

'DUFFNERING' THE HYBRID OR WOODS



Recently we saw 2013 USPGA champion, Jason Dufner use this shot very effectively during the tournament.

This is a very efficient way to chip, and play that bump and run shot close to the green. Having smooth fringes gives you the option to putt the ball from off the green; this is called the Texas wedge. In my mind take the risk out of a chip shot when you have the chance, so this means getting the ball rolling as soon as feasible!

However there are many situations you have to deal with whilst playing this game and this is where copying the duff can help you.

WHEN TO USE THE HYBRID?

The key with the planning of this shot is looking at what's ahead of you! Flying over a bunker or carrying over a big mound or a creek, pull out the lob wedge. But if there is a fairway like fringe or a fringe that isn't quite like we would like it (a little uneven), then 15 to 20 degrees of loft is perfect! The other deciding factor is how far do we have to the pin. This is dependent on your skill level and confidence level but usually when we have more distance of green to roll on than fringe to cross this is a great option.

WHY USE THE HYBRID OR FAIRWAY WOOD?

As I mentioned these clubs have loft on them, a normal loft would be between 15-23 degrees whereas a putter only has 3-4 degrees of loft. The other thing you will find out rather quickly is how much more responsively the ball comes off the clubface. The advantage of this is that your swing doesn't have to be as aggressive as a normal shot so your action can be more efficient!



HOW TO PLAY THIS SHOT

Like all of your short game it takes practice and touch! The other thing about the short game is there are many slight variations on each shot. A slight ball position change can mean a totally different shot with a slightly different swing. Like all my teachings I think you must understand what the neutral shot does and then you can adjust from there.

Firstly with this shot place 60 percent of your weight on your left foot and leave the weight there throughout this shot. Keep it there until you finish the shot. If you do things correctly you will have up to 90 percent of your weight on your left (target) foot at the finish!

Ball position should be in the middle of a reasonably narrow stance.

I normally choke down on the club to the bottom of the grip for control.

I use my putting grip for stability.

This chip shot as you can see feels like and looks like a putting method.

One of the best and most important things to focus on throughout this shot is keeping the loft the same throughout the stroke!

This I believe is a massive key to all chip shots.. If the hinge of the club happens on these shots and the left wrist bows or closes the clubface this shot will always be inconsistent! So eliminate any hinge and feel like the toe of the club stays higher than the heel all through the shot!

Practice hard with this shot, as summer comes this shot will be needed more and more so get practicing or if you need work on your short game let me know. I certainly can help!

Email me: Marcus@marcuswheelhouse.com

COACH

MARCUS WHEELHOUSE
NZPGA Golf Professional

QUALIFICATIONS

NZPGA qualified
over 10 years playing
experience playing worldwide
tours
Tour player representative on
NZPGA board

AVAILABLE

One on one or group lessons
Clinics for beginners, juniors
and ladies
Short game schools
Playing lessons 9 or 18 hole
Corporate outings tailored for
your staff and/or clients
Trackman Club fitting and
performance studio sessions

LOCATION

Jk's world of golf
Auckland airport

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