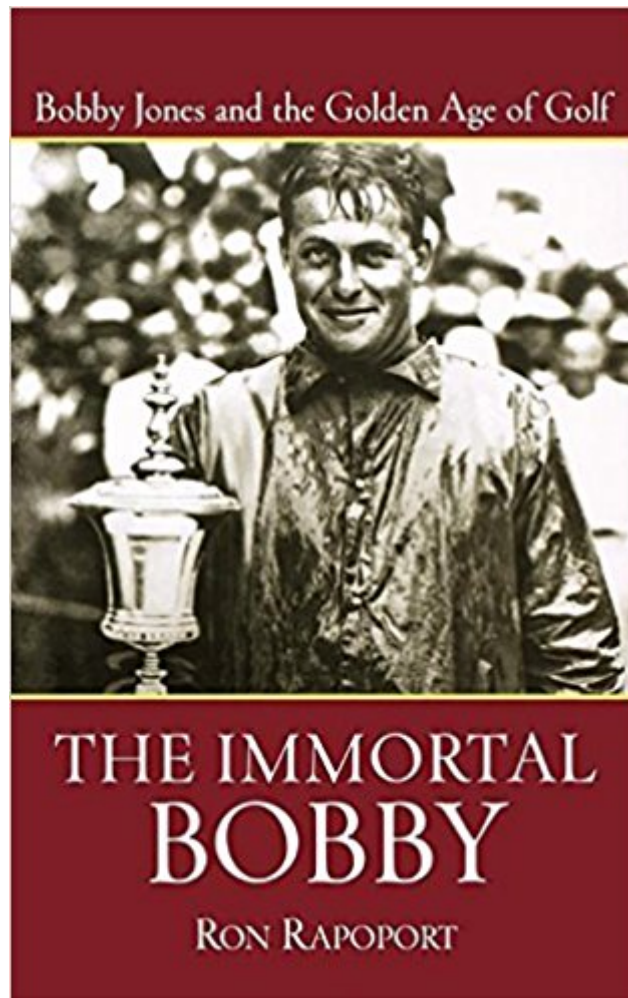




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The Immortal Bobby: Bobby Jones And The Golden Age Of Golf



Synopsis

Acclaim for *The Immortal Bobby* "Just when you think there is nothing new to be said or written on the subject of Bob Jones, Ron Rapoport comes along and proves that theory completely untrue. *The Immortal Bobby* is wonderfully reported and superbly written."--John Feinstein, author of *A Good Walk Spoiled* and *Caddy for Life* "The story of Bobby Jones's singular life is one of the most fascinating in sports history. Ron Rapoport's thoughtful, graceful style is well suited to telling that story."--Bob Costas, broadcaster, NBC Sports and HBO Sports "Beyond the grainy newsreels and the confetti falling on Broadway and Peachtree Street, there was an essential Bobby Jones, and Ron Rapoport reveals him splendidly in a portrait as graceful as the man. There's more here than Grand Slam 1930--the jangling nerves and self-doubt, the towering modesty in response to fame, the complexity of an Atlanta patrician, a life richly lived."--Gary M. Pomerantz, author of *Where Peachtree Meets Sweet Auburn* "The skills of writing and reporting that fans of Ron Rapoport, like me, have come to expect from him over the years--candor, thoughtfulness, insight, perspective, humor--are once again demonstrated and illuminated in *The Immortal Bobby*. It is an important book about an important sports figure that, typically for Rapoport, goes beyond the confines of sports and fits firmly in the context of our culture."--Ira Berkow, sports columnist and author of *Red: A Biography of Red Smith* "Here is Bobby Jones as you've never seen him, almost fearful in the fires of competition, and Ron Rapoport shows us how that man became a legend."--Dave Kindred, coauthor (with Tom Callahan) of *Around the World in 18 Holes*

