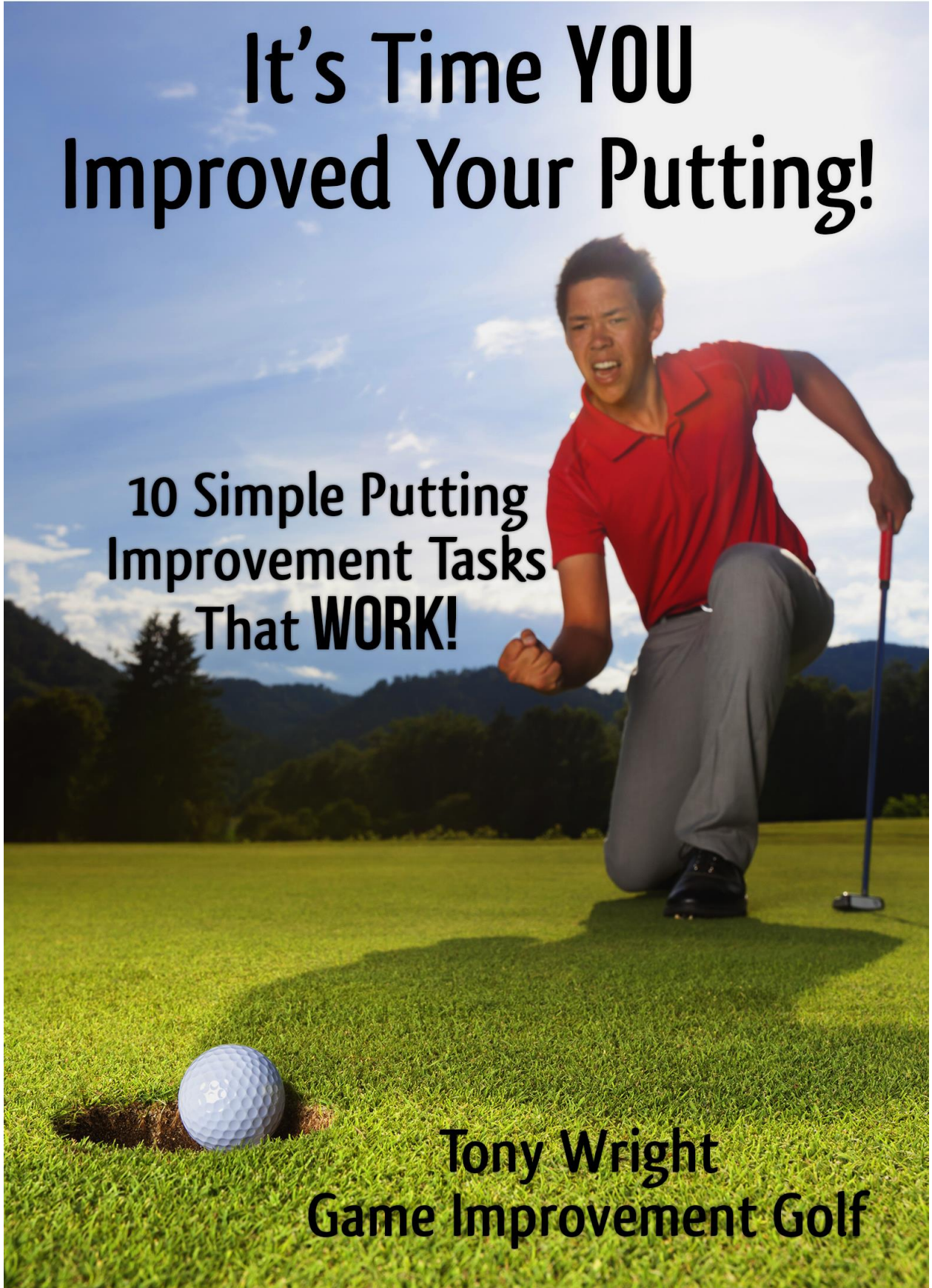


It's Time YOU Improved Your Putting!

