Harold "Jug" McSpaden was born in Kansas in 1908 and turned professional in 1926 after spending his youth as a caddie, inspired to start the game by witnessing Harry Vardon play a match in Kansas City in 1918. He became an elected PGA Professional in 1926 at the age of 18 and set off on a successful playing career which saw him participate in the first Masters Tournament in 1934 and claim 17 victories on the PGA TOUR. In the late 1930s and early 1940s, McSpaden was the Head Golf Professional at Winchester Country Club in Winchester, Massachusetts and competed locally, capturing three New England PGA Championships (1938, 1939, 1941) and four Massachusetts Open titles (1936, 1937, 1938, 1941). He finished in the top-10 ten times in Major Championships and is arguably most well-known for placing second 13 times in 1945 as well as finishing in the top-10 31 times, both PGA TOUR records that still stand to this day.