

September 2010

# GrandRapidsGolfLesson.com

## Quotes of The Month:

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

~ **Sam Snead**

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

~ **George Brett**

2009 Golfer of the Year  
**Mike Franz**

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**It's playoff time!** If you can't get excited about September, check and be sure you can still *fog* a mirror.

September has always been my favorite month for golf. It helps that I've always played my best during September. September is when all the work you put in over the summer finally comes together for some great rounds.

## Playoff Success Favors The

**Bold-** Too many people attribute high-performing golfers' successes and achievements to the *wrong* sources.

Only a small percent of PGA Tour Members success is tied to inheritance. There are **far** more "made from scratch" tour winners than those born into the Lucky Sperm Club. Most of whom practice a new swing position, **stumble, fail, re-start, risk, invest in instruction and work** very hard to create the velocity that ultimately propels them to their very visible and, by many, *envied* 'lifestyles of the PGA Tour elite.' Take Charlie Hoffman for example. Winning in week #2 of the play-offs. The bold long hair, green pants and WM logo. The same guy who once missed 15 straight cuts on the Nationwide Tour - having to borrow \$2,000 to continue playing a few more weeks. When someone is "in the right place at the right time" it's usually the result of having been in the **wrong** place at the **wrong** time a lot! The real causes of most success on the golf course are bold thinking, bold ideas, and bold action. Three things available to anyone.

## The Biggest Success Secret of All Time-

I want to talk with you about what is perhaps the greatest success *commonality* and the greatest success *characteristic* that spans all eras. You will find it heavily riddled through Napoleon Hill's work going all the way back to the 1930's and before. You will find it in today's playoff leaders and I am convinced we will find it in the next century's best golfers.

For those of you that survived the 60's and 70's with enough coherence left to follow the 80's, you could probably all agree that Regan did an amazing job under crisis.

Yes...the greatest success characteristic is the ability to **handle crisis**.

This characteristic if you think about it is common of all super successful people - super successful pro athletes, super successful coaches, super successful business people, super successful sales people.

Who succeeds best in golf? The person who does it the **same** way whether it's immediately after having won a major championship or having lost a major championship due to a controversial ruling - the person who's performance doesn't deviate.

It's an ability to recover from adversity so rapidly that the observer does-

I get the “but I don’t know what to do first” and “I’m just overwhelmed” whining a lot.

n't notice the recovery. You'll find that in all of the training in the Napoleon Hill books. You'll find that in just about anybody's book you want to open up, about any texts, any material, about being successful you're going to find a discussion of the necessity to overcome adversity.

Why?

Because everybody fails on their way to success. It happens. Try to find a highly successful person who hasn't actually had more failures than they've had successes. Try and find one. You won't.

Congratulations to Dustin Johnson on winning week #3 of the playoffs after overcoming the crisis at Whistling Straights.

## Better Golf Instruction-

**Back To School:**

**8:05AM.** <http://tinyurl.com/34fumc8> Orientation Class is now in session.

**What To Do On Your First Day**

**Back To School:**

Some people claim their paralysis is MY fault. I get the “but I don’t know what to do first” and “I’m just overwhelmed” whining a lot. As if there was some neat, orderly, 1-2-3, follow the footprints on the floor path to the PGA Tour. Nuts. Success is a mess; simultaneous not sequential and massive action; starting many practice routines and having some pan out, *egg* on face and *bloodied* nose, fumbling in the dark; motion not meditation. There is no straight line in the opposite direction to quickly connect two points. The line zigs and zags and you can’t zig or zag

if you’re standing still. Most days I don’t know where to start. I just start by doing **something**. Hit a few wedges, work my way into bigger swings, discover what the ball flight is doing that day, work on the usual drills, correct the ball flight errors, make a mess and then paste everything together. Sure, organized effort is better than chaos, but any effort is better than no effort. You can over-think things. In golf it is the biggest sin: over-thinking the swing instead of just swinging.

**9:05AM.** <http://tinyurl.com/34fumc8> Statistics Class is now in session.

Quiz Question for the end of today’s class. What do you know now (about your golf game) that you didn’t know when you started out this morning?

**Erase 2.5 Strokes Per Round:**

Quite possibly the easiest way to decrease your scoring average by 2.5 strokes per round! Recent studies at PGA Tour Superstore World Amateur Handicap Championship found that 53% of all putts were from six feet or less. What putts do you want to practice? Think about this. If you are a typical golfer, you take **33** putts per round. That means that 17.5 of them are inside 6 feet. As an average player you typically make 60% of all your putts inside 6 feet. That means that you make 10.5 putts per round and miss 7 putts per round inside 6 feet. If we increased your percent made to 75% you would make 13 putts per round and miss only 4.5 putts per round. That alone would decrease your score by 2.5 strokes per round! Here are some tricks to help you make more putts inside of 6 feet.

