



GOLF IS NOT THE EASIEST GAME!®

by Dan Pemble, Kissimmee, Florida – July 23, 2025

I played my very first round of golf in the early 1970's. As I learned early on and I know well today, golf is not an easy game! In fact, as can be observed on our TV's during major tournaments, even the top professionals in the world have their good and bad days! So, what is the purpose of this article? Although I accepted long ago that I would never be anything more than a "casual golfer", I just wanted to share a few pertinent thoughts with YOU!

-If you are just starting out in the game, DO NOT DEPEND ON FRIENDS to teach you the basics! If you are truly serious about learning the game, spend a few bucks and get proven and long-established tips from a local club PGA/USGA-certified teaching professional! The consequence of not learning the basics from a professional is that you will permanently get locked in on some "bad habits"!

-After you have received some lessons from a Pro, it is time to put the "fundamentals" to the test! When you finally get out on the course and play your very first round, you will get a handful of good shots! It is this very first-time experience of these good shots that make you realize what it feels like to properly hit a golf ball and this, as is the case with many who are new to the game, is what truly gets you "hooked on the game" and motivates you to play many more rounds towards achieving continuous improvement!

-Once you start playing golf on a regular basis, you will soon understand that the game can be both fun & rewarding, as well as very frustrating – precisely as the professionals experience their own ups and downs!

-It's important to keep in mind that playing golf should simply be enjoyed – no matter how good or bad you play! "Casual golfers" should accept their limitations and after an errant shot need to refrain from exhibitions of temper tantrums and yelling profanities for playing partners to see and hear! Such outbursts will never enhance the perpetrator's play; in fact, it may only further diminish his/her level of play during subsequent shots! Oh yes, keeping a cool head during a round of golf can be a challenge but will make you play & feel better in the long run!

So, am I an excellent golfer or a "sports phycologist"? Neither! I just thought that some of these words could be of use to YOU! Just enjoy the game of golf – whatever it takes!

