

500 Golf Quotes, Sayings and Verses to Make You Think and Laugh

Lester J. Bouchard, Ph.D.

ACHIEVEMENT SOLUTIONS

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9 10 9

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CATALOGIN-IN-PUBLICATION DATA

BOUCHARD, LESTER J.

500 GOLF QUOTES, SAYING AND VERSES TO MAKE YOU THINK AND LAUGH/ LESTER J.
BOUCHARD

1. GOLF. I. BOUCHARD, LESTER J. II. TITLE

GV979.P87S57 2005

ISBN 0-694-8428-R

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"It took me seventeen years to get 3,000 hits in baseball. I did it in one afternoon on the golf course." Hank Aaron

"I had a wonderful experience on the golf course today. I had a hole in nothing. Missed the ball and sank the divot." Don Adams

"If you break 100, watch your golf. If you break 80, watch your business." Joey Adams

"The fun you get from golf is in direct ratio to the effort you don't put into it." Bob Allen

"Playing golf is like going to a strip joint. After 18 holes you are tired and most of your balls are missing." Tim Allen

"There is one thing in this world that is dumber than playing golf. That is watching someone else playing golf. What do you actually get to see? Thirty-seven guys in polyester slacks squinting at the sun. Doesn't that set your blood racing?" Peter Andrews

"Is my friend in the bunker or is the bastard on the green?" Anon

"Baseball players quit playing and they take up golf. Basketball players quit, take up golf. Football players quit, take up golf. What are we supposed to take up when we quit?" George Archer

"One thing about golf is you don't know why you play bad and why you play good." George Archer

"This golfer has a wicked slice. And quite a follow-through. That's why his partner, who stood too close, is on the green in two." Richard Armour

"G is for Green, that's constructed to roll in every direction away from the hole." Richard Armour, Golf Is a Four-Letter Word

"If I ever make a hole in one, A thrill that I've never known, I won't be believed and I'll have no fun, For I'm sure to be playing alone." Richard Armour, Golf is a Four-Letter Word

“Some golfers blast their ball from traps, With one adroit explosion, But others, out in ten perhaps, Depend upon erosion.” Richard Armour, Golf is a Four-Letter Word

“I sank a long and curling putt, It's like I've seldom seen; It would have helped my scoring but, 'Twas on the practice green.” Richard Armour, Golf Is a Four-Letter Word

“If only I kept my eye on the ball, Looking downward as does the pro there, I might not see where it was going, at all, But there might be a chance it would go there.” Richard Armour, Golf Is a Four-Letter Word

“Love and putting are mysteries for the philosopher to solve. Both subjects are beyond golfers.” Tommy Armour

“Golf is an awkward set of bodily contortions designed to produce a graceful result.” Tommy Armour

“Play the shot you've got the greatest chance of playing well and play the shot that makes the next shot easy. It is not solely the capacity to make great shots that makes champions, but the essential quality of making very few bad shots.” Tommy Armour

“Once you have your practice and you have your mechanics, you must be able to go out there and trust your mechanics.” Aaron Baddeley

“His driving is unbelievable. I don't go that far on my holidays.” Ian Baker-Finch, on John Daly

“A professional will tell you the amount of flex you need in the shaft of your club. The more the flex, the more strength you will need to break the thing over your knees.” Stephen Baker

“I look into their eyes, shake their hand, pat their back, and wish them luck, but I am thinking, 'I am going to bury you.’” Seve Ballesteros

“I miss. I miss. I miss. I make.” Seve Ballestero describing his four-putt at Augusta's No. 16 in 1988

“I'd like to see the fairways more narrow. Then everybody would have to play from the rough, not just me.” Seve Ballesteros

“I do not trust doctors. They are like golfers. Every one has a different answer to your problems.” Seve Ballesteros

"The number eighteen is symbolically meaningful because it is the numerical equivalent of the Hebrew word chai, which means life." From To the Linksland by Michael Bamberger

"Swinging at daisies is like playing electric guitar with a tennis racket: if it were that easy, we could all be Jerry Garcia. The ball changes everything." Michael Bamberger

"I drove a ball into the air. It fell to earth, I know not where. But if I'd found it, I'll bet you, I would have done that hole in two!" Miles Bantock

"The older you get, the easier it is to shoot your age." Jerry Barber

"I'm not saying my golf game went bad, but if I grew tomatoes, they'd come up sliced." Attributed to both Miller Barber and Lee Trevino

"To help your concentration, don't take too much time." Pam Barnett

"Although golf was originally restricted to wealthy, overweight Protestants, today it's open to anybody who owns hideous clothing." Dave Barry (1947 -)

"Play it as it lies" is one of the fundamental dictates of golf. The other is "Wear it if it clashes." Henry Beard, Golfing, 1985

"A ball will always come to rest halfway down a hill, unless there is sand or water at the bottom." Henry Beard

"Duffers who consistently shank their balls are urged to buy and study Shanks - No Thanks by R.K. Hoffman, or in extreme cases, M.S. Howard's excellent Tennis for Beginners." Henry Beard, Golfing, 1985

"Follow through: The part of the swing that takes place after the ball has been hit, but before the club has been thrown." Henry Beard & Roy McKie

"If you pick up a golfer and hold it close to your ear, like a conch shell, and listen-you will hear an alibi." Fred Beck

"Man blames fate for other accidents but feels personally responsible for a hole in one." Martha Beckman

"I realized that the secret to golf isn't how low you shoot when it's going good, it's how to make your bad rounds better." Notah Begay

"The basic philosophy behind [switch putting] is you always want a hook putt. So for a left-to-right breaking putt, you're going to want to hit it left-handed and vice versa." Notah Begay

"Give me golf clubs, fresh air and a beautiful partner, and you can keep the clubs and the fresh air." Jack Benny

"Don't be in such a hurry. That little white ball isn't going to run away from you." Patty Berg

"Mulligan: invented by an Irishman who wanted to hit one more twenty yard grounder." Jim Bishop

"Golf is played by twenty million mature American men whose wives think they are out having fun." Jim Bishop

"Golf isn't like other sports where you can take a player out if he's having a bad day. You have to play the whole game." Phil Blackmar

"It doesn't happen all the time, but when I'm playing well it's as if my eyes change. I can feel it. I just feel like Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde—a transformation happens, I'm a totally different human being. I don't hear anybody, I don't see anybody, nothing bothers me, nothing is going to interfere with what I'm about to do." Jane Blalock LPGA player

"Yeah, after each of my downhill putts." Homero Blancas, asked if he had any uphill putts

"Have you ever noticed what golf spells backwards?" Al Boliska

"Golf is a game where guts and blind devotion will always net you absolutely nothing but an ulcer." Tommy Bolt

"I wonder who is going to finish second." Tommy Bolt, after birdieing the first hole in the first round on route to his 1958 U.S. Open victory

"Never break your putter and your driver in the same round or you're dead." Tommy Bolt

"Always throw your clubs ahead of you. That way you don't have to waste energy going back to pick them up." Tommy Bolt

"If you are going to throw a club, it is important to throw it ahead of you, down the fairway, so you do not waste energy going back to pick it up." Tommy Bolt

"They throw their clubs backwards, and that's wrong. You should always throw a club ahead of you so that you don't have to walk any extra distance to get it." Tommy Bolt, about the tempers of modern players

"The mind messes up more shots than the body." Tommy Bolt

"Putting allows the touchy golfer two to four opportunities to blow a gasket in the short space of two to forty feet." Tommy Bolt

"The biggest liar in the world is the golfer who claims that he plays the game merely for exercise." Tommy Bolt

"If you wish to hide your character, do not play golf." Percy Boomer

"By the time you get to your ball, if you don't know what to do with it, try another sport." Julius Boros, a U.S. Open and PGA champion

"The fundamental problem with golf is that every so often, no matter how lacking you may be in the essential virtues required of a steady player, the odds are that one day you will hit the ball straight, hard, and out of sight. This is the essential frustration of this excruciating sport. For when you've done it once, you make the fundamental error of asking yourself why you can't do this all the time. The answer to this question is simple: the first time was a fluke." Colin Bowles

