

## **Develop Consistency in Your Putting Game**

Although putting is obviously the easiest part of the game when it comes to just striking the ball, it by no means IS the easiest part of the game. To be a good putter you need a very accurate and consistent putting stroke, and the ability to properly read the break and speed of a green. To accomplish a good putting stroke the best approach is to simplify the angles and minimize the levers in your swing. In other words develop a parallel body alignment and pendulum stroke, absent of any wrist movement. By doing this you increase your odds of repeatedly striking the ball in the center of the putter face, at the bottom of the swing arc, with the club path and club face precisely along and square to your target line. To accomplish a pendulum stroke try the following:

- 1) Align your feet, knees, hips, shoulders and especially your forearms, all parallel to your target line at address.
- 2) Position the ball slightly forward of your dominant eye
- 3) Bend forward from the hips with your back straight until your arms dangle directly beneath your shoulders.
- 4) Grip the putter with one or both of your palms parallel to the club face
- 5) Swing the putter back and forth by rocking your shoulders with no wrist movement at all. Use a short stroke for short putts and lengthen the swing proportionately as the putts increase in distance.

By incorporating these very fundamental and simple techniques you can drastically improve your putting. However, it takes practice, practice and more practice. Approximately 25-40% of your score is on the putting greens. Devoting a proportionate amount of practice time to this part of the game is always a wise decision. And as Gary Player used to say, "The more I practice the luckier I get."