

# Hartford Courant



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## Martin Decision A Detriment To Golf

What sport will be next on the Supreme Court's "hit list"?

While some golf pros are jogging 3 miles a day to remain physically fit for the rigors of walking 5 miles in four hours to compete professionally, Casey Martin can be on the putting green sharpening his accuracy because he doesn't have to be in shape to walk the course. Is that fair to Tiger Woods and the other pros who must maintain the level of conditioning required for the pro sport?

When the temperature is 105 degrees on the course, will Mr. Martin be allowed to use a cap on his cart to protect him from the sun? Or will he just head for the treeline between drives and stay in the shade because the burden of an extra quarter mile per hole won't affect his game? Is that fair to the other pros on the circuit?

Will the Professional Golfers Association change the rules so all pros can use carts?

Will the now flat stomachs and relatively trim-looking professional athletes give way to 50-inch waistlines and double chins on golfers who can drive

the ball a mile and putt with professional accuracy but couldn't walk 5 miles in a week? Can air-conditioned golf carts be far behind?

Now that the Supreme Court has started to weigh in on the

rules of fair play in professional sports, will asterisks now be needed in record books in the name of "fair play?"

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