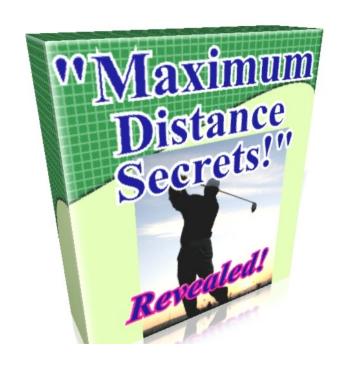
Strictly Off The Record "Magic Putting Tips" Mini-Report



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I. Introduction- How To Become A Great Putter

Beginner golfers tend to think that the *type* of putter used is what makes a great shot. However, the truth is that you can go out and spend hundreds of dollars on a new putter, but it's not the club that counts (though it doesn't hurt)....

A.The Real Secret

Do you want to know the real secret behind becoming an excellent putter?

The answer is (drumroll)... Confidence. And confidence is often developed from practice. Both real & imaginary practice. And "Imaginary practice" (imagery) is more effective than you might think, according to some studies.

Your \$500 putter can definitely help. But, the true power lies in your ability to see and believe that you have a chance to make every putt that you attempt.

Ask anyone good a putting, and he or she will tell you the exact same thing.

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When they approach the ball, they know full well that they have total control and that they will sink that ball with every swing made.

Sounds a bit cocky, right? It is, but it's that attitude which makes winners on the green,

B. Always Have A Target Line

Every putt you make should always be straight. Okay, perhaps your shot will not end up going in a *straight direction*, but that's not the point I am trying to make here.

By saying that each putt should be a straight putt, I mean that you should stroke every putt *straight down the target line*.

In order to hit a straight putt, visualize a straight line that travels from the back of the ball directly down your target line.

This *straight line* should stretch all the way to the hole or least to a point that you selected so that the ball will break right to the hole.

To better increase your chance of success, choose a spot on the target line to aim at. Remember, the target doesn't have to necessarily be the actual hole. It can be anything, so long as it gets your ball rolling in the proper direction toward the hole.

II. The Catch 22 Of Putting Shots

One of the major factors influencing a putt's success or failure is it's speed. In other words, the pressure that you apply on your swing determines your success as a putter. However, it's not that easy....

A. The Catch 22

You see, if you hit it too hard, the ball will cruise right past the hole. When this happens, you will need to make an extended recovery shot.

On the other hand, if you don't put enough pressure on your swing, the ball will stop short of the hole.

Thus, the "Catch 22" of putting.

Hitting the ball too hard will give you less break, or curve. For example, if you hit the ball too hard and had calculated six or seven inches of break, the ball will likely break just two or three inches. And thereby miss the target.

By hitting the ball too hard, even a putt that is only two feet long can cause you to miss the hole completely. Your own power is your downfall.

But, if you hit the ball too gently, the ball may break more than your calculation and also miss the hole.

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Therefore, the success of the putt depends on the speed of the ball.

Speed, along with distance, go hand and hand on the putting green.

III. Dangers To Look Out

If you think that your ball is safe once it hits the green, think again! There are unsuspecting obstacles, or a better term would be *annoyances*, that can wreck a seemingly perfect putt.

When making your putt, the following unsuspecting problems may hinder your success on the green:

A. Grass

Since when is trimmed short grass on the green a problem? Although the smooth surface of the green is well kept and maintained, it *is* still grass after all, and it will grow. A small patch of higher-than-normal grass blades can get in the way of a perfect putt.

That's what you have to watch out for. A poor groundskeeper can ruin your day!

B. Leftover Footprints

It is common etiquette not to step in the same line of your fellow player's shots on the green, so as to not create footprints. But not everyone has such good etiquette unfortunately. What if the group ahead of you has trampled all over the green? Footprints may not be easy to see, but they can interfere with your ball's line of travel.

C. Untouched Grass Around The Hole

Greens gets a lot of foot traffic from people walking all over them. People make their putt shots, walk around them to grab their balls, and all sorts of other stuff. But the 6 to 10 inches that surround the hole itself never really gets stepped on. This can also create an uneven level of grass and cause your ball to move in a different direction.

IV. Putting From A Bunker

Is it possible to successfully putt the ball from a sand bunker?

The answer is yes, it is definitely possible! There are times when the bunker sand is so hard and lipless, that you can make a successful putt. It's not easy from the sand, but it can be done.

As Arnold Palmer says, "the worst putt is better than your best chip."

Before trying to make the "hero" putt shot from the sand, it is important to properly assess the situation. If the following conditions exist, you may be able to go for a successful putt from the bunker:

1. The sand must be firm and well packed.

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- 2. There must be absolutely no lip at the top of the bunker/edge of the grass.
- 3. The ball should not have to roll for more than 4 feet or so of sand. This is because it is often harder to roll the ball on sand rather than grass.
- 4. The hole should be very close to the bunker.

But wait!

There's A LOT MORE than was presented here!

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