10 Simple Putting
Improvement Tasks
That **WORK!**

Tony Wright
Game Improvement Golf



It's Time You Improved Your Putting!

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Acknowledgements

I dedicate this Putting Improvement eBook to golfers who want to improve their putting. Particularly to those who are searching for the right knowledge to help them putt better. I hope that the information in this eBook resonates with you!

I asked some of my club fitting, putting improvement, and golfing friends to review the early draft of this eBook, and the final content reflects their excellent comments and suggestions. Thanks to Mike McFadden, Brian Morrissey, Glen Coombe, Bob Williams, and Doug Goeringer for telling me the truth and helping me to make this eBook more valuable to golfers.

Thanks to Bobby Dean from Edel Golf, who taught me much of what I know about true putter fitting. Thanks also to Glen Coombe - The Putting Doctor and my SAM PuttLab guru - who is always there for me when I have questions on putting technique. Thanks also to Bob Simms, my new Rochester coffee friend (!), who was the inspiration for one of the tasks in this eBook.

Mark Sweeney, inventor of AimPoint Green Reading, and John Johnson, inventor of the Tour Lock Pro counterweights, were kind enough to allow me to use some of their illustrations in this eBook - thank you.

Ray Perry from MarketBlazer Inc. provided the initial inspiration for writing this Putting Improvement eBook - thanks for your continued help.

Sue Anderson from Triumph Communications made my scribbling look much better in the final form you see here. This is my fourth publication done with her help, and she has come through for me again!

Finally, thanks to my wife Diane. Just for everything!

Introduction



Welcome to the Putting Improvement eBook – Achievable Tasks you can accomplish to help you improve your putting, shoot lower scores, and have more fun on the golf course.

More than 40% of the golf shots you hit during a round are struck with your putter. And putting is the one area of golf where any golfer can be as accomplished as a PGA Tour Professional.

This eBook provides simple knowledge about putting that you may not be aware of. ALL of the suggested tasks are things that you can accomplish. And doing so WILL help you putt better and play your best golf.

Why “tasks” and not “tips”? I believe that if you are going to improve your putting, you need to DO things – and I hope the thought of achieving Tasks provides more motivation for you.

Please provide me with feedback on the value of this eBook to you – particularly those tasks that had the most impact on improving your putting results. On You Go!!



Expect a True Putter Fitting

You go into a golf store, pick up a putter that "feels" good, hit a few putts on a small putting green and like the way the putter swings - and decide this putter is the one for you. Is this the best way to create a long-term, mutually beneficial relationship with a putter?

From this day forward, start your new putter relationship with a True Putter Fitting. In a True Putter Fitting, your goal is to be fit for a putter that:

Putting Improvement Task #1 No More Putter Divorces!

- Has an appropriate Length and Lie Angle so that you can comfortably set up for your putts with your eyes right over the ball or just inside of the ball at address.
- You can aim inside the hole from a minimum of 6 feet away. Few people realize that individual golfers "react" differently to various putter styles in terms of Aim. Edel Golf has found that more than 80% of golfers cannot accurately aim their present putter at the hole from 6 feet away. Find a fitter who can test your putter aim with a Laser.
- Has a Weight and Weight Distribution that allows you to control Speed with a Smooth Stroke. Be tested for Speed Control by hitting putts of about 12 to 15 feet, and then find the putter weight and feel that gives you consistent Speed Control. See the Task on "Putter Counterweighting" for more on this.
- Has a Putter Loft that will allow you – with your stroke – to roll the ball with Topspin. In the past it was believed that "standard" putter lofts should be 4 degrees. However, recent testing shows that, for most golfers, 2 to 3 degrees of Loft is best to create putting topspin.
- Has a Face Balance design that fits your personal putting stroke. "Face-balanced" putters tend to be better for golfers with less putter-head rotation in their strokes, putters with "toe hang" tend to be better for golfers with more rotation. Be tested with putters having both types of balance.

