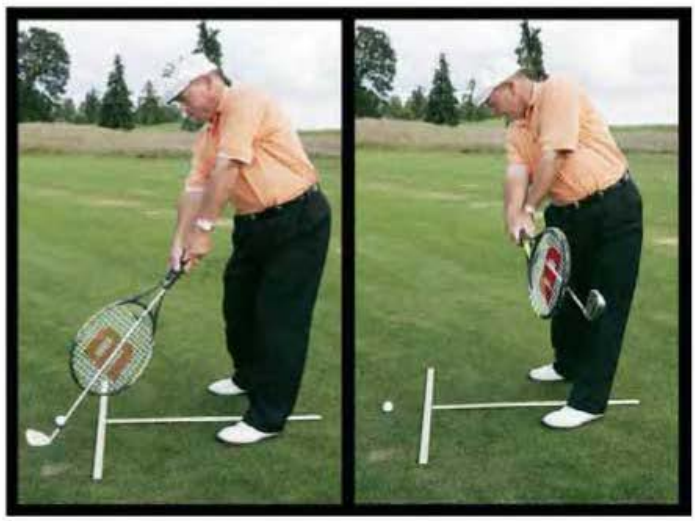
FOR YOUR GAME



Peter Croker says a tennis racket is useful in a practice drill for golf. Holding the racket and a short iron, take a normal golf swing. Both the tennis racket and the golf club should extend toward the target (left photo). It is incorrect to allow the wrists to break down and flip over (right photo). This can not only cause a crooked shot, but also can result in a loss of power.

putters in the history of the game," Croker said.

"Bob was at that time not very happy with his putting and complained of not being able to read the greens. His eyesight had deteriorated and his new glasses were giving him problems.

"We went to the putting green, and I found that he was hitting more up on the putts as he followed through. Sure enough, he was not rolling the ball as well as he normally did. On his shorter putts, in particular, the ball was leaving the putter face inconsistently. Some would go to the left, and then, to protect from that, some were missing to the right.

"I explained to Bob that if the putter head stayed lower through impact, that was pushing. If it came up too quickly, it would be a pulling action on the putter. I took a hands-on approach with him and helped him feel the difference. He putted several putts from around 4 feet and then tested some longer putts. He instantly regained his ability to hit the ball where he aimed."

Within two weeks, Croker said, Charles was in the winner's circle again with a playoff victory against Dave Stockton at the Hyatt Regency Maui Kaanapali Classic.

According to Croker, it's all because Charles pushed instead of pulled.

"I know it sounds simple," Croker said, "but a genius is a person who does the simple things well. This is a system that I believe will help a golfer in all situations, no matter how much pressure or anxiety there is."

What's new

Nike SasQuatch 460 driver

Specs: Relies on "radical geometry" – not movable weights – to lower the club's center of gravity, according to Nike. The SQ 460 "pushes the breadth-to-face length ratio up, resulting in a larger, more forgiving sweet spot," the company says. It is offered in lofts of 8.5, 9.5, 10.5, 13 and 16 degrees for right-handed players. A left-handed version is available in lofts of 9.5, 10.5 and 13 degrees.
Price: MSRP $359
Availability: November
Noteworthy: Nike Golf also is offering the SQ Tour 460, which has a taller clubface with less width for a more boring trajectory. Available at retail in February (MSRP $419), the Tour version comes in lofts of 8.5, 9.5 and 10.5 degrees for right-handers, and 9.5 degrees for left-handers.

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