"When the path ahead of you is uphill, surrounded by rough spots, hazards and obstacles: use a pitching wedge." Lee Bracken

"I don't like watching golf on TV. I can't stand whispering." David Brenner

"I was three over. One over a house, one over a patio, and one over a swimming pool." George Brett

"Golf is not, on the whole, a game for realists. By its exactitudes of measurements it invites the attention of perfectionists." Heywood Hale Broun

"In Scotland, a new game was invented. It was entitled "Gentlemen Only Ladies Forbidden". . . and thus the word GOLF entered into the English language.- Not a quote but a word origin from J. Brown

"The trouble that most of us find with the modern matched sets of clubs is that they don't really seem to know any more about the game than the old one's did!" Robert Browning, [A History of Golf](#)

"There are three ways of learning golf: by study, which is the most wearisome; by imitation, which is the most fallacious; and by experience, which is the most bitter." Robert Browning

"What's nice about our tour is you can't remember your bad shots." Bob Bruce, about the senior tour

"Be prepared to scramble right from the start." Jackie Burke Jr. Masters and PGA Champion

"The average golfer doesn't play golf. He attacks it." Jack Burke

"Golf is a natural fit for us. It satisfies the spirit. You're out in the grass and the trees. You're out there with nature. You're not really competing with each other, you're competing against the golf course. I think it fits well with Native American society. Not all Native Americans get a chance to play, but I'm hoping that will change." Derek Burshiem, four-time winner of the Oglala Nation Open

"Baffling late-life discovery: Golfers wear those awful clothes on purpose." Herb Caen

"The life of the golfer is not all gloom; There's always the lies in the locker room." Sammy Cahn and Jimmy van Heusen, [Straight Down the Middle](#)

"Hit it hard. It will land somewhere." Mark Calcavecchia

"One of the advantages bowling has over golf is that you seldom lose a bowling ball." Don Carter

"Try to think where you want to put the ball, not where you don't want it to go." Billy Casper

"Who watches golf on TV? Who calls eight friends over and gets a keg of beer? Landscapers, I guess. They sit around the TV, yelling, "Will you look at that golf path? Pure pea gravel." Jeff Cesario

"In golf I am one under; one under a tree, one under a rock, and one under a bush." Gerry Cheevers

"I regard golf as an expensive way of playing marbles." G.K. Chesterton

"When he gets the ball into a tough place, that's when he's most relaxed. I think it's because he has so much experience at it." Don Christopher (Jack Lemmon's Caddie)

"[Golf] is like chasing a quinine pill around a cow pasture." Winston Churchill

"Golf is a game whose aim is to hit a very small ball into a even smaller hole, with weapons singularly ill-designed for the purpose." Winston Churchill

"I had to figure out myself to figure out my game." Stewart Cink, on going to a shrink

"Playing golf is just like going to a strip club. You're all revved up, ready to go. But three hours later, you're depressed, plastered, and most of your balls are missing." James Clark

"My handicap? Woods and irons." Chris Codioli

"Golf is an open exhibition of overweening ambition, courage deflated by stupidity, skill scoured by a whiff of arrogance." Alistair Cooke

"Each golfer has to understand his temperament before he can learn to manage it." Richard Coop

"Every rock'n'roll band I know, guys with long hair and tattoos, plays golf now." Alice Cooper

"The subconscious mind is probably the most important factor in being a good golfer. It keeps distractions on the course from ruining a good round. You should practice, develop your swing, and do most of your thinking on the practice tee so that when you play in competition, you can hit the ball automatically." Wiffy Cox, the nationally known pro at the Congressional Golf and Country Club in Bethesda, Maryland

"Golf is a compromise between what your ego wants you to do, what experience tells you to do, and what your nerves let you do." Bruce Crampton

"I'm about five inches from being an outstanding golfer. That's the distance my left ear is from my right." Ben Crenshaw

"The reason why the Road hole (17th) at St. Andrews is such a great par-4 is because it's a par-5." Ben Crenshaw

"Golf is like a love affair. If you don't take it seriously, it's no fun; if you do take it seriously, it breaks your heart." Arthur Daley

"Life is nothing but a memory. People who dwell on the bad ones aren't going to have a whole lot of good ones coming up." John Daly

"This fitness thing is blown out of proportion. What am I going to do on a treadmill – smoke a cigarette and drink a diet Coke?" John Daly

"My slogan is who needs fitness when you've got great equipment." John Daly, when asked if he works out these days

"He's tough (Tiger Woods). I wish I was that tough when I was his age." John Daly

"Hitting a tree in west Texas is stranger than getting a hole in one." Mancil Davis, self titled 'King of Aces' of the National Hole in One Association

"He's hit it fat.... It will probably be short.... It just hit the front edge of the green.... It's got no chance.... It's rolling toward the cup.... Well I'll be damned!" Jimmy Demaret

"Golf and sex are the only things you can enjoy without being good at them." Jimmy Demaret

"You know what they say about big hitters...the woods are full of them." Jimmy Demaret

"Golf is based on honesty, where else would you admit to a seven on a par three?" Jimmy Demaret

"I can airmail the golf ball, but sometimes I do not put the right address on it." Jim Dent

"The difference in golf and government is that in golf you can't improve your lie." George Deukmejian

"They say golf is like life, but don't believe them. Golf is more complicated than that." Gardner Dickinson

"Thou giv'st me to the world's last hour, A golfer's fame divine; I boast–thy gift–a Driver's power, If I can Putt–'tis thine." Patric Dickinson, A Round of Golf Courses

"The reason the pro tells you to keep your head down is so you can't see him laughing." Phyllis Diller

"Golf is like an 18-year-old girl with big boobs. You know it's wrong but you can't keep away from her." Val Doonican

"The right way to play golf is to go up and hit the bloody thing." George Duncan

"The ardent golfer would play Mount Everest if somebody would put a flag stick on top." Pete Dye

"Playing the game I have learned the meaning of humility. It has given me an understanding of futility of the human effort." Abba Eban

"Some golfers lie awake at night, And brood on what went wrong; I'd rather think of what went right. It doesn't take as long." Dick Emmons

"When hitting wedge shots, I've a flair, That's turning my hair gray; They stop, I swear, right next to where The pin was...yesterday." Dick Emmons

"The golf course being rather far, I have an excuse to take the car. And since the holes are far apart, I have an excuse to use a cart. But one thing has me still defeated—You cannot hit the ball while seated." Donna Evleth

"John certainly gives it a good hit, doesn't he? My Sunday best is a Wednesday afternoon compared to him." Nick Faldo, on John Daly

"He hits it long. His shoulders are impressively quick through the ball. That's where he's getting his power from. He's young and has great elasticity." Nick Faldo, on Tiger Woods

"Believe it or not, I'm not really thinking about anything when I putt....It's hard to teach. I let my instincts take over. I like to see which way the break is going and use it. When I'm putting well, I feel like I can make everything." Brad Faxon

"It's hard to tell who's going to win this week, but it probably won't be a big, fat guy." David Feherty on the heat and humidity during the U.S. PGA in 2001

"Golf is no longer a game of hitting the ball, finding it, and hitting it again. There is wind to be measured, whether that means tossing blades of grass in the air or studying the gentle movement of 60-foot high branches. There are caddie conferences for even the most routine shots. There are sports psychologists who tell players not to hit until they're ready." Doug Ferguson, Associated Press writer on the miserable state of pace of play in the PGA, *"Even USGA admits it can't get golfers in gear"* (Source: San Francisco Examiner)

"A golf course is nothing but a poolroom moved outdoors." Barry Fitzgerald, Going My Way

"Visualization. It may be the most important part of your mental package." Raymond Floyd

"They call it golf because all the other four-letter words were taken." Raymond Floyd

"When a father takes his son out for his first game of golf, and he says 'Son, when you're on the golf course, I want you to always conduct yourself like a gentleman-I want you to conduct yourself like Ray Floyd,' that's how I'd like to be remembered." Ray Floyd

