



June 20th, 2022

How to escape the fairway bunker!



Many players these days dread the thought of finding the bunker, especially a bunker located a great distance from the green. There is no doubt that these “HAZARDS” pose a significant threat to your score, but that does not need to be the case. In many situations, once you understand how to properly execute in these situations you may even choose to be here instead of the dangers of the long grass

Here are some things to consider:

1. The height of the lip you may have to clear – usually the fairway bunker has depth to them so you are going to be required to execute a shot with trajectory – this being said, it will be very important to pick a club with enough loft that you can easily clear the lip
2. Can you realistically hit a shot that can get to the green – this really goes hand in hand with the first point as if you are not capable of getting to the green say 6 out of 10 times, you may be best to go to a club with maximum loft and lay up to a good yardage
3. Setup adjustments – the sand is looser than the grass so establishing a stance that is a little wider and getting your feet into the sand a bit will really help you to create the required stability. Because of this, I suggest you also choke down on the handle an inch to compensate for your feet being lower
4. Because of the width of your stance, you will not make the same rotation, and this will be more of arms. The feeling I like to promote is that you should make a motion that is more of a “U” shape to limit sand contact and help to ensure ball-first contact. The shot should be executed just like you are on the grass. Be sure to remember point # 1 and choose a club with enough loft

Try these the next time you have some time on the range or on the course and I promise your time at the beach will be a breeze!

Happy Golfing,

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