No more putter "one night stands" for you!



Putting Improvement Task #2

**Straight Is
Great!**

The design of most putter grips has a flat portion on the top surface - to promote setting your thumbs down on the flat side to help you square the putter face to the putting line at address.

My experience, however, is that more than 50% of putter I see do not have their grips installed correctly. Because they are not installed square to the putter face, they promote aiming the putter inaccurately – that is, with the putter face either open or closed at address. Out-of-alignment grips can also affect where the putter face points at impact. Face angle is 83% of ball direction.

You can check if your grip is on square by looking down the flat part of the grip toward the putter face. Check to see if the flat part is perpendicular to the face of your putter or parallel to any aim lines on your putter.

If your grip is not on square RUN to someone who knows how to correctly install putter grips! Or, if you want to try something a little different, find a Round Putter Grip and have that installed. Round putter grips can improve your ability to aim your putter and align the face at impact, and are worth testing.

Such a simple thing – and so important!

**Check – Is Your
Putter Grip On
STRAIGHT?**

Putting Improvement Task #3

What Are You Aiming For?



Aim First, THEN Set Your Stance

Properly addressing the ball prior to the stroke – and aiming at your target – is critical to achieving good putting results. This task will help you set yourself up for success at the start of your stroke.

Aim Your Putter at your Target FIRST, and THEN set your stance - here are the steps:

- Start first by looking down the target line for your putt, and picking out your target. It might be a small spot just a few inches in front of the golf ball, or some other target.
- Once you have chosen this target, keep focus on it, set your putter face behind the golf ball, and be sure that the putter face is aimed precisely at the target you have chosen.
- THEN set your feet up in your stance, keeping the putter face aimed at the target at all times.

What golfers often do is to set their stance first, then attempt to aim their putter face at their target. It is very difficult to precisely aim your putter at the target line if you do this.

Set yourself up for success. Aim First, THEN Set Your Stance!



Putting Improvement Task #4 **Drink the "Secret Sauce"**

Be Tested for Putter Counterweighting

A few months ago, I read an article in Golf World related to golf club counterweighting. In it, Padrig Harrington said - I believe tongue in cheek - that putter counterweighting is "so good that it should be banned."

Putter counterweighting can substantially change the feel and performance of your putter. If you put a weight down the shaft under where your hands are, it can help you to have more feel in your hands, control speed better, and keep from "flipping" the putter in your stroke.

There are two types of counterweights that should be considered – butt weights that sit in the butt end of the shaft, and weights that can be placed down the shaft.

My putter fitting experience - and that of many other custom club fitters that I know - is that more than 80% of golfers putt better with some type of counterweighting in their putters.

Putter counterweighting is the "secret sauce" of putter fitting and speed control. EVERY Golfer who wants to putt well should be tested to see if Counterweighting can improve putting speed control and improve stroke rhythm.

EVERY Golfer!

(Image provided by Tour Lock Pro)

Putting Improvement Task #5

Make Reading More Fun!

Green reading is an important part of the skill set for becoming a great putter. Most golfers do not realize, however, that the traditional ways they have been taught to read greens are simply not correct.

The truth is that you are only guessing by attempting to determine the true break in a putt by looking behind the hole or looking from the hole to where your golf ball is. And the location of water relative to a golf hole does not determine the break of a putt.

AimPoint Technologies has developed a process – and teaches this process – for determining the true amount of break in any putt. When you see a line drawn indicating the break of a putt during a golf broadcast – this comes from an AimPoint green reading analysis. More and more PGA and LPGA tour players are using this process for reading greens with great success.

A simple first step for you to learn more about the truth about how to read greens is to click the link below to take a 15-question AimPoint green reading quiz:

[AimPoint Green Reading Quiz](#)

When you take this quiz, you will probably learn things about green reading that you were never aware of.

If you want to learn more details about AimPoint Green Reading, you can consider taking an AimPoint Green Reading class – you can find links to where these classes are offered on the **[AimPoint web site](#)**.

