

GOLF DIGEST || NOVEMBER 2010 || VOL. 61, NO. 11 || 2-MINUTE TIPS BY SEAN FOLEY || BIG DRIVERS || TIGER-EARL BOOK || RETIREMENT GUIDE

The No. 1 Golf Publication

Golf Digest



**THE
BOOK
ON
TIGER**
HIS FATHER'S SON
P.114

**2
MINUTE
TIPS**
**DRIVE IT
STRAIGHT**
**HIT IT
SOLID**
**FIX YOUR
FAULTS**
**CHIP IT
CLOSE**
**MAKE
EVERY
PUTT**

**BIG DRIVERS
TIRED OF
BEING THE
SHORT
HITTER?**

**5 BUDGETS
HOW TO
RETIRE GOLF
SMART**

**BREAK
100/90/80
BUILD A
POWERFUL
SETUP**

NOV 2010

BY SEAN FOLEY
AND AMERICA'S BEST
YOUNG TEACHERS

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060 BOB CARLIN
#GLF1141588069/9# DC111
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FROM OUR SURVEY

Q What techniques help you communicate with students?

A "I find out what type of communication they respond to. It could be the use of video, a launch monitor or various training aids. Simple, concise visual, auditory or kinesthetic cues expedite the learning process."

JOHN BIERKAN/32

A "I have students describe their best round. I take note of the language used and follow in line. For example, if they use words that describe what they felt versus what they saw, I give more feels than images."

JASON CARBONE/36

A "Knowing students' learning styles and being a good reader of people and faces. As they settle into a shot, I repeat their new setup and swing items each time so they begin to say it to themselves."

TRENT WEARNER/37

A "I'm a big believer in asking open-ended questions, finding the manners in which students best process information, then giving them what they personally need to conceptualize and execute skills."

KEVIN RHOADS/38

A "Video—the bigger the better, meaning I have a bigger TV at work than I do at home."

V.J. TROLIO/36



CAMERON MCCORMICK

AGE 37 RATE \$125/HR.
Brook Hollow G.C.,
Dallas (214-460-2284)

THE BURIED-LIE CHIP

When your ball is in deep greenside rough and you have some green to work with, try this technique. Close your stance 45 degrees, and stand close to the ball, so your eyes are almost directly over it. Square your clubface to the target. Then make an abrupt wrist hinge back and down through the shot. The clubhead will cut through the thick grass and put hook spin on the ball. A short swing will get the ball running hard to the hole.



ALEX MURRAY

AGE 34 RATE \$225/HR.
Burlingame (Calif.) Golf
Center (650-678-5254)

PINPOINT PUTTING

People talk about the importance of ball position in the short game, especially in putting, but often in terms of where the ball is located in the stance. The problem is, there's no standard for stance width, so this system is imprecise. Instead, focus on setting up with the ball below your left ear. If you're not doing that, you're probably compensating during the stroke. With the ball too far forward, your tendency will be to miss left; too far back, and you'll miss right.



CHRIS O'CONNELL

AGE 37 RATE \$130/HR.
Plane Truth Golf, Frisco,
Texas (214-707-1325)

HOW TO STOP CHUNKS

When you hit a short pitch shot fat, you're typically catching the ground with the leading edge of the clubface. Your hands are too far ahead of the ball at impact, so the leading edge digs. Try using the more-forgiving trailing edge. Set up with the ball in the middle of your stance and the grip pointing at the zipper of your pants. Place a dime two inches behind the ball, and practice hitting both the dime and ball to quit chunking.



JOE PLECKER

AGE 38 RATE \$125/HR.
Baltimore C.C.,
Timonium, Md.
(410-688-0512)

IMAGE: 'RE-CORK' IT

When hitting iron shots, your feet should remain in contact with the ground, and your center of gravity should stay level throughout the swing. As you come down, think of your body action like the re-corking of a wine bottle. Instead of your downswing pulling you up from the ground like uncorking a bottle—this is most amateurs—imagine the forward rotation in your body twisting you into the ground. It's just like turning the cork back in.



KEVIN RHOADS

AGE 38 RATE \$150/HR.
The Country Club,
Chestnut Hill, Mass.
(617-566-3906)

GET TO THE BOTTOM

To hit a high pitch, you need to make ball-first contact with a descending blow. A great image to remember as you swing into impact is hitting the bottom of the ball with the bottom of the clubface. This will help prevent you from decelerating or trying to scoop the ball, two common amateur mistakes.



JEFF RITTER

AGE 38 RATE \$125/HR.
ASU Karsten G. Cse.,
Tempe, Ariz.
(480-695-2017)

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KEVIN SMELTZ

AGE 39 RATE \$225/HR.
David Leadbetter
Golf Academy at
ChampionsGate,
Orlando (407-787-3330)

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TOM STICKNEY

AGE 39 RATE \$250/HR.
Bighorn G.C.,
Palm Desert, Calif.
(970-904-2485)

DRILL: SAND DIVOTS

Many golfers don't make a proper weight shift. Go out to a practice bunker and draw a three-foot line in the sand. Set up

with your feet on either side of the line, and hover your club over the line as if it were the ball. Make practice swings. Your divots should start on the line. If your divots are behind the line, you haven't shifted forward enough; in front of the line, and you've gone too far forward.



KATE TEMPESTA

AGE 37 RATE \$110/HR.
Kate Tempesta's Urban
Golf Academy, New York
City (917-650-5668)

SEE PAGE 94 FOR TIP



V.J. TROLIO

AGE 36 RATE \$125/HR.
Old Waverly G.C.,
West Point, Miss.
(662-495-5472)

LEAVE THE BALL ALONE

High-handicappers tend to move the ball position around after a few bad shots. Don't be tempted to do this; instead, let the ball position teach you where you should be at impact. In a proper setup with an iron, the ball should be two inches inside your left heel. Find that spot, and leave the ball there, no matter what's going on with your swing.



TRENT WEARNER

AGE 37 RATE \$140/HR.
Trent Wearer Golf
Academy, Englewood,
Colo. (303-645-8000)

DON'T TURN TOO SOON

The sequence of motion from the top is critical for consistent ball-striking. One common

'IF YOU FEEL OFF-BALANCE, FOCUS ON YOUR FINISH.'

—NICOLE WELLER