"Golf is an ideal diversion, but a ruinous disease." Bertie Forbes

"I deny allegations by Bob Hope that during my last game I hit an eagle, birdie, an elk & a moose." Gerald Ford

"I know I am getting better at golf because I am hitting fewer spectators." Gerald Ford

"Everybody has two swings-a beautiful practice swing and the choked-up one with which they hit the ball. So it wouldn't do either of us a damned bit of good to look at your practice swing." Ed Furgol

"My only goal is to look back at the end of each year and see that I have improved." Jim Furyk

"If there is any larceny in a man, golf will bring it out." Paul Gallico

"Be who you really are." Sergio Garcia

"Concentrating for four hours will wear you out mentally." Sergio Garcia

"I didn't realize at the moment exactly what I had done...I only realized the enormity of it when I walked into the press room and got a long standing ovation. It wasn't until I came out of my daze that I began to appreciate my accomplishment." Al Geiberger

"I've come to realize that I perform best when I'm letting my subconscious mind hit the ball and my conscious mind is otherwise occupied." Al Geiberger

"To play golf you need goofy pants and a fat ass." Happy Gilmore

"A golf course is the epitome of all that is purely transitory in the universe, a space not to dwell in, but to get over as quickly as possible." Jean Giraudoux

"Obviously a deer on the fairway has seen you tee off before and knows that the safest place to be when you play is right down the middle." Jackie Gleason

"The only time my prayers are never answered is on the golf course." Billy Graham

"The number of shots taken by an opponent who is out of sight is equal to the square root of the sum of the number of curses heard plus the number of swishes." Michael Green, The Art of Coarse Golf, 1975

"Golf balls are attracted to water as unerringly as the eye of a middle-aged man to a female bosom." Michael Green, The Art of Coarse Golf, 1967

"It is more satisfying to be a bad player at golf. The worse you play, the better you remember the occasional good shot." Nubar Gulbenkian, 1972

"Whatever happens on the golf course is OK, because if I put the ball in trouble I know that I have the skills to get it out of trouble and back into play." Walter Hagen

"If you worry about the ones you missed, you are going to keep missing them." Walter Hagen

"Every golfer can expect to have four bad shots in a round and when you do, just put them out of your mind. This, of course is hard to do when you've had them and you're not even off the first tee." Walter Hagen

"I would rather be of clear mind and decision with the wrong club than with an unclear mind and the right club." Walter Hagen

"What a shame to waste those great shots on the practice tee." Walter Hagen

"Trouble shots are surprisingly easy if you activate your imagination. You simply must be able to imagine exactly what flight the ball will take before you can play any shot well." Walter Hagen

"You're only here for a short visit, so don't hurry, don't worry, and be sure to stop and smell the flowers along the way." Walter Hagen

"Here Eddie, hold the flag while I putt out." Walter Hagen to the Prince of Wales

"It's much easier to have one swing thought than many." Butch Harmon

"In baseball you hit your home run over the right-field fence, the left-field fence, the center-field fence. Nobody cares. In golf everything has got to be right over second base." Ken Harrelson

"My worst day on the golf course still beats my best day in the office." John Hallisey

"Golf is a game in which you yell "fore," shoot six, and write down five." Paul Harvey

"The game of golf would lose a great deal if croquet mallets and billiard cues were allowed on the putting green." Ernest Hemingway

"Men who would face torture without a word become blasphemous at the short fourteenth. It is clear that the game of golf may well be included in that category of intolerable provocations which may legally excuse or mitigate behaviour not otherwise excusable." A.P. Herbert, Misleading Cases, 1935

"My ball is in a bunch of fern, A jolly place to be; An angry man is close astern— He waves his club at me. Well, let him wave—the sky is blue; Go on, old ball, we are but two—We may be down in three, Or nine—or ten—or twenty-five—It matters not; to be alive, Is good enough for me." A. P. Herbert

"Nobody ever looked up and saw a good shot." Don Herold, Love That Golf

"No golfer can ever become too good to practice." May Hezlet

"The golf swing is like sex. You can't be thinking about the mechanics of the act while you are performing." Dave Hill

"Golf is the hardest game in the world to play, and the easiest to cheat at." Dave Hill

"My game is so bad I gotta hire three caddies- one to walk the left rough, one for the right, and one for the middle. And the one in the middle doesn't have much to do." Dave Hill

"Golf is golf. You hit the ball, you go find it. Then you hit it again." Lon Hinkle

"Two balls in the water. By God, I have got a good mind to jump in and make it four!" Simon Hobday

"There are no shortcuts in the quest for perfection." Ben Hogan

"I play with friends, but we don't play friendly games." Ben Hogan

"Relax? How can anybody relax and play golf? You have to grip the club don't you?" Ben Hogan

"As you walk down the fairway of life you must smell the roses, for you only get to play one round." Ben Hogan

"Selecting a stroke is like selecting a wife. To each his own." Ben Hogan

"Reverse every natural instinct and do the opposite of what you are inclined to do, and you will probably come very close to having a perfect golf swing." Ben Hogan

"I could not wait for the sun to come up the next morning so that I could get out on the course again." Ben Hogan

"I have always felt and said that a man who can be a champion in one era could be a champion in any other era because he has what it takes to reach the top." Ben Hogan

"Go play golf. Go to the golf course. Hit the ball. Find the ball, repeat until the ball is in the hole. Have fun. The end." Chuck Hogan

"I try to simulate the most difficult conditions the players will encounter during competition." Mike Holder, coach of 8 time national champion Oklahoma State

"I just hope I don't have to explain all the times I've used His name in vain when I get up there." Bob Hope, about his golfing

"If I'm on the course and lightning starts, I get inside fast. If God wants to play through, let him." Bob Hope

"Golf is a hard game to figure. One day you will go out and slice it and shank it, hit into all the traps and miss every green. The next day you go out and, for no reason at all, you really stink." Bob Hope

"Drugs are very much a part of professional sports today, but when you think about it, golf is the only sport where the players aren't penalized for being on grass." Bob Hope

"I'd give up golf if I didn't have so many sweaters." Bob Hope

"If you watch a game, it's fun. If you play it, it's recreation. If you work at it, it's golf." Bob Hope

"I like to play in the low 70s. If it gets any hotter than that I will stay in the bar!" Bob Hope

"I'll shoot my age if I have to live to be 105." Bob Hope

"Isn't it fun to go out on the course and lie in the sun?" Bob Hope

"Vice President Spiro Agnew can not cheat on his score: because all you have to do is look back down the fairway and count the wounded." Bob Hope

"We have fifty-one golf courses in Palm Springs. He (Gerald Ford) never decides which course he will play until after the first tee shot...At least he can't cheat on his score- because all you have to do is look back down the fairway and count the wounded." Bob Hope

"If profanity had an influence on the flight of the ball, the game of golf would be played far better than it is." Horace G. Hutchinson

"The greatest breakthrough is taking your own sweet time to reach your goal, be it par or enlightenment." Shivas Irons

"I didn't miss the putt. I made the putt. The ball missed the hole." Peter Jacobsen

"One of the most fascinating things about golf is how it reflects the cycle of life. No matter what you shoot - the next day you have to go back to the first tee and begin all over again and make yourself into something." Peter Jacobsen

"If you can't enjoy the time between golf shots, then you are going to have a pretty difficult life because most of you life is the time spent in-between." Peter Jacobsen

"I'm probably less serious about my game than I was in the past. I've lost a brother and father in the past six years. And what about people who have lost friends and comrades in war? Golf is a game. You've got to keep that in perspective." Peter Jacobsen

"Always keep in mind that if God didn't want a man to have mulligans, golf balls wouldn't come three to a sleeve." Dan Jenkins

"Every golfer has at least 14 enemies: his clubs." Dan Jenkins

"Golf: A game in which you claim the privileges of age and retain the play-things of youth." Samuel Johnson

"The main idea in golf as in life, I suppose is to learn to accept what cannot be altered and to keep on doing one's own reasoned and resolute best whether the prospect be bleak or rosy." Bobby Jones