(Image provided by AimPoint Technologies)



**Learn the Truth
about Green
Reading**



Putting Improvement

Task #6

Gravity ALWAYS Wins!

Understand Putting Capture Speed, and Why It Is Important

Mark Sweeney from AimPoint Golf did some calculations of Putting Capture Speed that all golfers should be aware of. Capture Speed is the optimal speed to roll the ball so that the most putts are holed.

He has found that the optimum ball speed to have the best opportunity to make a putt results in the ball traveling no more than 8 to 12 inches past a hole. The further past that distance you hit a putt, the less likely it will go into the hole – gravity rules! Here are some specific results Mark has calculated for Capture Speed:

- Die putt into the hole – 4.25 inch Cup Width
- Putt 1 foot past the hole – 2.6 inch Cup Width
- Putt 3 feet past the hole – 1.4 inch Cup Width
- Putt 5 feet past the hole – 0.5 inch Cup Width

So - it turns out that if you hit a putt more than about 5 feet past the hole, you have almost no chance of making it!

Think about creating the proper speed for all of your putts, so that they go just past the hole. You will greatly improve your chances of making putts

(since you should be focusing on making all of them anyhow!!), and any possible 2nd putts will be much easier to make.

Here are two great YouTube videos you might want to watch related to Capture Speed:

[AimPoint Green Reading – Capture Speed by Steve Giuliano](#)

[How Wide Is The Hole Really?](#)

(Image provided by AimPoint Technologies)

Putting Improvement

Task #7

Putting Knowledge Is Power!



Know YOUR Putting Stroke!

Many of us do not really know how we set up and stroke our putts. I personally found out, a month or so ago, that I was setting up with my eyes way outside the golf ball. It was only because I did some new testing of my putting setup at address that I realized this.

Treat yourself and improve your putting by taking still photos and/or videos of your stroke.

These days, there are many easy options you can use for having someone record your stroke. Using your Smart Phone is a great option. Here are 3 types of Putting Stroke Recording Options that will work:

- Take still photos of your Putting Setup. Photos taken face on and down the line will work well. Also make sure when you take these pictures that you do not have your golf hat on - to help you better see your putting setup.
- Take videos of your Putting Stroke. Again, using your Smart Phone can work well, and videos face on and down the line are best. There are some great apps for your Smart Phone - either free or inexpensive - that will allow you to both take and analyze video. Two of the best are the Coaches Eye app and the V1 Golf app.
- The Gold Standard for recording and evaluating your putting stroke is to have a Science and Motion Sports (SAM) PuttLab analysis done - it measures the 28 most important parameters of your putting stroke.

Consider taking photos and videos of your putting stroke every 6 to 12 months. You may be surprised what you can learn to help you improve your putting from this Task! At a minimum, you will have knowledge that you did not have before. And if your stroke is great, this will help you be more confident in your putting.

Putting Improvement

Task #8

Take Your Daily Putting Vitamin



Practice Your Putting Setup and Stroke

5 Minutes Every Day

You may already be doing daily swing-related improvement drills – perhaps in your basement - to help you improve your golf swing.

Why not do the same with your putter? In just a few minutes each day, you can greatly improve your stroke consistency and performance. Some of the things you can do are...

- If you do not already have one, buy a full-length mirror for your basement. This is a great putting stroke training aid. Use it to check your putting stroke set up and ball location in your stance. Are your shoulders set up square to your putting line? Is the ball right below or just outside of your eye line?
- If you are striving to make some specific improvements in your stroke, spend time working on feeling these changes. If you have a putting stroke aid, like the Perfect Stroke (see Resources), use it to improve your feel for what you are striving for in your stroke.
- Practice putting strokes without a putter, and with your eyes closed. It may be easier to set your shoulders square to your target, and to create a shoulder-based stroke, when you practice this way.

Just a little bit of time spent each day on your putting stroke can help you become more confident when you are on the golf course!



