

## Week 11 Putting - Aiming the Putter

I have been asked about aiming correctly on the putting green, so this week we are going to give a few ideas on how to train this aspect of your game properly.

Assuming we strike the ball from the middle of the putter, there are 2 reasons the ball goes in a particular direction.

1. The direction the putter is travelling at impact.
2. The direction the putter face is looking at impact.

With this in mind we are going to look at how to make sure we are getting the best out of our putting.

Firstly, we start with the ball and putter head. If we struggle with our direction we should mark a straight line on the ball, make sure we aim this line at our intended target and carefully use the alignment guide on our putter head to match this line. (Pic. 1)



Secondly, we use alignment rods (Pic. 2) to help with our aim and line of our putting stroke.

- Make sure our toe line and shoulder line are parallel to the alignment rods.
- Check that our eyes are over the golf ball. This helps us to see the line better.

Finally, we stroke some putts, roughly 20 feet long. We should be paying particular attention to the following.

- The speed and tempo of our stroke.
- The direction our putter head is travelling. We should be trying to keep it between the two alignment rods by rocking our shoulders by rocking our shoulders.
- The line the golf ball rolls on. It should exit the rods through the middle.
- Try to keep the putter face looking at the target through impact by guiding the club through with your left hand.



If the ball does not leave the alignment rods through the middle as is consistently favouring one side over the other we must go back to our checklist.

- Check the aim of our putter head. Use the line on the golf ball to help with this.
- Make sure we are moving the putter on a slight arc. We should not see the putter moving aggressively over the rods.
- Keep the putter head low to the ground through impact, paying attention that we are keeping the clubface square to our target.

That's an exercise that we may be able to work on at the putting green for 10 mins before we tee off. I hope these pointers help. Get out there and try it out.

If you have any specific questions regarding this article or any other golf swing issues you can email Eddie on [eddietraceypga@yahoo.com](mailto:eddietraceypga@yahoo.com) and he will endeavour to address them in future articles.

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