1. Set up with a posture position that



allows your eyes to be **over** the ball. This is a variable. Some players have more... to get the rest of this article along with the alignment and putter face rotation secret just be one of the first 19 responders with \$2 S&H and I'll send you the hard copy of the article and exhibits. Why only 19? Because my bozo printer goofed up and made an extra 19 copies of the Exhibit page. What else was I going to do with those copies?

**10:05AM.** [tinyurl.com/34fumc8](http://tinyurl.com/34fumc8)  
Recess

**11:05AM.** [tinyurl.com/34fumc8](http://tinyurl.com/34fumc8)  
History Class is now in session

I was driving I-69; quite possibly Michigan's most desolate highway, on Sat. morning of 9-11. All of the sudden time seemed to stand still, no other cars were around but a few miles ahead. Everything became quiet. Speeding down the highway at 75 mph suddenly felt like we were not moving. I looked at the clock. The time was 9:11, the radio played a song along with background recordings from the events that unfolded 9 years ago. Never forget.

**12:05PM.** [tinyurl.com/34fumc8](http://tinyurl.com/34fumc8)  
Lunchtime and Recess. Maybe today that pretty girl from Science class will sit next to me and share her fruit roll up.

**1:35PM.** <http://tinyurl.com/34fumc8>  
"That's for me" Implementation Class is now in session. Afternoon session is reserved for Golf Improvement Members Only. Upgrade to the Silver Golf Improvement Membership for less than dinner at Applebee's and enjoy the member

benefits plus \$53 savings per hour of private coaching.

**Golf Success By Brail-** Okay, you have all been asking how I play, so here it is. My game is best summed up by "It's a good thing he teaches better than he plays". Here is my story.

I started with some old Haig Ultra clubs that were three times too heavy and six inches too long for me. Add to that a plaid golf bag with a shoulder strap that could cut through shoulder blades. It is a miracle I made it past year one. But press on I did.

For the next eight years, I beat my brains out trying to get good at golf. I would play between nine and 54 holes a day, plus an extra 15 hours of chipping and putting each week. And through *trial* and *error* I made it down to about a 3 handicap. That's correct, I have to admit, the one with all the training tools and correct ways to learn golf, learned by trial and error.

Then at 19 years of age, because of my choice in careers, I started to work with top instructors who helped me improve my swing. Although it was like starting over, this time around I was learning correctly, **without** *trial* and *error*, and as a result, I was able to get down to a zero handicap by only playing 54 holes a week and practicing my short game a few hours a week.

Now the good news for you is... you don't have to suffer through all the trial and error, because you landed on planet GrandRapidsGolfLesson.com and we sped up the learning curve for you! School is in session.

Never  
Forget

“The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard.”

## The Fun Section:

A man and his wife rushed into the dentist's office and the man told him that he needed to have a tooth pulled. He told the dentist that he had two buddies waiting to play golf and that they had a tee time in 30 minutes. He said he did not have time for the gums to numb so he wanted nothing for the pain. Just pull the tooth. The dentist was impressed with his bravery and his willingness to endure pain and asked the man "which tooth is it." The man turned to his wife and said, "Open your mouth, honey, and show him which one."

**Steven Wright's interesting thoughts.** He's the famously erudite scientist and comic who once said: "I woke up one morning and all of my stuff had been stolen and replaced by exact duplicates."

His mind sees things differently than most of us do, to our amazement and amusement. Here are some of his gems:

- \*If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
- \*Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
- \*Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.
- \*Hard work pays off in the future, laziness pays off now.
- \*I intend to live forever.....so far, so good.
- \*What happens if you get scared half to death twice?
- \*My mechanic told me, "I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder."

\*Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?

\*A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.

\*Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

\*The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.

\*To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.

\*The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard.

\*The colder the X-ray table, the more of your body is required to be on it.

\*If your car could travel at the speed of light, would your headlights work?

### Being Focused and Cool:

John Milton is the only man to achieve teacher certification by the Ladies Professional Golf Association.

But golf is only John's avocation. Dr. Milton is also the Kenan Chair of Computational Neuroscience at Claremont College, CA. In a recent study, he blended both passions to investigate the planning of expert golfers. Specifically, Dr. Milton and his colleagues compared the brain activity of expert and novice golfers during their pre-shot routines. The novices had overall more brain activity than experts, and this activity was located in more places in the brain. The findings led to the conclusion that "the fact that these difference are apparent before the golfer swings the club

suggests that the disparity between the quality of the performance lies at the level of organization of the neural networks during motor planning. " In other words, the experts were more task oriented and efficient in planning for execution. Put another way, when the heat is on, experts are focused and cool.