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Customer Reviews

* ""A thorough biography of Jones. Solid reporting."" (St. Paul Pioneer Press)""Bobby Jones' golf Grand Slam, achieved 75 years ago, ranks among sports' greatest accomplishments. He did it, but as Ron Rapoport discovered not without a great deal of suffering, mental and physical."" (USA Today)""The Immortal Bobby is a well-researched and unvarnished biography of Jones by Ron Rapoport, a Chicago Sun-Times sports columnist and National Public Radio commentator. Rapoport excels at adding sociological context to Jones' achievements."" (GolfWeek)There are several Bobby Jones books out this spring commemorating the 75th anniversary of his 1930 Grand Slam, but none so far is better researched, or told with greater detail, than this one by Rapoport, a columnist for the Chicago Sun-Times. Rapoport recounts the more fascinating details of Jones' life after doing scores of interviews and poring over the golfer's many correspondences. Jones was a prolific writer; in fact, his own accounts of his golf matches occasionally appeared in the next day's paper. Rapoport says he ""discovered a disparity between the man and the myth that was not always so simple."" He recounts that despite his gentlemanly image, Jones could hold a fearsome grudge, as he did against fellow pro Chick Evans, whose every attempt at reconciliation was rebuffed. As for 1930, Rapoport brings much of the detail of the Grand Slam quest back to life. Forgotten, until now, are the numerous near-disasters and the internal turmoil that make Jones' ultimate triumph all the more admirable. (San Diego Union-Tribune)

"If you want to learn a thing, or three about Jones and the defining times in which he lived, you should read this book."--Brian Hewitt, TheGolfChannel.com"The story of Bobby Jones' singular life is one of the most fascinating in sports history. Ron Rapoport's thoughtful, graceful is well suited to telling that story."-- Bob Costas, Broadcaster, NBC Sports and HBO Sports"Beyond the grainy newsreels and the confetti falling on Broadway and Peachtree Street, there was an essential Bobby Jones and Ron Rapoport reveals him splendidly in a portrait as graceful as the man. There's more here than Grand Slam 1930. The jangling nerves and self-doubt, the towering modesty in response to fame, the complexity of an Atlanta patrician, a life richly lived."-- Gary M. Pomerantz, author, Where Peachtree Meets Sweet Auburn"The skills of writing and reporting that fans of Ron Rapoport, like me, have come to expect from him over the years. Candor, thoughtfulness, insight, perspective, humor are once again demonstrated and illuminated in The Immortal Bobby. It is an important book about an important sports figure that, typically for Rapoport, goes beyond the confines of sports and fits firmly in the context of our culture."-- Ira Berkow, sports columnist and author of Red: A Biography of Red Smith."Just when you think there is nothing new to be said or written on the subject of Bob Jones,

Ron Rapoport comes along and proves that theory completely untrue. The Immortal Bobby is wonderfully reported and superbly written."--John FeinsteinI haven't read a better golf book since Tiger Woods was a cub.--Mike Downey, Chicago Tribune

Life in the early 20th century was challenging. When talent was identified it was embraced and developed in the hope that some fulfilment and satisfaction would result. Thus was the legend of Bobby Jones. A small yet talented and extremely driven young man, he thrived on winning yet withered in competition. Always a gentleman, yet abrasive and dismissive of those he felt had slighted him, Jones played a different game to today's "golf heroes". Determined to maintain his amateur status, Jones beat the best at home and abroad, without the benefits of space age technology, balls that fly further each year, oversized clubs or extreme fitness. Is it time for the game of golf to revise its journey and think about some of the traditions that drove fair play and personal excellence? Is it unrealistic to consider a return to days of "stymied putts", open galleries, more match play events, celebrations of amateur achievements and ultimately a more focused and strategic game. Perhaps then we would enjoy the surge in player and supporter numbers that are waiting for such outcomes. A thoroughly enjoyable journey into a simpler, yet sometimes more complex era. I recommend this to any true lover of golf.

If you are a fan of golf or even if not this book is an excellent read. When compared to athletes of the last 100 years you will marvel at the facts surrounding a man who truly became a legend in his spare time, not only the greatest golfer in the first half of the twentieth century but he was a gentleman and a gentle man. He made all his golf money only after retiring from competition and was never affected by his wealth or celebrity.

Nolt light reading and the story line gets obscured by facts, statistics and miscellaneous quotes. I liked the book but could only read a short time before I got confused as to what year it was, which tournament we were talking about and who was who. Overall, it was a subject I was interested in, but it was not light reading.

I had just read another book about Bobby Jones that was much better. It was called the Grand Slam by Mark Frost. The Immortal Bobby was a condensed version of The Grand Slam. I must say that the one thing the Immortal Bobby covered better was his illness that caused his death. If you want to read about Bobby Jones read the Grand Slam.

I wanted to hear about how BJ learned to swing. Now it is easy to find people to teach you but in the early days??? However, the book barely covers that topic. It is about his incredible tournament run and the author does give you a sense of how it must have felt. A good read for a golf fan.

Disappointing read

This book gives a no holds barred aspect of the application of Jones to the game of golf. Regarding other books available only the book by Keeler comes anywhere near the in depth description of the many hurdles Jones faced.

Excellent. Great insight to what Jones went through during his competitive career,

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