



March 2008 Edition

Know the pace of your putt

By Kristy Park
LPGA and PGA Professional

I have covered the topic of putting many times, from technique to tempo, but I don't think I have covered the pace of putting. Pace of putting makes a huge difference in putting, because how hard you hit that putt, will determine the break to whether it goes in the hole or not. Everyone knows if you hit the putt harder it will break less and when you hit it soft it will break more. But what a lot of people don't realize, is, that you must have a good feel for your pace of putting before you go onto the course. Remember greens vary in speed from day to day and from course to course. Having a feel for the pace will allow you to read how much break is needed and be more confident and eliminate the dreaded three putts.

So here is a drill you should do before you play. Take three golf balls and line them up in front of you. Pick out a spot about 10 feet in front of you and roll the first ball at the pace you feel will roll to the spot you selected. Without looking at where the first putt stopped, step up to the second ball and try to re-create the same feel for the pace of the first ball. The goal is to create

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Easter Brunch



Easter is March 23rd . We will be having an Easter Brunch from 9:30am to 2:30pm. The price is \$38 per person, Children 7-12, \$18 and children 6 and under EAT for FREE. Call now to make your reservation early. Please

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By: Mike Higuera Jr., Superintendent
Why Aerify?



.....Spring is just around the corner.

One commonality between golfers and superintendents is their relationships with their greens. Golfers often hear stories of strange insects and mystical turf diseases, but most understand and fear terms like Poa, crabgrass, and brown patch. Above all, the average golfer's most feared "pest" is the aerifier. While most superintendents spend many hours studying the agronomics of maintaining greens, occasionally we can be guilty of putting the needs of the turf over those of the golfer. It's then incumbent upon us to recognize and seek a middle ground establishing a level of maintenance which results in a healthy stand of turf and a quality putting surface. Obviously, the establishment of said middle ground **should be the golfer's goal as well**, since this is their best hope of playing greens that perform

call the restaurant at **408-531-3058** to make your reservation.

Aerification at The Ranch

We will be aerifying the back nine on Monday March 24th this month. We will have a nine hole rate as well as an 18 hole rate. On Tuesday March 25th we will aerify the front nine, again we will have a nine hole rate as well as an 18 hole rate. All 18 holes will be open for play on Wednesday March 26th.

a cluster of three golf balls as close as possible to each other. Try this drill on an uphill putt, side-hill putt and downhill putt to help create a good feel for the green. What you don't want is inconsistent putting pace and tempo during your play. You might be putting great but under pressure you might end up hitting at a putt instead of a rolling it. So remember having confidence in your pace will allow you to make more putts and be closer to the hole on longer putts. You will give yourself a better chance if you are rolling your putts at the proper pace. So in a nut shell you can't be hitting your putts, you must roll them and in order to roll your putts you must pace your putt.

well day after day.

The aforementioned aerification process creates more air space and promotes deeper rooting, which in turn allows grass plants to stay healthy. At [The Ranch](#), this is achieved by removing ¼" to ½" cores, which are then filled with sand. This application of sand also mitigates excess accumulation of organic matter and helps to level the playing surface.

Finding the middle ground..... aerification is a necessary practice with benefits far outweighing its detractors.

[Click Here](#) for a message from the **USGA** regarding greens aerification.

Thanks,
See you in the Spring!

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