"Competitive golf is played mainly on a five-and-a-half-inch course, the space between your ears." Bobby Jones

"It is nothing new or original to say that golf is played one stroke at a time. But it took me many years to realize it." Bobby Jones

"My best score ever was 103, but I've only been playing 15 years." Alex Karris

"As I watched the seagulls, I thought, That's the road to take; find the absolute rhythm and follow it with absolute trust." Nikos Kazantzakis

"Mary had a little putt, she needed it for par. Mary has a second putt...the first one went too far!" Margaret Kennard, Rhymes from the Rough

"One hundred years of experience had demonstrated that the game is temporary insanity practiced in a pasture." Dave Kindred

"It is a very positive event, being nervous. It allows you to do great things." Tom Kite

"Find a man with both feet firmly on the ground and you've found a man about to make a difficult putt." Fletcher Knebel

"If you want to take long walks, take long walks. If you want to hit things with sticks, hit things with sticks. But there's no excuse for combining the two and putting the results on TV. Golf is not so much a sport as an insult to lawns."
National Lampoon

"I'm off my game," the golfer said And shook his locks in woe; "My putter never lays me dead, My drives will never go; Howe'er I swing, howe'er I stand, Results are still the same, I'm in the but, I'm in the sand--I'm off my game!" Andrew Lang, Off My Game

"I'll always remember the day I broke ninety. I had a few beers in the clubhouse and was so excited I forgot to play the back nine." Bruce Lansky

"Talking to a golf ball won't do you any good. Unless you do it while your opponent is teeing off." Bruce Lansky

"We learn so many things from golf- how to suffer, for instance." Bruce Lansky
"I don't think I'll live long enough to shoot my age. I'm lucky to shoot my weight."
Bruce Lansky

"My psychiatrist prescribed a game of golf as an antidote to the feelings of euphoria I experience from time to time." Bruce Lansky

"Having nerves and feeling the pressure just gets you focused and gets your concentration level where it needs to be. I harness that nervous energy into a positive way." Tom Lehman

"I think if you are going to base your whole life on what you do on the golf course, you are up for a lot of ups and downs." Tom Lehman

"It isn't the hours that you put in at practice that count. It's the way you spend those minutes." Tony Lema

"You don't necessarily have to be a good golfer to be a good putter, but you have to be a good putter to be a good golfer." Tony Lema

"If you think it's hard to meet new people, try picking up the wrong golf ball." Jack Lemmon

"I have those (goals) written down, but don't want to discuss them. Right now, I just want to keep on improving." Justin Leonard

"I play in the low 80s. If it's any hotter than that, I won't play." Joe E. Lewis

"Samuel Ryder, the original patron of the Ryder Cup, was buried with his 5-iron, the only sensible thing to do with any golf club, really." Bernie Lincicome, Chicago Tribune

"All I've got against it is that it takes you so far from the clubhouse." Eric Linklater, Poet's Pub, 1929

"Approaching a putt with doubt in your mind is nearly always fatal." Bobby Locke

"They say 'practice makes perfect.' Of course, it doesn't. For the vast majority of golfers it merely consolidates imperfection." Henry Longhurst

"If you call on God to improve the results of a shot while it is still in motion, you are using "an outside agency" and subject to appropriate penalties under the rules of golf." Henry Longhurst

"The simpler I keep things, the better I play." Nancy Lopez

"When it's breezy, hit it easy." Davis Love, Jr.

"It is almost impossible to remember how tragic a place the world is when one is playing golf." Robert Lynd

"Hit 'em hard. They'll land somewhere." Stewart Maiden

"Once you try, golf is the hardest game you'll ever play." Roger Maltbie

"That son of a bitch was able to hole a putt over 60 feet of peanut brittle." Lloyd Mangrum, about Bobby Locke

"Swing hard in case you hit it." Dan Marino

"Never bet with anyone you meet on the first tee, who has a deep suntan, a one iron in his bag and squinty eyes." Dave Marr

"Golf is hockey at the halt." Arthur Marshall, 1985

"If you drink, don't drive. Don't even putt." Dean Martin

"We speak of eyeball-to-eyeball encounters between men great and small. Even more reaching and revealing of character is the eyeball-to-golfball confrontation, whereby our most secret natures are mercilessly tested by a small, round, whitish object with no mind or will but with a very definite life of its own, and with whims perverse and beatific." John Stewart Martin

"You stand up to that challenging shot, you put yourself into that shot, and you pour yourself into it confidently. Stand up and commit yourself completely. If you miss it, you miss it certainly. You've done everything you can." Debbie Massey, two-time British Open Champion

"Here's a simple way to abolish golf's elitist and exclusionary image and make it a truly all-American sport: ditch that fifties-Republican-martini-drinker's green Brooks Brothers-style sport jacket and make the winner of the Masters slip on something in, say, black leather with plenty of metal studs." Bruce McCall, The Case Against Golf, from Esquire.

"No game designed to be played with the aid of personal servants by right-handed men who can't even bring along their dogs can be entirely good for the soul." Bruce McCall in The Case Against Golf, from Esquire

"It's easy to see golf not as a game at all but as some whey-faced, nineteenth-century Presbyterian minister's fever dream of exorcism achieved through ritual and self-mortification." Bruce McCall

“Indeed, the highest pleasure of golf may be that on the fairways and far from all the pressures of commerce and rationality, we can feel immortal for a few hours.”
Colman McCarthy

“He hits the ball a long way and he knows how to win.” Gary McCord, on Tiger Woods

“He's in the mold of a Tom Watson, in that he'll hit the ball in the trees and undaunted go it there, flail it out and make something out of it.” Gary McCord, on Tiger Woods

“He's got an overall flair for the game. It looks to me like he really loves what he does and he can't wait to get up in the morning, go hit some balls and go play.”
Gary McCord, on Tiger Woods

“All year, I concentrated on ‘Forget the last shot.’ It takes so long to accept that you can't always replicate your swing. The only thing that you can control is your attitude toward the next shot.” Mark McCumber

“I always think before an important shot: What is the worst that can happen on this shot? I can whiff it, shank it, or hit it out-of-bounds. But even if one of those bad things happens, I've got a little money in the bank, my wife still loves me, and my dog won't bite me when I come home.” Cary Middlecoff

“Golf is 90 percent inspiration and 10 percent perspiration.” Johnny Miller

“When Nicklaus plays wells well, he wins. When he plays badly, he finishes second. When he plays terribly, he finishes third.” Johnny Miller

“Golf is so popular simply because it is the best game in the world at which to be bad.” A.A. Milne

“My butterflies are still going strong. I just hope they are flying in formation.” Larry Mize

“To be truthful, I think golfers are overpaid. It's unreal, and I have trouble dealing with the guilt sometime.” Colin Montgomerie

“That's great. They should put the hole in the fairway.” Colin Montgomerie, the quick-witted Scot, replied, when informed that he was ranked first in fairway hits

“Indecision builds nervous tension and undermines any remaining confidence.”
Sharron Moran

"Golf is a game to teach you about the messages from within, about the subtle voices of the body-mind. And once you understand them you can more clearly see your 'hamartia,' the ways in which your approach to the game reflects your entire life. Nowhere does a man go so naked." Michael Murphy, author of Golf in the Kingdom

"Let's face it, 95 percent of this game is mental. A guy plays lousy golf, he doesn't need a pro, he needs a shrink." Tom Murphy

"Actually, the only time I ever took out a one-iron was to kill a tarantula. And it took a seven to do that." Jim Murray

"If your caddie coaches you on the tee, 'Hit it down the left side with a little draw,' ignore him. All you do on the tee is try not to hit the caddie." Jim Murray

"Golf without mistakes is like watching haircuts. A dinner without wine." Jim Murray

"Golf is not a game, it's bondage. It was obviously devised by a man torn with guilt, eager to atone for his sins." Jim Murray

"Golf is the cruelest of sports. Like life, it's unfair. It's a harlot. A trollop. It leads you on. It never lives up to its promises.... It's a boulevard of broken dreams. It plays with men. And runs off with the butcher." Jim Murray

