The Short Game

Putting & Chipping



Putting and Chipping are critical parts of the game that too few golfers spend enough time practicing. Improving these two areas can for many golfers be the quickest way to cut strokes off of their game.

Putting

Grip Keys

- Hold the club more in the palm of the hands to restrict excess wrist motion.
- In the left hand the club should run along the "life-line".
- Most grips on putter have a flat side in front, your thumbs should rest on that side and point straight down the club.
- Grip pressure should be moderate to light. The club should be secure and not move in your hands.

Set-Up Keys

- Move in close enough and bend over far enough to have your eyes directly over the putter or ball.
- Arms hang down relaxed and slightly bent.
- Ball is positioned just inside left foot.
- Feet, hips and shoulders parallel to target line.
- Weight evenly distributed or favoring left foot as in picture.
- Hands below shoulders.
- Knees slightly bent.
- Ball should be centered on the aiming line of the putter (if putter has a line).
- Face of putter is perpendicular to body alignment.





Putting Stroke Keys

- Arms swing and shoulders rock in a pendulum motion.
- Putter head moves along target line, straight back and straight though.
- Face of the putter remains facing the hole for as long as possible.
- Lower body and head are motionless
- Wrists are quiet and firm.
- Follow-through is longer than backstroke. That keeps the putter accelerating though impact.
- A flowing even-paced tempo and rhythm should always be maintained.





Chipping

Effective chipping is done when the ball flies low, lands on the green quickly and rolls the rest of the way to the hole. Chipping should be done with a variety of clubs depending on the amount of rough to fly over and the amount of green to work with. Generally you want to use the club with the least amount of loft that you are comfortable with.

Set-Up Keys

- Take normal full-swing grip.
- Ball should be positioned near back foot.
- Hands should be positioned well forward of the ball.
- 70% off your body weight should rest on your front foot.
- Take open stance



Chip Swing Keys

- Use a pendulum arm swing similar to a putting stroke.
- Keep weight resting on left foot with absolutely no weight transfer.
- At impact hands must remain well forward of clubhead and the back of the left wrist must remain flat.