Putting Improvement Task #9

Zero In For Success

Commit to Sinking EVERY Putt!

You have probably seen articles in golf magazines titled something like "No More 3 Putts." These articles often suggest that a key for reducing your 3 putts is to attempt to have all of you long putts end up within a 3-foot circle, since 3-foot putts are usually a comfortable length to make.

From now on, though, I suggest your Task with All Putts is to Commit To Sinking Every Putt. Why every putt? Well...

- You know from reading this eBook that Putting Capture Speed is hugely important, and that to make the most putts you want them to be hit with a speed where they travel no more than 8 to 12 inches past the hole.
- Which do you think is a better area for focus - keeping all long putts in a 2 to 3 foot circle, or stroking all putts with a capture speed so that they will roll no more than 8 to 12 inches past the hole? Keeping your focus Narrow gives you the best chance for overall putting success.

Commit To Sinking EVERY Putt!

Putting Improvement

Task #10

Be Your Putting Best Friend

This Thanksgiving I had coffee and a great discussion with Bob Simms, the golf coach at St. Johns Fisher College in Rochester, NY. One of the things that he emphasizes to his players is that they should accept that they will not make every putt. When he said that, I knew that it was an important thought to add to this eBook on Putting Improvement.

Now I suggested in Task #9 that you should commit to sinking every putt. Are these two tasks and ideas consistent? I believe they are.

The best golfers in the world – PGA Tour players – only make a little more than 50% of putts between 5 and 10 feet, and about 30% of putts between 10 and 15 feet. This suggests that it is important that you are easy on yourself when you miss putts.

If you can commit to sinking every putt and do all that you can to make your best stroke, you have done your job. You will sink your share of putts. And this attitude will keep you from getting down on yourself when you miss putts.



**Accept That
You Will Not
Sink Every
Putt!**

~~IMPOSSIBLE~~

Ask Yourself Why?

**A Key To
Success!**

As I am completing this eBook, I am going through a 2014 Goal Setting Process for my business. This process was developed by Michael Hyatt – *Best Year Ever!* If you are looking to set goals for your life in 2014, I highly recommend this approach.

One of the suggestions in this goal-setting process is to get clear about your Motivations for the goals you are setting for the future. This is not something I have done in the past – and I think it is a “secret ingredient” for successfully achieving goals.

So how about YOU? If you are looking to improve your putting, an important first step is to Ask Yourself WHY! What will happen if your putting gets better, how will you feel, what overall golf results will happen? I guarantee that if you write down your motivations for wanting to become a better putter, you will be on your way to achieving that goal.

You Can Do It!

My Favorite Putting Improvement Resources

GOLF The Best Putting Instruction Book Ever!, by the editors of Golf Magazine (October 2010).

Extraordinary Putting: Transforming the Whole Game, by Fred Shoemaker and Jo Hardy, January 2007.

The Putting Prescription: The Doctor's Proven Method for a Better Stroke, by Dr. Craig Farnsworth, May 2009.

There is More to Putting than Meets the Eye, Lanny L. Johnson M.D. and Howard Twitty, 2012.

[AimPoint Green Reading](#)

[Putting Doctor Training Aide, from Glen Coombe](#)

[The Money Back Guarantee Putting Experience © Glen Coombe](#)

[Perfect Stroke Putting Trainer](#)

[Rife Putters Dew Board](#)

[Science and Motion Sports \(SAM\) PuttLab](#)

[Science and Motion Sports \(SAM\) PuttLab reference documents](#)

The Talent Code. Greatness Isn't Born. It's Grown. Here's How, by Daniel Coyne, April 2009.

Practice Perfect: 42 Rules for Getting Better at Getting Better, by Doug Lemov, et al., September 2012.

About the Author

Tony Wright

Game Improvement Golf

I was born in McKees Rocks, PA, a small town near to Pittsburgh, PA. Starting at age 16, I caddied at the St. Clair Country Club in Upper St. Clair, PA. I was fortunate to be able to attend Carnegie-Mellon University – where I received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering in 1971 - on a full-tuition Western Pennsylvania Caddy Scholarship. I then attended the University of Minnesota where I received a Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics in the summer of 1976.