"I'm gambling that when we get into the next life, Saint Peter will look at us and ask, 'Golfer?' And when we nod, he will step aside and say, 'Go right in; you've suffered enough.' One warning, if you do go in and the first thing you see is a par 3 surrounded by water, it ain't heaven." Jim Murray

"Show me a man who is a good loser and I'll show you a man who is playing golf with his boss." Jim Murray

"I'd play every day if I could. It's cheaper than a shrink and there are no telephones on my golf cart." Brent Musburger

"The only shots you can be sure of are those you've had already." Byron Nelson

"Golf is a percentage game, and I play the percentages." Byron Nelson

"Out-of-control emotions can make smart people stupid." Byron Nelson

"Putting affects the nerves more than anything. I would actually get nauseated over three-footers." Byron Nelson

"If I can hit a curveball, why can't I hit a ball that is standing still on a course?"
Larry Nelson

"Golf is not and has never has been a fair game." Jack Nicklaus

"I think I fail just a bit less than everyone else." Jack Nicklaus

"Scoring comes from being able to preserve what you've got and play your smart shots when you need to play them and not do stupid things and take advantage of things when have you them." Jack Nicklaus

"Good golf shots result from delivering the clubhead to the ball when the clubhead is traveling either from slightly inside or directly along the target line with the face looking squarely at the target." Jack Nicklaus

"Ask yourself how many shots you would have saved if you always developed a strategy before you hit, always played within your capabilities, never lost your temper, and never got down on yourself." Jack Nicklaus

"I never hit a shot, even in practice, without having a very sharp, in focus picture of it in my head. It's like a color movie. First I 'see' the ball where I want it to finish, nice and high and sitting up high on the bright green grass. Then the scene quickly changes and I 'see' the ball going there: its path, trajectory, and shape, even its behavior on landing." Jack Nicklaus

"I never missed a putt in my mind." Jack Nicklaus

"It takes hundreds of good golf shots to gain confidence, but only one bad one to lose it." Jack Nicklaus

"Tee your ball high...air offers less resistance than dirt." Jack Nicklaus

"Through years of experience I have found that air offers less resistance than dirt." Jack Nicklaus, on why he tees his ball high.

"The older you get the stronger the wind gets and it is always in your face." Jack Nicklaus

"I've always tried to play golf with a golf club. I have a hard time driving with my rifle. I mean, 18 is really narrow ... I have no problem with the course, except for the tee shot on 18." Jack Nicklaus describing 443 yard number 18 at the 1997 Doral-Ryder Open, nicknamed Blue Monster

"I don't know if I'll ever do it again or not, but frankly I don't really care." Jack Nicklaus on his sixth Masters

"There's a guy who won't be in contention. There's another one I don't have to worry about." Jack Nicklaus (when fellow competitors complain about playing conditions)

"Such is putting! 2% technique, 98% inspiration or confidence or touch...the only thing great putters have in common is touch and that is the critical ingredient...none of them found it through mechanizing a stroke, nor do I believe they could maintain it that way." Jack Nicklaus

"We all would like to struggle like Tiger is struggling." Jack Nicklaus

"There isn't a flaw in his golf or his makeup. He will win more majors than Arnold Palmer and me combined. Somebody is going to dust my records. It might as well be Tiger, because he's such a great kid." Jack Nicklaus, on Tiger Woods

"He has the finest, fundamentally sound golf swing I've ever seen." Jack Nicklaus, on Tiger Woods

"He's going to be around a long, long time, if his body holds up. That's always a concern with a lot of players because of how much they play. A lot of guys can't handle it. But it looks like he can." Jack Nicklaus, on Tiger Woods

"The reason they call it 'golf' is that all the other 4 letter words were used up." Leslie Nielsen

"Golf is the ego and id in a playoff that never ends. It's a solitary wandering in the manicured wilderness, It's man alone with his own mind. It's too much time to think and too much to think about. It's more like life than life itself." David Noonan

"Happiness is a long walk with a putter." Greg Norman

"I'm disappointed, but I'm not going to run around like Dennis Rodman and head-butt somebody." Greg Norman on losing a six-stroke lead in the Masters

"I screwed up. It's all on me. I know that. But losing this Masters is not the end of the world. I let this one get away, but I still have a pretty good life. I'll wake up tomorrow, still breathing, I hope. All these hiccups I have, they must be for a reason. All this is just a test. I just don't know what the test is yet." Greg Norman on the 1996 Masters

"Sometimes things work out on the golf course and sometimes they don't. Life will go on. You try to understand what happens, but maybe today I don't want to know. I just screwed up so maybe I should just put it behind me." Greg Norman

"You create your own luck by the way you play. There is no such luck as bad luck. Fate has nothing to do with success or failure, because that is a negative philosophy that indicts one's confidence, and I'll have no part of it." Greg Norman

"A hole in one is amazing when you think of the different universes this white mass of molecules has to pass through on its way to the hole." Mac O'Grady

"One minute you're bleeding. The next minute you're hemorrhaging. The next minute you're painting the Mona Lisa." Mac O'Grady, describing a typical round of golf

"When I putt, my emotions collide like tectonic plates. It's left my memory circuits full of scars that won't heal." Mac O'Grady

"Golf is essentially an exercise in masochism conducted out-of-doors." Paul O'Neil

"Golf combines two favorite American pastimes: taking long walks and hitting things with a stick." P.J. O'Rourke

"I've always made a total effort, even when the odds seemed entirely against me. I never quit trying; I never felt that I didn't have a chance to win." Arnold Palmer

"I can only tell you one thing that I do know for sure, I am a dreamer. There are not many people that will recognize or want to recognize the fact that they are dreamers in their own life ... I continue to get up in the morning, enthusiastically, and go pick up a golf club with a thought that I can somewhere find that secret to making the cut. That's just an example, but it applies to other things in life, too, and that's the way I live and the way I think and the way I feel." Arnold Palmer

"What separates great players from the good ones is not so much ability as brain power and emotional equilibrium." Arnold Palmer

"The most rewarding things you do in life are often the ones that look like they cannot be done." Arnold Palmer

"Putting is like wisdom...partly a natural gift and partly the accumulation of experience." Arnold Palmer

“What other people may find in poetry or art museums, I find in the flight of a good drive: the white ball sailing up into the sky, reaching its apex, falling and finally dropping to the turf, just the way I planned it.” Arnold Palmer

“Even before you step up to the ball, have a full battle plan for the hole worked out.” Arnold Palmer

“The secret of concentration is the secret of self-discovery. You reach inside yourself to discover your personal resources, and what it takes to match to the challenge.” Arnold Palmer

“A lot of people are afraid of winning. I was afraid I might not win.” Arnold Palmer

“I have a tip that can take five strokes off anyone's golf game. It is called an eraser.” Arnold Palmer

“I had played so poorly recently, I started thinking that maybe I should do something else. Then I saw my friends going to work everyday and realized that my life wasn't so bad.” Steve Pate

“All seasoned players know, or at least have felt, that when you are playing your best, you are much the same as in a state of meditation. You are free of tension and chatter. You are concentrating on one thing. It is the ideal condition for good golf.” Harvey Penick

“Golf tips are like aspirin. One may do you good, but if you swallow the whole bottle you will be lucky to survive.” Harvey Penick

“The woods are full of long drivers.” Harvey Penick

“All other things being equal, greens break to the west.” Harvey Penick

“The worst club in my bag is my brain.” Chris Perry

“Real golfers, no matter what the provocation, never strike a caddie with the driver. The sand wedge is far more effective.” Huxtable Pippey

“The harder you work, the luckier you get.” Gary Player

“The more I practice, the luckier I get.” Gary Player

“The harder I practice the luckier I get.” Gary Player

“There is absolutely nothing humorous at the Masters. Here, small dogs do not bark and babies do not cry.” Gary Player

"I try to work with God as a partner." Gary Player

"When you play the game for fun...it's fun. When you play it for a living...it's a game of sorrows." Gary Player

