Al Watrous	2 wins — 4 losses

Most Wins in Playoffs

5 by Gene Sarazen in five playoffs
4 by Harold McSpaden in seven playoffs
4 by Chick Harbert in six playoffs
4 by Jim Turnesa in five playoffs
4 by **Walter Burkemo** in four playoffs
4 by Jim Ferrier in four playoffs
4 by Ky Laffoon in four playoffs

Most Extra-Hole Matches Played in One Year

3 by Harold McSpaden in 1937–beat Bunny Torpey in the 2nd round (20 holes), beat Henry Picard in quarterfinals (39 holes), lost to Denny Shute in the finals (37 holes)

3 by Walter Burkemo in 1951–beat Tody Lyons in the 1st round (20 holes), beat Chick Harbert in the 2nd round (19 holes), beat Ellsworth Vines in the semifinals (37 holes)

3 by Dave Douglas in 1953–beat Lew Worsham in the 1st round (20 holes), beat Sam Snead in the 2nd round (19 holes), beat Jackson Bradley in the 3rd round (37 holes)

Longest Matches (36 Holes)

43 holes – John Golden beat Walter Hagen in the 1st round in 1932

42 holes – Claude Harmon beat Sam Snead in the quarterfinals in 1948

41 holes – Bobby Cruickshank beat Al Watrous in the 1st round in 1932

Longest Mates (18 Holes)

26 holes – **Chick Harbert** beat Eddie Burke in the 2nd round in 1948

24 holes – Ted Kroll beat Max Evans in the 2nd round in 1954

Lowest Qualifying Score

134 by Jim Ferrier in 1946
134 by Stewart Alexander in 1948
134 by Johnny Palmer in 1953

Highest Qualifying Score by a Champion

154 by Denny Shute in 1936, 155 made it into match play
151 by Walter Hagen in 1925, 157 made it into match play
151 by Leo Diegel in 1928, 60 made it into match play
151 by Byron Nelson in 1940, 53 made it into match play
149 by Denny Shute in 1937; Shute was exempt from qualifying, and 63 made it into match play

Medalist Going on to Win the PGA Championship

140 by Walter Hagen in 1926
141 by Walter Hagen in 1927 (shared low medalist honors)
140 by Olin Dutra in 1932
138 by Byron Nelson in 1945 (shared low medalist honors)
135 by Doug Ford in 1955

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