After I graduated from the University of Minnesota, I moved to Oak Ridge, TN to work at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) – a U.S. Department of Energy R&D laboratory. I had a wonderful 35-year career at ORNL; I retired from ORNL in April 2011.

In the fall of 1986, I started to play golf again. I originally learned about the value of custom golf club fitting from Richard Hess, who had a club fitting business in Oak Ridge. In the summer of 2006, I realized I would like to develop a second career as a

professional club fitter. Since 2006 I have devoted a lot of time to learning about club fitting and club building. In 2007 I joined the Association of Golf Clubfitting Professionals (AGCP). The AGCP is dedicated to helping its members improve their clubfitting skills. I am a Level 10 Certified Professional Clubfitter through the AGCP.

When I retired from ORNL in 2011, I became a full-time professional clubfitter. I do my custom fittings at the Centennial Golf Academy at the Centennial Golf Course in Oak Ridge. I do my custom club building in a shop I have created in the basement of my home.

I have never regretted making professional club fitting a second career. I love helping golfers learn the value of custom fitting, and creating golf clubs for them that help them play their best golf.

I have been married to my wife Diane for 16 years. We have two sons, two daughters, two grandsons, and one granddaughter. We live in Oak Ridge, TN.

About the Author

Tony Wright

Game Improvement Golf

Continued

In my free time I love playing golf and reading. I have a particular interest in learning more about how to help others learn effectively, and learning how to use the Internet to improve business marketing.

About Game Improvement Golf

Game Improvement Golf helps golfers understand what true custom club fitting is. Through true custom club fitting and short game improvement, we help golfers shoot lower scores, play their best golf, and have more fun on the golf course.

I create and publish interesting and valuable information on custom club fitting and short game improvement – to help golfers know the truth about what will help them play their best golf. If you want to learn new information to help you play better, my web site is for you.

I am the author of [**The Fit Is It!! How Custom Club Fitting Matters To YOUR Golfing Dreams**](#) (self published). More than 500 readers have downloaded the Amazon Kindle and print versions of this book. It has received more than thirty 4 and 5 Star reviews.

I publish a "Club Fact Blog" each Monday. I also do a monthly Constant Contact email

Contact email newsletter on custom club fitting and short game improvement; this is published on the 15th of each month. I provide interesting content in my blog and newsletter to help golfers play better golf.

I use the club fitting knowledge I have learned in the past 7 years, the FlightScope radar-based launch monitor, an extensive group of test clubs, and interaction with golfers to do true custom golf club fitting.

I use the highest-quality custom golf club components in my fitting efforts. I use the Mizuno performance fitting system to custom fit Mizuno irons. I am a Muira Golf club dealer (the only one in East Tennessee), and also use Tom Wishon Golf and Alpha Golf club heads. I fit with Aerotech, KBS, ACCRA, Aldila, and SK Fiber shafts.

I have a HUGE passion for helping golfers improve their short games. I am a SeeMore Certified Putting Instructor and use the SeeMore "Click-Fit" putter fitting system. I have developed a putter fitting system for Machine Putters (the only Machine Putter fitter and dealer in Tennessee). And I use the Edel custom wedge fitting process (the only

About the Author

Tony Wright

Game Improvement Golf

Continued 2

wedge fitter in East Tennessee).

I also use the Science and Motion Sports (SAM) PuttLab to measure the 28 key variables in a putting stroke and to help golfers improve their putting. I am a Level-1 (and soon to be Level-2) Certified SAM PuttLab Instructor (the only one in Tennessee).

You can learn more about Game Improvement Golf by clicking this link to my web site:

www.gameimprovementgolf.com.

You can learn how to use the club fitting and short game improvement resources on my web site by clicking this link:

[Using My Web Site](#)

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