"I am tired of all these golfers who are happy with second place. The only one who will like you if you come in second place is your wife and your dog. And that is only if you have a good wife and a good dog." Gary Player

"Golf's not a matter of life or death. It's much more important than that." Red Powers

"The more I focus, the less I worry about pressure and everything else. My mind is totally and completely into the target. Some people choose to worry about hitting out-of-bounds, some choose to think about their swing, but when I'm looking down at the ball, I actually see the target." Nick Price

"I play and give each shot 100 percent, and I'm not thinking about winning or about what score I'm shooting. I'm just doing my best on every shot." Nick Price

"In golf, you keep your head down and follow through. In the vice presidency, you keep your head up and follow through. It's a big difference." Dan Quayle

"Golf is a game, not a sport." Larry Ramirez

"Golf is a fascinating game. It has taken me nearly forty years to discover that I can't play it." Ted Ray, Golf - My Slice of Life, 1972

"Golf is the cruelest game, because eventually it will drag you out in front of the whole school, take your lunch money and slap you around." Rick Reilly in Master Strokes, from Sports Illustrated

"This is the substance of our Plot—For those who play the Perfect Shot, There are ten thousand who do not." Grantland Rice, Dedicated to the Duffer

"Eighteen holes of match play will teach you more about your foe than 18 years of dealing with him across a desk." Grantland Rice

"Golf gives you an insight into human nature, your own as well as your opponent's." Grantland Rice

"Like life, golf can be humbling. However, little good comes from brooding about mistakes we've made. The next shot, in golf or in life, is the big one." Grantland Rice

"You are meant to play the ball as it lies, a fact that may help to touch on your own objective approach to life." Grantland Rice

"Rhythm is best expressed in any swing directed at a cigar stump or a dandelion head." Grantland Rice

"Golf is twenty percent mechanics and technique. The other eighty percent is philosophy, humor, tragedy, romance, melodrama, companionship, camaraderie, cussedness, and conversation." Grantland Rice

"And thus, with self-deception bland, We mourn the fours that should have been, Forgetting, on the other hand, The luck that helped us through the green; Calmly accepting as our due The four-hole which we fluked in two." Thomas Risk, The Lyric of the Links

"My favorite shots are the practice swing and the conceded putt. The rest can never be mastered." Lord Robertson

"For most amateurs, the best wood in the bagthe pencil!" Chi Chi Rodriguez

"I think most of the rules of golf stink." Chi Chi Rodriguez

"I do not fear death...but I sure do hate those three footers for par." Chi Chi Rodriguez

"I am a millionaire today and my wife deserves all of the credit. Before I met her I was a multi-millionaire." Chi Chi Rodriguez

"The first time I played the Masters, I was so nervous I drank a bottle of rum before I teed off. I shot the happiest 83 of my life." Chi Chi Rodriguez

"Trevino is in a league by himself. We don't even count him. We figure when you come in second, you're a winner." Chi Chi Rodriguez

"After all these years, it's still embarrassing for me to play on the American golf tour. Like the time I asked my caddie for a sand wedge and he came back ten minutes later with a ham on rye." Chi Chi Rodriguez, on his Puerto Rican accent
"Golf is the most fun you can have without taking your clothes off." Chi Chi Rodriguez

"A golf ball is like a clock. Always hit it at 6 o'clock and make it go toward 12 o'clock. But make sure you're in the same time zone." Chi Chi Rodriguez

"I never pray to God to make a putt. I pray to God to help me react good if I miss a putt." Chi Chi Rodriguez

"I don't fear death...but I sure do hate those three footers for par." Chi Chi Rodriguez

"The income tax has made more liars out of the American people than golf has." Will Rogers

"Golf is good for the soul. You get so mad at yourself you forget to hate your enemies." Will Rogers

"I guess there is nothing that will get your mind off everything like golf. I have never been depressed enough to take up the game, but they say you get so sore at yourself you forget to hate your enemies." Will Rogers

"Golf is a game in which the ball lies poorly and the players well." Art Rosenbaum

"There's something intrinsically therapeutic about choosing to spend your time in a wide, open park-like setting that non-golfers can never truly understand." Charles Rosin, Northern Exposure, Aurora Borealis, 1990

"Golf isn't a game, it's a choice that one makes with one's life." Charles Rosin, Northern Exposure, Aurora Borealis, 1990

"Don't let the bad shots get to you. Don't let yourself become angry. The true scramblers are thick-skinned. And they always beat the whiners." Paul Runyan, Golf Digest

"The place of the father in the modern suburban family is a very small one, particularly if he plays golf." Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)

"A passion, an obsession, a romance, a nice acquaintanceship with trees, sand, and water." Bob Ryan, Boston Globe

"I'm working as hard as I can to get my life and my cash to run out at the same time. If I can just die after lunch Tuesday, everything would be perfect." Doug Sanders, former professional golfer

"I am planning and God is driving, so thanks to God I shot 65." South African Omar Sandys in the Dunhill Links Pro-Am, October 19, 2001.

"You can't call it a sport. You don't run, jump, you don't shoot, you don't pass. All you have to do is buy some clothes that don't match." Steve Sax

"Live.....Laugh.....GOLF!!!" Kathryn Schaefer Plaum

"Golf is not just an exercise; it's an adventure, a romance... a Shakespeare play in which disaster and comedy are intertwined." Harold Segall

"Golf is typical capitalist luncay." George Bernard Shaw

"It's nice to have the opportunity to play for so much money, but it's nicer to win it." Patty Sheenan

"The worst advice in golf is, 'Keep your head down.'" Patty Sheehan

"It's the most humbling sport ever. It's like a lousy lover. It's like some guy who's never there when you need him. Every once in a while, he comes and makes you feel like heaven on earth.. And then the moment you say, 'I really need this,' he's gone." Dinah Shore

"Any game where a man 60 can beat a man 30 ain't no game." Burt Shotten

"Be funny on a golf course? Do I kid my best friend's mother about her heart condition?" Phil Silvers

"Papa, trust your swing." Note written by ten year old Qass Singh pinned to Vijay Singh's golf bag during the 2000 US Masters (which Singh won)

"The more they made noise, the more calm I became." Vijay Singh after the final round of the 2004 Buick open

"It's so bad I could putt off a tabletop and still leave the ball halfway down the leg." J.C. Snead, on his putting

"If I had cleared the trees and drove the green, it would've been a great shot." Sam Snead

"Practice puts brains in your muscles." Sam Snead

"These greens are so fast I have to hold my putter over the ball and hit it with the shadow." Sam Snead

"Just have a Coke or something and watch the boys go past." Sam Snead's advice to the gallery during the four-hole Past Champions Challenge Summer of 2000

“First and fore-most, you must have confidence. Your second mental problem is concentration. Think the shot through in advance before you address the ball. Draw a mental image of where you want it to go and then eliminate everything else from your mind, except how you are going to get the ball into that preferred spot.” Sam Snead

“I believe in destiny...what’s going to be is going to be. If I’m going to win, I’m going to win...I don’t give a damn what the other guy shoots. I’m going to win if it’s my turn.” Sam Snead

“If a lot of people gripped a knife and fork the way they do a golf club, they would starve to death.” Sam Snead

“You’ve just one problem. You stand too close to the ball after you’ve hit it.” Sam Snead

“You can’t go into a shop and buy a good game of golf.” Sam Snead

“If some players took a fork to their mouths the way they take the club back, they’d starve to death.” Sam Snead

“Forget your opponents; always play against par.” Sam Snead

“No matter what happens - never give up a hole....In tossing in your cards after a bad beginning you also undermine your whole game, because to quit between tee and green is more habit-forming than drinking a highball before breakfast.” Sam Snead

“There are no short hitters on the tour anymore—just long and unbelievably long.” Sam Snead

“Golf got complicated when I had to wear shoes and begin thinking about what I was doing.” Sam Snead

“Golf tip: Lay off for three weeks and then quit for good.” Sam Snead

“I shot an elephant in Africa thirty yards from me, and it didn’t hit the ground until it was right at my feet. I wasn’t a bit scared, but a four foot putt scares me to death.” Sam Snead

