

# Performance

CENTER

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More  
speed and  
more yards  
with less  
effort!

## SQUARE CONTACT

### IT'S CHILD'S PLAY WITH A PROPER RELEASE

» You slice. When you don't, the ball dives left, no matter how hard you try to square the face. The problem is that you're focused on a moment—impact—rather than the sequence of events that make flush contact automatic. Truth is, the better you are at “releasing” the club, which begins happening as soon as you start down from the top, the squarer the clubface will be—and without your having to think about. What you're doing now is trying to fit a square peg in a round hole. No worries. **Top 100 Teacher Jon Tattersall** show you to flip the script—and knock the ball's block off. Here's what to do.

# 27

Proven Ways to  
Shoot Your Best  
Score Ever!

# POUND WOOD



Fit your drives into any fairway—and with plenty of pop—in three easy steps

» You understand that striking the ball with a square clubface keeps hooks and slices at bay. You also know that the faster you swing the club, the farther your drives will fly. Straight and long—that's the name of the game. The three moves at right are a great place to start. Nailing each will help you gradually build speed so that you max out at impact, not before or after. That in itself will make you a more potent driver. The kicker? Properly accelerating fuels a smoother and properly timed release, producing square contact as if by magic. It's a three-way fix that pays off in a double-whammy of more yards and a lot more fairways.

**Jon Tattersall**, Fusion ATL,  
Atlanta, Ga. (@JonTattersall11)



Get your hands as far away from your body as possible.

## MAKE A DROP FROM THE TOP...

If you wait for impact to turn on the jets, you'll continue to hit weak pop-ups. Speed creation starts as soon as you reach the top. With your right arm bent and your hands and club as far away from your head as possible, make your first move a downward one. Your new speed move: Drop your hands straight down.



Pull down on the handle with all you've got!

## ...AND PUT SOME EFFORT INTO IT

The initial drop move is anything but allowing your hands "fall." You've got to pull the grip down with authority. From the top, big hitters exert up to nine times more force than gravity on the handle. Nine times! Pull hard. At the same time, begin extending your right arm—the start of a power release that automatically squares the clubface.



## TILT YOUR RIGHT SIDE

Like you do with your hands, drop your right shoulder toward the ground as soon as you begin your downswing. It's yet another speed-booster. More important, it stops you from moving your right shoulder out, which is the fast track to hitting a cut. To get the move down pat, think of it as trying to decrease the distance between your right shoulder and right hip as soon as you start down.

Decrease the distance between your right shoulder and hip as you start down.

## 3 SWING DOWN AND OUT

Now's the time to release the speed you've built up in the first two steps, and do it in a way the automatically squares the face for impact.

In addition to continuing the downward movement of the clubhead, it's critical to sling it out (as in away from your body) as you near impact. This is the critical part of the release that most weekend players miss. Picture the clubhead moving "horizontally" into the ball (inset photos, above). An easy way to make it happen is to power through impact while keeping the grip pointed at your body. It's the opposite of simply sliding your hands laterally down the line, which is a bona fide speed-sapper. When you combine the down with the out, you'll be hitting the drives of your dreams.



It's a two-way release: down and out.

