

# Truth on the Golf Course

Robert Tyre (Bobby) Jones Jr. (1902 – 1971), a lawyer by profession, was the most successful amateur golfer ever to compete on a national and international level. He is most famous for his unique Grand Slam, consisting of his victory in all four major golf tournaments of his era (the open and amateur championships in both the United States and the United Kingdom.)



*Bobby Jones Jr.*

In 1925, he was competing in the U.S. Open when his character was suddenly thrust into the spotlight. Jones set up for a shot, carefully positioned his club behind the ball, but then noticed the ball move slightly. So Jones backed away from the shot and notified the official that he was assessing himself a one-stroke penalty according to the rules. He wound up losing the tournament by one stroke.

Praised for his gesture and honesty, Jones replied, “You may as well praise a man for not robbing a bank.”

Contrast that story with this one:

A woman returned to her car in a shopping center’s parking lot to find a dent in the vehicle’s door. Looking around to see if the offender was waiting nearby for her to return, the woman spied a note pinned under the car’s windshield wiper. The note simply read: “I’m writing this note because some people saw me hit your car and think I’m leaving my contact information.” Of course, the note contained no name or contact information.

Honesty and integrity are refreshing because they are too rare in today’s society. People instead make all kinds of excuses in an effort to avoid personal responsibility.

God commanded His people in the law that they were to be truthful in their speech and honest in their dealings.

– Beecher Hunter