“The only reason I ever played in the first place was so I could afford to hunt and fish.” Sam Snead

"The fairways were so narrow you had to walk down them single file." Sam Snead

"The three things I fear most in golf are lightning, Ben Hogan and a downhill putt." Sam Snead

"Nobody asked how you looked, just what you shot." Sam Snead

"But you don't have to go up in the stands and play your foul balls. I do." Sam Snead, to Ted Williams, arguing which was more difficult, to hit a moving baseball or a stationary golf ball

"You know Bobby, when I was your age I'd drive the ball right over those trees at the corner." Feeling challenged Mr. Cole hit a big driver right into those big trees. Snead then said 'Of course, when I was your age, those trees were only 10 feet high.'" Sam Snead, playing with Bobby Cole at the tee of a dogleg-left par 5

"I told my caddie today that I am in the position that I want to be in. That this is what I have been waiting for, to win my tenth victory. I said that I am going to do everything that I can do today and that nothing is going to stop me." Annika Sorenstam

"Why am I using a new putter? Because the last one didn't float too well." Craig Stadler

"Grip it and rip it. It works for John Daly. It never worked for me. All I did was wear out golf gloves." Chuck Stark, The Sun Link, June 17, 2003

"Some of us worship in churches, some in synagogues, some on golf courses." Adlai Stevenson

"In 1993, my second year on the Senior PGA Tour, I won five tournaments and \$1,175,944, was leading money-winner, and was named Player of the Year. Yes, I made some physical improvements in my game but the main reason I had a year for me was unbelievable is that I worked hard on the mental side of my game." Dave Stockton

"The number one thing about trouble is...don't get into more." Dave Stockton

"Under pressure, one of the most important things I have to remember to do is breathe." Curtis Strange

"I don't believe I have a good enough friend to give a three-footer" Curtis Strange, after Davis Love gave a three-footer to Darren Clarke on the 20th hole of their match

"Played eighteen holes with a client last Saturday. Got my ass kicked. Now I can send him his invoice." Ingo Stroup

"Golf is very much like a love affair, if you don't take it seriously, it's no fun, if you do, it breaks your heart. Don't break your heart, but flirt with the possibility."
Louise Suggs

"Much of anyone's game is played (or should be played) in the short six-inch course between the ears." Louise Suggs

"There are no points for style when it comes to putting. It's getting the ball in the cup that counts." Brian Swarbrick

"When you don't play very often, you just don't know what is coming next." Peter Thomson, playing at the millennium British Open for the four-hole Past Champions Challenge

"I'm hitting the woods just great, but I'm having a terrible time getting out of them." Harry Tofcano

"Most golfers prepare for disaster. A good golfer prepares for success." Bob Toski

"Golf is a non violent game played violently from within." Bob Toski

"We all choke, and the man who says he doesn't choke is lying like hell. We all leak oil." Lee Trevino

"I'm a golfaholic, no question about that. Counseling wouldn't help me. They'd have to put me in prison, and then I'd talk the warden into building a hole or two and teach him how to play." Lee Trevino

"When I'm on a golf course and it starts to rain and lightning, I hold up my one iron, 'cause I know even God can't hit a one iron." Lee Trevino

"A hungry dog hunts best." Lee Trevino

"You can talk to a fade but a hook won't listen." Lee Trevino

"I'm in the woods so much I can tell you which plants are edible." Lee Trevino

"I'm going to win so much money this year, my caddie will make the top twenty money-winners list." Lee Trevino

"Real pressure in golf is playing for \$10 when you've only got \$5 in your pocket." Lee Trevino

"You don't know what pressure is until you've played for five dollars a hole with only two in your pocket." Lee Trevino

"I'm not saying my golf game went bad, but if I grew tomatoes they would have come up sliced." Lee Trevino

"If my IQ had been two lower I'd have been a plant somewhere." Lee Trevino

"I'm hitting the driver so good I gotta dial the operator for long distance after I hit it." Lee Trevino

"I love Merion and I don't even know her last name." Lee Trevino, referring to Merion Golf Club, the host of more national USGA championships than any other club

"My swing is so bad I look like a caveman killing his lunch." Lee Trevino

"Two things that are not long for this world: dogs that chase cars and professional golfers who putt for pars." Lee Trevino

"The older I get the better I used to be!" Lee Trevino

"Arnie has more people watching him park the car than we do out on the course." Lee Trevino

"Columbus went around the world in 1492. That is not a lot of strokes when you consider the course." Lee Trevino

"It's the most fun I've had with my clothes on." Lee Trevino

"Putts get real difficult the day they hand out the money." Lee Trevino

"There are two things you can do with your head down: play golf and pray." Lee Trevino

"No one who ever had lessons would have a swing like mine." Lee Trevino

"His nerve, his memory, and I can't remember the third thing." Lee Trevino, on the three things an aging golfer loses

"One under a tree, one under a bush, one under the water." Lee Trevino, describing how he was one under during a tournament

"A rough should have high grass. When you go bowling they don't give you anything for landing in the gutter, do they?" Lee Trevino

"Who can say I have a bad swing? The only thing that matters in golf is the score you put on the board. You don't have to look pretty out there, you have to win. Look at my record and tell me who has a better swing than mine." Lee Trevino

"Golf is a good walk spoiled." Mark Twain

"It is good sportsmanship to not pick up lost golf balls while they are still rolling." Mark Twain

"A golfer's diet: Live on greens as much as possible." Author Unknown

"My body is here, but my mind has already teed off." Author Unknown

"Golf is a lot of walking, broken up by disappointment and bad arithmetic." Author Unknown

"Gone golfin' ... be back dark thirty." Author Unknown

"Born to golf. Forced to work." Author Unknown

"To some golfers, the greatest handicap is the ability to add correctly." Author Unknown

"Golf is harder than baseball. In golf, you have to play your foul balls." Author Unknown

"Golf can best be defined as an endless series of tragedies obscured by the occasional miracle." Author Unknown

"Real golfers don't cry when they line up their fourth putt." Author Unknown

"Fifty years ago, 100 white men chasing one black man across a field was called the Ku Klux Klan. Today it's called the PGA Tour." Author Unknown

"I've spent most of my life golfing the rest I've just wasted." Author Unknown

"When I die, bury me on the golf course so my husband will visit." Author Unknown

"May thy ball lie in green pastures ... and not in still waters." Author Unknown

"If I hit it right, it's a slice. If I hit it left, it's a hook. If I hit it straight, it's a miracle."
Author Unknown

"In primitive society, when native tribes beat the ground with clubs and yelled, it was called witchcraft; today, in civilized society, it is called golf." Author Unknown

"Man blames fate for other accidents, but feels personally responsible when he makes a hole in one." Author Unknown

"Golf is a game invented by the same people who think music comes out of a bagpipe." Author Unknown

"Real golfers have 2 handicaps: one for bragging and one for betting." Author Unknown

"Golf is life. If you can't take golf, you can't take life." Author Unknown

"The greatest sound in golf is the Wosh, Wosh, Wosh, of your opponents club as he hurls it across the fairway." Author Unknown

"Golf is an easy game...It's just hard to play." Author Unknown

"A "gimme" can best be defined as an agreement between two golfers, neither of whom can putt very well." Author Unknown

"Gimme: an agreement between two losers who can't quit." Author Unknown
"Drive for show, Putt for dough, Shank for comic relief." Author Unknown

"Real golfers know how to count over five, when they have a bad hole." Author Unknown

"Real golfers don't miss putts, they get robbed." Author Unknown

"In golf as in life, it's the follow through that makes the difference." Author Unknown

"Golf is like marbles for adults" Author Unknown

"I wish I could play my normal game...just once." Author Unknown

"If there is any larceny in man, golf will bring it out." Author Unknown

"If you find you do not mind playing golf in the rain, the snow, even during a hurricane, here's a valuable tip: your life is in trouble." Author Unknown

"Golfers who try to make everything perfect before taking the shot rarely make a perfect shot." Author Unknown

"The term 'mulligan' is really a contraction of the phrase 'maul it again.'" Author Unknown

