555 GOLF ACADEMY 'WHERE PASSION MEETS PERFORMANCE'

'SHORT GAME DRILLS'

THE 'GREEN READING' DRILL

This is most basic stuff! If we can make the best 'Putting and Chipping Stroke' in the country but cannot 'Read The Green', we will not be successful. The two major 'Elements or Aspects' of using the 'Short Stick' optimally are 'Executions of a Proper Repeatable Stroke Procedures' and 'Reading The Greens' so we know precisely where we are going to roll the Ball and how hard or with what quantity of 'ENERGY' we are going to roll it. Nothing more! 'That's All Folks'!

Easily said and tougher to do? Perhaps.

If you are serious, 'Practise Reading Greens' as often as you can. Now that's a lot of rope! So how often should that be? At least one hour a week and at least twenty Putts! Three times a week and sixty 'Putts' will pay you greater dividends. Five days a week makes sense if you want to make money with your 'Ball and Stick'! Once you have a very good 'GRIP On The Short Stick's Behaviour' you can back off on the time per session or per week, but not the frequency of five days. I think you should make a few carefully 'SET-UP' and well 'EXECUTED' Putts every single day! Leave your second most favourite 'Putter' beside your bed and the third in line by your most comfortable T.V. chair. One by the desk in your office works for me! "HOLD MY CALLS PLEASE DOROTHY!"

'Putting' well is habit forming and comes out of being habitual! You may not have got there, but it is somewhat addicting too!

So here is the 'Green Reading Drill'.

Once you are at the 'Practice Green', locate a hole that has no more than moderate break. Don't analyse it at first. Pace off four full steps (about 12 feet) from the hole and stick a tee in the putting surface or place a dime on the grass. Set your Ball beside it. Step back from your 'Ball Location' about five paces directly 'On Line'. You will have the Ball between the centre of your Chest and the Cup. Crouch down low and read your 'BALL ROLLING LINE' ('BRL'). For example, you might read the 'BALL ROLLING POINT' as 'Six Inches Outside Right Edge'. Committed? Now walk up to the hole and place a tee in the ground 'Six Inches Outside Right Edge' or perhaps better still, place a nice new white Golf Ball on this point. This gives you a 1.6" Target as opposed to the 4.25" cup. The small Target will refine your focus. Be courageous! Trust your ability and opportunity. That works! If you can't make 'Putts', no one else can make yours for you! A little lonely, right?

So now we have the scene set!

Go back to you actual 'Putting Ball', follow your 'Pre-Shot Routine' and make a great 'Stroke' striving to get '**17 INCHES PAST THE HOLE**'. Twelve to seventeen is satisfactory but pick a number and get to it! Keep in mind, of course that you can be a '**DIE IN THE HOLE PUTTER**' and that is a great technique. More about that in the book, but for now, 'Dead Weight Putts Tend To Die In The Hole', but the bumps and imperfections of the green very much affect slow paced Balls. More pace on the Ball will run over the imperfections better and thus 'Hold The Line' better. I tend to stick with the '17'' Past The Hole Procedure' at all times but, when the Greens are rolling very true (i.e. in the morning before the foot traffic takes its toll), I may 'Pre-Select' the 'Dead Weight Procedure'. It's great when they just fall in! The hole is effectively bigger at slow speed or velocity.

This 'Drill' works best when you have already mastered making very sound 'Putting Strokes' as we are working on 'READING' and not the 'DELIVERY'.

Make your Stroke, 'Keeping Your EYE On The Spot Of Grass Just Under The Ball' after it departs. Assuming that it got 17" past the cup, did it go by farther away from the hole than you '6" Read', 'Dead On It' (In the Hole) or 'Below Your Read'? Now you know whether your read was correct or not.

'Adjust Your Read', walk up and move the 'Target Ball or Target Tee' and make another attempt. You might do it three times but no more. This accomplished, walk to another random 'Four Pace Point' and repeat the process around the same hole. You can use five or six 'Ball Locations' around one hole and then break camp and move to another practice hole. You can do a bit of this 'On Course' as well, but ONLY if you are 'NOT HOLDING UP PACE OF PLAY'!

What is the pure point of this 'Bullet Proof Putting & Chipping Drill'? 'Cause and Effect'. 'SET-UP and EXECUTION'. 'Make Them or Miss Them'. 'Do The Job and Assess Your Performance'. 'Getting Immediate FEED-BACK'. You know the philosophy and regimen. Do improve we need to be gently critical of ourselves.

I want to add here that you should practise this 'Drill' early in the morning at times so you get used to varying moisture and temperature which affects the 'PACE Of The Greens'. Do it in the wind! Do it in the rain! Do it uphill and downhill. Do it Side-hill. Take on all comers! Learn the ropes!

To be a good 'Putter & Chipper' you must 'EARN IT'!

"Welcome Aboard!" "Enjoy The Ride!"

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

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