STROKESAVERS WITH STEVEN GIULIANO

THE PHIL DRILL

How to make more short putts

In this issue, we continue to show you ways to better target your practice to help you shoot lower scores. This article specifically covers short putting, often a frustrating area of the game for many amateurs and elite players.

The 'Phil Drill' is a scoring drill designed for the novice to tour player with a focus on short putting. A few years ago, Phil Mickelson averaged 99 per cent from three feet (90cm), 94 per cent from four feet (120cm), 83 per cent from five feet (150cm) and 68 per cent

from six feet (180cm). This drill was put together with these stats in mind, placing importance on this range of six feet (180cm) – this is a great test to constantly measure yourself against one of the world's best averages.

PUTT LENGTH	3 FEET	4 FEET	5 FEET	6 FEET
Phil's Average	99%	94%	83%	68%





SET-UP

- Use your 6 or 7-iron or a tape measure as a measuring tool.
- Use tees or coins to mark 10 points of a three-foot (90-cm) circle around the hole.
- Set up the balls so they cover 10 points of a circle for the first distance of three feet (90cm) it's always good to include a putt straight uphill as well as downhill.
- Once that's completed, move out to four feet (120cm), five feet (150cm) and then finish with the six-foot (180cm) range.

PHIL MICKELSON DRILL									
DATE	SCORE	SCORE 4 mil	SCORE	SCORE (1911)	TOTAL Time				
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AVG									

COMPLETION

- Hit 10 putts in a circle starting from three feet and then moving to four, five and six feet, and record how many you hole from each distance.
- After completing this drill a number of times, you will begin to understand your average from these various ranges.
- 40 putts to be struck in total you can also record your score on the sheet provided above. Once you've completed this 10 times, you can measure your results against Phil for 100 putts from each distance.



KEY

If your stats tend to be consistently low, this may be due to misaiming the putter face, which is one of the main reasons for missing short putts. The next time you carry out this drill, use an aiming device such as the Pelz Putting Tutor and be aware of the subtle differences in break as you move around the clock face. You'll be sure to improve your range from these short distances in no time.

Good luck and I look forward to sharing more scoring drills with you in the coming months!



Australian PGA AAA-rated professional Steven Giuliano is based at the Impact Elite Golf Academy at The Mines Resort & Golf Club as the Director of Player Development & Education. He is regarded as one of the top instructors for developing amateurs and professionals in the Asia Pacific region. For more information, log on to www.sggc.com.au or email steven@ sggc.com.au