"An interesting thing about golf is that no matter how badly you play; it is always possible to get worse." Author Unknown

"If your best shots are the practice swing and the "gimme Putt", you might wish to reconsider this game." Author Unknown

"Achieving a certain level of success in golf is only important if you can finally enjoy the level you've reached after you've reached it." Author Unknown

"Golf is the only sport where the most feared opponent is you." Author Unknown

"Golf is like marriage: If you take yourself too seriously it won't work... and both are expensive." Author Unknown

"In Africa some of the native tribes have a custom of beating the ground with clubs and uttering spine chilling cries. Anthropologists call this a form of self expression. In America we call it golf." Author Unknown

"In golf, some people tend to get confused with all the numbers... they shoot a "six," yell "fore" and write "five". Author Unknown

"If you find yourself pleased that you locate more balls in the rough than you actually have lost, your focus is totally wrong and your personality might not be right for golf...it is also just a matter of time before the IRS investigates your business." Author Unknown

"Swing easy. Hit hard." Author Unknown

"Why is it twice as difficult to hit a ball over water than sand?" Author Unknown

"Golf! You hit down to make the ball go up. You swing left and the ball goes right. The lowest score wins. And on top of that, the winner buys the drinks." Author Unknown

“The sport of choice for the urban poor is basketball. The sport of choice for maintenance level employees is bowling. The sport of choice for front-line workers is football. The sport of choice for supervisors is baseball. The sport of choice for middle management is tennis. The sport of choice for corporate officers is golf. Conclusion: The higher you are in the corporate structure, the smaller your balls become.” Author Unknown

“The golf swing is like a suitcase into which we are trying to pack one too many things.” John Updike

“Golf appeals to the idiot in us and the child. Just how childlike golf players become is proven by their frequent inability to count past five.” John Updike

“The swing is never learned. It's remembered.” Bagger Vance, The Legend of Bagger Vance: A Novel of Golf and the Game of Life, by Steven Pressfield

“If your opponent is playing several shots in vain attempts to extricate himself from a bunker, do not stand near him and audibly count his strokes. It would be justifiable homicide if he wound up his pitiable exhibition by applying his niblick to your head.” Harry Vardon

“Don't play too much golf. Two rounds a day are plenty.” Harry Vardon

“You can't make good scores happen. You've got to let it happen.” Ken Venturi

“Victory is everything. You can spend the money, but you can never spend the memories.” Ken Venturi

“Art said he wanted to get more distance. I told him to hit it and run backward.” Ken Venturi, on Art Rosenbaum

“I think golfers get over-concerned about results. Enjoy the process: enjoy the opportunity to play.” Wendy Ward

“A lot of guys who have never choked, have never been in the position to do so.” Tom Watson

“The person I fear most in the last two rounds is myself.” Tom Watson

“The uglier a man's legs are, the better he plays golf. It's almost a law.” H.G. Wells, Bealby, 1915

“There's an old saying, 'It's a poor craftsman who blames his tools.' It's usually the player who misses those three-footers, not the putter.” Kathy Whitworth

"In golf as in life, it's the follow through that makes the difference." Ben Wicks

"If you want to beat someone out on the golf course, just get him mad." Dave Williams

"Golf is a game where white men can dress up as black pimps and get away with it." Robin Williams, 1986

"You can't lose an old golf ball." John Willis

"Golf is an ineffectual attempt to put an elusive ball into an obscure hole with implements ill-adapted to the purpose." Woodrow Wilson

"Golf is a game in which one endeavors to control a ball with implements ill adapted for the purpose." Woodrow Wilson

"Golf without Jones would be like France without Paris -- leaderless, lightless and lonely." Herbert Warren Wind, about Bobby Jones

"Golf, like the measles, should be caught young, for, if postponed to riper years, the results may be serious." P.G. Wodehouse, A Mixed Threesome, 1922

"The only way of really finding out a man's character is to play golf with him."
P.G. Wodehouse

"He enjoys that perfect peace, that peace beyond all understanding, which comes at its maximum only to the man who has given up golf." P.G. Wodehouse

"After all, golf is only a game," said Millicent. Women say these things without thinking. It does not mean that there is a kink in their character. They simply don't realize that they are saying." P.G. Wodehouse, Order by Golf, 1922

"The least thing upset him on the links. He missed short putts because of the uproar of butterflies in the adjoining meadows." P.G. Wodehouse

"I love to play to win." Tiger Woods

"I am the toughest golfer mentally." Tiger Woods

"A golfer should never make a mental mistake because the ball is just sitting there waiting for you to hit it." Tiger Woods

"I believe that my creative mind is my greatest weapon." Tiger Woods

"You ever go up to the tee and say, 'Don't hit it left, don't hit it right'? That's your conscious mind. My body knows how to play golf. I've trained it to do that. It's just a matter of keeping my conscious mind out of it." Tiger Woods

"Tiger, come on now, you've still got work to do. This round and golf tournament are not over. Hang in there and finish the race." Tiger Woods (1997 Masters)

"Never beat yourself up, because there are plenty of people that will do it for you." Tiger Woods

"My mother's a Buddhist. In Buddhism, if you want to achieve enlightenment, you have to do it through meditation and self-improvement through the mind. That's something she's passed on to me: to be able to calm myself down and use my mind as my main asset." Tiger Woods

"I get to play golf for a living. What more can you ask for - getting paid for doing what you love." Tiger Woods

"As far as golf, one of the things my dad kept instilling in me was the joy of the game. He made it fun for me. A lot of the times I see a lot of the kids, they don't enjoy being out there and that's a shame, you're supposed to enjoy the game, it's a game, ultimately." Tiger Woods

"I don't know if I even have an aura, man. I just try to win." Tiger Woods

"My dad has always taught me these words: care and share. That's why we put on clinics. The only thing I can do is try to give back. If it works, it works." Tiger Woods

"I didn't hit one ball like that on the range." Tiger to Steve 1st hole final round 2004 PGA

"Hockey is a sport for white men. Basketball is a sport for black men. Golf is a sport for white men dressed like black pimps." Tiger Woods

"Life's too short to spend all the time in the gym. I just like to have a few beers and enjoy myself too." Ian Woosnam after he beat Colin Montgomerie in the Cisco World Matchplay at Wentworth, October 2001

"It's a torture chamber, if we had to play it every day I don't think I'd be playing golf." Ian Woosnam

"Golf is a day spent in a round of strenuous idleness." William Wordsworth

"When I play my best golf, I feel as if I'm in a fog, standing back watching the earth in orbit with a golf club in my hands." Mickey Wright

"Nobody in pro golf reads the money list better than ex-wives." The main character in Dan Jenkins novel The Money-Whipped Steer-Job Three-Jack Give-Up Artist

"You're looking up. That's your problem." Graffiti on the underside of the roof of cart 47 at Sea Scape Golf Course, Kitty Hawk, North Carolina

"Even God has to practice his putting." Golf Saying

"If a man comes home with sand in his cuffs and cockleburs in his pants, don't ask him what he shot." Golf Saying

"Golf is, in part, a game; but only in part. It is also in part a religion, a fever, a vice, a mirage, a frenzy, a fear, an abscess, a joy, a thrill, a pest, a disease, an uplift, a brooding, a melancholy, a dream of yesterday, and a hope for tomorrow." New York Tribune (1916)

"Here's to the man with club in hand. Here's to the king of bogey land; Here's to the clubs with outlandish names, And here's to golf, the game of games!" The Father Gander Golf Book (1909)

"If you fozzle with your cleek, And your putts are let's say—weak. If your drives, for all to see, Do not always leave the tee. And to slice them is a habit, If, in short, you're a rabbit. Do not put your clubs away. Drink a Guinness every day." Guinness advertisement

"Golf seems to me an arduous way to go for a walk. I prefer to take the dogs out." Princess Anne of Great Britain

"One of the reasons Arnie [Arnold Palmer] is playing so well is that, before each tee-shot, his wife takes out his balls and kisses them.....Oh my God, what have I just said?" (USTV Commentator)