

From the producers of the BAFTA Best Picture Film *Tommy's Honour...*

# THE LINKS

A true-life, prestige, multi-season drama following the powerful families and rival personalities who forged the modern game of golf, tracing the sport from its raw Scottish origins to the global game it is today.

In a world defined by ambition, rigid class divisions, and bitter family rivalries, the birth of golf was anything but genteel—often contentious and at times marked by scandal, tragedy, and even death.



At its heart, **THE LINKS** is a family saga. Fathers groom sons to carry on fragile legacies. Wives push for social survival in a world closed to them. Brothers become rivals. Marriages strain under ambition. Talent collides with loyalty. Every victory on the links comes at a personal cost at home.

Set in the late 19th-century Scotland, England and the US, the series follows rival dynasties of craftsmen, champions, and entrepreneurs—and the families behind them—as they fight for survival, status, and control of the sport they invented.

Told through interwoven family stories of fathers and sons, ambitious wives, immigrant dreamers, and prodigy players, **THE LINKS** explores how personal rivalries, marriages, betrayals, and generational conflicts shaped the future of golf. As aristocrats and industrial money move in, the people who built the game must decide whether to protect their legacy—or sell it.

At its core, the series asks: What happens when ordinary families create something extraordinary—and lose control of it?



# THE LINKS

Vision of Season One Episodes and Story Arc

## EPISODES 1 – 5

### EPISODE 1 – THE FIRST

Hugh Lyon Playfair comes back from empire to a town that won't have him—so he takes it anyway. Davie Robertson fights the gentlemen for survival while Ann Robertson wages her own war against the wives who would bury her. Private clubs rise, shutting out men like Robertson and daring them to push back. When Davie Robertson dies disgraced, Allan Robertson inherits a business—and a score to settle.

### EPISODE 2 – THE SECOND

Allan Robertson tries to hold it together, but grief poisons his marriage to Helen Robertson and sharpens his temper. Ann Robertson takes on Lady Violet and the women who enforce the rules of class like scripture. Hugh Lyon Playfair tears St Andrews apart to rebuild it in his image. Tom Morris turns his back on Allan Robertson—business becomes betrayal, and friendship turns cold.

### EPISODE 3 – THE THIRD

Tom Morris walks out on Allan Robertson for a better offer, leaving loyalty behind for ambition. Playfair tightens his grip as the town splits between those who have power and those who don't. Morris and Robertson meet one last time across the links—respect, pride, and anger colliding. Then Allan Robertson dies, and Tom Morris is left with the kind of guilt that doesn't fade.

### EPISODE 4 – THE FORTH

At Prestwick, Tom Morris picks a fight with the ruling class—building a tournament for professionals they consider beneath them. His marriage to Nancy Morris cracks under distance, grief, and the ghosts he carries. Back in St Andrews, Morris defies the old guard and backs women's golf, putting him in direct conflict with Lady Violet. Every change he makes costs him allies—but he keeps going.

### EPISODE 5 – THE FIFTH

Young Tom Morris falls for Meg Drinnen—a woman the town has already judged and condemned. Tom Morris and Nancy Morris fight to control a son who refuses to live by their rules. Love turns to tragedy, and the loss shatters the family beyond repair. On the course and off it, men like Bob Martin exploit a system built to favor their own.



# THE LINKS

Continued Story Arc

EPISODES 6 – 9

## EPISODE 6 – THE SIXTH

Tom Morris is challenged by Hugh Hamilton, a man who hides ambition behind “progress.” Issette Pearson takes on men like Horace Hutchinson—and the husbands and fathers who decide what women are allowed to be. Lady Margaret Scott defies Lord Eldon, risking everything for independence. When she wins, it’s not just a victory—it’s a warning shot.

## EPISODE 7 – THE SEVENTH

Issette Pearson rewrites the rules, threatening the entire structure men like Horace Hutchinson depend on. Freddie Tait rises fast—too fast—becoming both hero and symbol in a game divided by class. Tom Morris finds in him something like a son, just as the world takes him away. War doesn’t care about status, and when it’s over, Tom Morris is left with nothing but memory.

## EPISODE 8 – THE EIGHTH

Charles Blair Macdonald builds American golf in his own image—order, power, and control dressed up as progress. Lady Margaret Scott becomes Lady Margaret Hamilton-Russell, choosing security over the fight. Dave Cuthbert arrives in America with nothing—no name, no standing, no protection. In this world, if you’re not a gentleman, you don’t belong.

## EPISODE 9 – THE NINTH – NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Issette Pearson refuses to let history be written by the men who tried to silence her—forcing Horace Hutchinson to stand beside her. In America, Dave Cuthbert sees professionals treated like servants and decides it won’t stand. With Rodman Wanamaker’s money and influence, they organize, push back, and take a seat at the table. The fight for respect isn’t over—but now it’s a fight they can win.



# THE LINKS

Stories Continue

## SEASON 2 – 9 EPISODE SYNOPSIS

### THE STORY OF AMERICA

American golf is born in a quiet war between families—old money elites, immigrant Scots, and ambitious outsiders all fighting to control the game. As C.B. Macdonald builds the sport, he's caught between the patrons who demand exclusivity and the professionals they refuse to accept, while across the Atlantic, St Andrews families close ranks against players like Jock Hutchison, whose loyalties threaten tradition.

When Francis Ouimet's working-class victory humiliates Boston's ruling class, the conflict turns personal—spilling into homes, marriages, and reputations. In the women's game, Babe Zaharias battles prejudice while dominating on her own terms, as Althea Gibson breaks barriers as the first Black LPGA player—only to face exclusion off the course, exposing a system designed to keep outsiders in their place. Rising stars like Beatrix Hoyt and Bobby Jones are shaped—and nearly broken—by family pressure, while Bobby Locke's defiance forces every faction to unite against him, proving legacy matters more than the game itself.

### COMPARABLE SHOWS

**Succession**

**Peaky Blinders**

**Downton Abbey**

**The Crown**

**Boardwalk Empire**

**Friday Night Lights**

"Succession meets Peaky Blinders, set in the birth of modern golf—with the emotional weight of The Crown."



# PRODUCERS



Jim Kreutzer



Jamie Elliott



Tiger (Ian) Rhodes



Roger McStravick