

Don't play it straight to get right swing

12. Swing on an arc

MANY golfers I have taught over the years have come to me believing that they should take their club-head back in a straight line from their target.

They have generally been given this advice somewhere down the line and have never thought to question it.

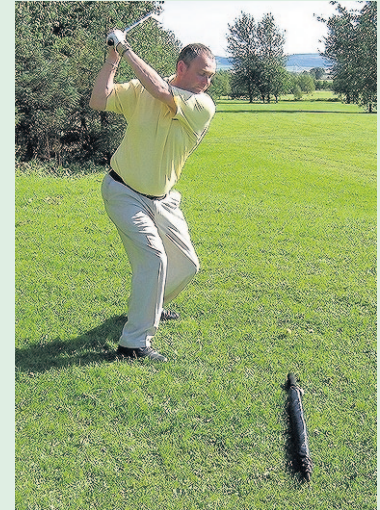
But the truth of the matter is that your golf swing is actually a circle, or an arc, set back on a plane angle as we have previously discussed in the article The Circle of Symmetry.

So, starting from the correct address position, your club-head should move back slightly inside your target line, moving both inside and upwards to get on your correct plane. This will then help you to achieve a good top of back-swing position, where your left arm is at right angles to your spine.

Taking your club-head back in a straight line causes your shoulders to tilt - not turn - your club-face to close, and your plane to become too steep.

So make sure you allow your club head to travel back slightly inside the target line at the start of your back-swing.

Next week we'll go over a drill to build a swing.



- Andy Lamb demonstrates how to get your swing on an arc

PGA Advanced Professional Andy Lamb has more than three decades of experience in helping golfers of all ages and abilities. He has coached players from professionals to beginners, worked at tournaments including three Open Championships and written hundreds of articles for national magazines and newspapers. Now Andy, who operates the Andy Lamb Golf Academy at Elton Golf Range in Sandbach, has joined the Chronicle to bring you weekly tips