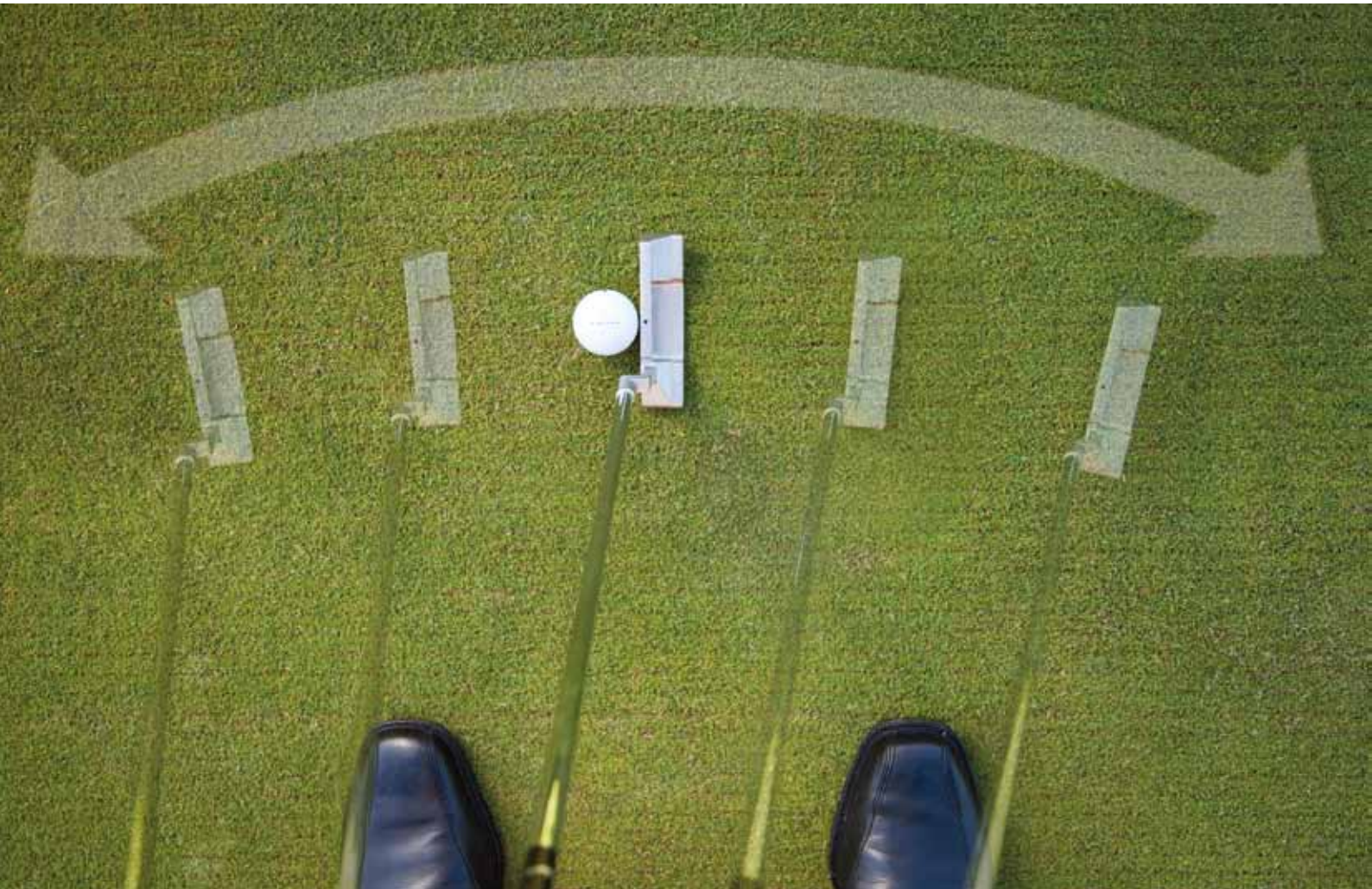




ON-LINE EVERY TIME!

PART 3

HOW TO ROLL THE BALL ON YOUR INTENDED LINE CONSISTENTLY



In the last issue of *ParGolf*, we spoke about correct aiming of the putter face, showing you how to 'take dead aim'. Now we look at being able to consistently roll the ball on-line with solid technique.

Assuming the green has been read correctly and the putter-face aim is correct, what makes the ball go off-line?

Only two factors within our control

influence the direction of the ball and these are:

- **PATH** of the putter head
- Angle of the putter **FACE** at impact

The path of the putter head is similar to that of a full swing; it works in a slight arc. This arc may vary slightly depending on things such as set-up to the ball, the style of putter you use and also your concept of the stroke.

If you want the putter to swing in less of an arc, then get your spine more tilted towards the ground and position the grip more in the palm of the top hand.

If you want the putter head to arc more, move further away from the ball with the shaft sitting flatter from the ground. Position the hands in more of a palm-and-fingers type grip, like the one Tiger Woods uses.



TECHNOLOGY

Technology is moving fast in the world of golf instruction; it seems as if new tools are coming out on the market daily to assist with our game.

We are now able to accurately test key areas of putting. With the use of devices such as the new iPING putting app, you're now able to receive data on three key areas of your stroke – your stroke type be it straight, slight arc or strong arc; impact angle which determines the putter face angle at impact relative to address; and tempo. With the inclusion of built-in accelerometers and gyroscopes in the latest iPhone mobile devices, we are able to measure accurate data on linear acceleration and detect rotational speeds. This can be used as a great feedback tool on your ability to control path and face, which are key components to starting the ball on your intended line.

SHORT GAME SAVERS WITH STEVEN GIULIANO



TECHNIQUE

Set-up is impact

Everything, including the putter face, shaft, hands, wrists, elbows and head are all positioned at address exactly where they need to be at impact.

If it doesn't need to move, it shouldn't move

All unnecessary movement should be removed from the stroke (see picture sequence above). This includes excess lower, upper body and head movement, and the angle of the wrists throughout the stroke.



PUTTER STYLE

At this point it's interesting to note that different putters will suit different stroke types. When it comes to putters, there are two basic categories of putter balance – face-balanced and toe-hang.

A putter which is face-balanced has the axis of the shaft (where the shaft points) in direct line with the head's centre of gravity. This encourages minimal face rotation and is preferred by golfers with a straight or slight arc.

Many putters that are toe weighted typically have toe-hang. This can be determined when the axis of the shaft is positioned more in the heel. This type of putter is suited to the golfer who likes the putter to work on either a slight or strong arc, allowing for face rotation.

In the next issue, we will look at the critical element of distance control and the key points that have an effect on speed.

