## PUTTER TUNE-UP PROCEDURE WORKSHEET

## **PROCEDURE**

STEP 1 Length: Check and record

STEP 2 Lie: Check and record

STEP 3 Loft: A. Check and record putter head loft

B. Check and record assembled putter loft

C. Record any difference and trouble shoot

STEP 4 Swingweight: Record swingweight or head weight

STEP 5 Grip Alignment: Check for Square, Open or Closed and record

STEP 6 Center of Gravity: Horizontally (only if head is removed from shaft)

A. Compare head C.G. location to mark on putter head and record

STEP 7 Shaft to Head Bond Strength: Hold grip & also hold head and twist in opposite direction

STEP ® Shaft Straightness: Sight down shaft

STEP 9 Impact Decal Evaluation

WHAT IS A PUTTER TUNE-UP? I estimate that out of the entire golfing population, that 80% to 90% of golfers would benefit from some change in their putter that made it work better for them and consequently reduce their number of putts per round. This means that measuring a golfer's existing putter and recording all the important specifications and then doing a proper putter fitting and finally modifying some of those specifications would be a putter tune-up. It's actually fitting a putter that does not fit the individual perfectly and not selling him or her a new putter. Now, in many cases, a new putter is the best way to go and sometimes the only way to go. This is what a tune-up will tell the clubfitter or the golfer; but in correcting the existing putter, many golfers may get to keep their favorite putter.

The two main reasons (although there are many more) that a golfer would need a new putter would be when the existing head weight is simply too light and there is no practical way to increase it. This can be more of a problem with the older end shafted blade or flange style putters which were manufactured with much lighter weights than we use today. The other would be if the putter impact decal reading clearly shows that a higher moment of inertia putter than the current putter would suit this golfer better because his horizontal ball impact range on the putter face is not very good.

The good news about putter tune-ups is that the majority of changes to an existing putter to get it to fit properly will be to shorten its length and then this may create a need to modify the lie angle and possibly add a little more head weight. It is usually quite enlightening to do these tune-ups because it can turn up a number of what we would classify as little things such as a crooked putter grip or a bent putter shaft or even a loose putter head.

One of my Maltby Rule of Thumbs is that as clubfitters, it is our job to eliminate as many of the bad equipment variables that do not help us. So, a putter tune-up not only makes us check all these things out in our current putter, but it also provides a proper putter fitting and the necessary modifications to make everything work the best for us.



## **MEASURE YOUR PUTTER'S SPECIFICATIONS**

## RECOMMENDED CHANGES For Proper Putter Fitting

			Manufacturer  Length  Loft Angle (Putter Head)	Lie Angle  Loft Angle (Assembled Putter)		Length Lie Angle Loft Angle
		Swingweight or Headweight			7	Swingweight
S	0	c	Grip Alignment ( <u>Square/Open/Closed</u> )  Center Of Gravity/Line Up Mark - if any (C.G. Towards <u>H</u> eel, <u>M</u> atches, C.G. Toward <u>T</u> oe)			(Head Weight)  Other Changes
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NOTE:

L T Shaft To Head Bond Strength (L=Loose T=Tight)

B S Shaft Straightness (B=Bent S=Straight)

For each putt distance (recommended is 15 and 30 foot putts). Record the vertical and horizontal impact range and note whether vertical impact is either high or low. Also note if horizontal impact is toward the toe or heel.