

# HOW BUBBA GOLF CAN WORK FOR YOU

*The six things you can learn from Bubba's historic Masters win*

→ **IT WAS THE VICTORY** the fans wanted and it had been coming for some time. Bubba Watson's performances on the PGA Tour were becoming more and more consistent, notching up wins along the way and contending in progressively bigger events. Augusta National, a course with little rough and a demand for shaping the ball from right-to-left, was a course that set up well for Watson so his win shouldn't have come as too much of a surprise. Here, Adrian Fryer highlights the six things you can take from his memorable Masters win.

## 1. GRIP IS KING

Watson adopts a very neutral grip on the club. This allows him to create sufficient leverage for power and speed; it also is a hold that allows you to control the clubface. He wouldn't be able to shape the ball the way he does with an excessively strong or weak grip.

## 2. BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

Like Jim Furyk, Bubba has the belief in his unusual method and doesn't feel the need to conform or change. It works for him, so why should he do what everybody else does? Don't feel like you

**Bubba on his unique style:** "I just play the game like Seve played. He hit unbelievable shots. I always attack. I don't like to go to the centre of the greens. I want to hit the incredible shot; who doesn't? That's why we play the game of golf. I can hit it straight. It's just it's easier to see curves, get the ball working towards the hole."

have to conform to a certain swing style. Find what works and stick with it.

## 3. GOLF SCIENCE

Remember the ball doesn't know who's on the end of the club. Although Watson's action may appear unorthodox, what the club does to the ball isn't, in terms of its journey through impact. Remember the ball responds to physics: the path of the club, clubface angle, direction, angle of attack, centred strike and speed.

## 4. SEEING THE SHOT

Watson can see his shots so vividly. He saw the 40-yard hook in the play-off before even arriving at his ball. His mind is not cluttered with technical thoughts, his mind is driven more by

the target and required shot-shape. Your results will improve if you see the shot in your mind before playing it.

## 5. EDUCATE YOUR HANDS

Shaping the ball as much as Bubba does requires a great understanding of what the clubface is doing and how the hands influence that. Go to the range and try hitting 50-yard draws and fades like Bubba to gain a greater understanding of the role of the hands.

## 6. PUTTING WELL IS KEY

Watson hits a long ball but he still had to get the ball in the hole. It doesn't matter who you are, good putting is crucial if you're going to shoot low scores. He holed some crucial putts down the stretch to gain an advantage.

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