Source; Milton, J., & colleagues (2007).

### Rules Question of the Month:

In a handicap competition, if a player starts a round having declared a lower handicap, he shall be disqualified.

True or False.

Answer on the back page.

Check out the rules quizzes at [http://www.usga.org/RulesQuiz/rules\\_quizzes.html](http://www.usga.org/RulesQuiz/rules_quizzes.html)

**Many Thanks to all those who passed referrals this month:** David Korte, Nawara Brothers, Ann Busby and my friends at Google and Group Golfer.

### 1,000th Client Contest:

Congratulations to Roger Erbaugh of Erbaugh and Vanhooze Dental for winning the 1,000th client contest AND THE \$1,000 PRIZE!! And a special thanks to all the folks listed below who sent referrals during the 1,000th client contest. Each of you will receive notice of your reward shortly.

Susan Roberts, Dave Koch, Eric Delong, David Hales, Karl Huffman, Chad Rayborn, Tom Lovell, Bob Glupker, Darlene Cress, Doug Vandermeer, Kevin Vachon, Kris Anderson, Amanda Brand, Todd Smith, Linda Vogl, David Wattles, Kurt Kimball, Kurt Vandenbosch, Chris Nadeau, Mike Palasek, Phyllis Hagerty, Ann Busby, Eileen Haas, David Westphal, Keith Dierking, Deb White, Roger Perkins, Cassidy Bisher, Joe St. Martin, Tom Ziemer and David Korte.



### Renegade Golfer Update:

"With the instruction that you gave me I started out with a 12 handicap this summer and by the end of the summer I ended up with a 4 handicap in my league. Thank You." - **Tom Lovell, Hansen Collision, Grand Rapids**

"Thanks Scott. You are a great teacher. I will recommend you to all my golfing friends. I will also reinforce your positive teaching methods to my social studies method class at GVSU." - **Dick Cooley, Professor GVSU**

### Birthday Winner

This month's birthday winner is Gerry Colby. Gerry wins a free coaching session. Have an Oct. birthday? Please submit the day and month to [info@grandrapidsgolflesson.com](mailto:info@grandrapidsgolflesson.com) for contest eligibility.

### Scott's B-Day

Send Personalized Handwritten B-Day cards to me on Oct. 5th for less than \$1 in under 60 seconds. Go to [www.sendoutcards.com/pgatour](http://www.sendoutcards.com/pgatour) and click on "Click here to send a card" and I will buy your first card and pay for the postage! Follow Kode Bateman's audio instructions.



If this bloody stump isn't enough to scare you then next month's Halloween issue filled with golf goblins ought to do the trick.



### Schedule update

**2011 Golf Improvement Membership Launch:** 9:01 AM Oct. 1st. Call 616.802.4969 to be one of only 14 to receive special pricing on 2011 golf improvement memberships.

### Winter Coaching-

Champions Gate Indoor Golf will once

again be hosting my clients for indoor golf training. Expected to open around the first week of November.

### Play More Golf for Accountants & RE Agents:

Referral Success 202 is coming back to Grand Rapids and my friend Tim Green, a national speaker and top referral expert, has agreed to allow me to provide \$100 gifts to my accountant and RE agent friends for the Sept. 27th RS 202 event. Tim will be teaching you how to work less, play more golf and earn more \$\$ with Referrals For Life!! More info at [www.riofmi.com](http://www.riofmi.com)

Call me for a \$100 Gift to RS 202.

## The Back Page

Your Partner In Golf Success,

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Five Swings  
Guaranteed!!

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Rules Quiz Answer—  
False

Could it be that in waiting around to make something perfect we **never** get anything done? Therein lies my problem with the American School system. Never make a mistake they tell you. Wrong answers cause you to fail. I found this sickness prevalent with a past golf facility I worked with. They were always trying to make everything *perfect*. No flyers could get posted with grammar or spelling errors. Each piece had to be reviewed hundreds of times. Therefore nothing ever got done. Little business ever transacted. Owners bank account whittled away.

### Failure is an option!

POSTED BY WALDO WALDMAN ON AUGUST - 31 - 2010  
When I flew in combat, the risk of failure was always present. I could have an aircraft malfunction, mess up a critical maneuver, or even get shot down. Success was never guaranteed. Success never is.

The possibility of failing at something is a beautiful thing. It incites risk and even helps eliminate complacency. When something is at risk, fear, anxiety and doubt can result. But risk also forces you to stretch yourself and grow. It makes you train, focus, and contingency plan with a greater sense of discipline and attention to detail. And when you train, focus, and plan to the best of your ability, guess what normally results? Success.

Here's what else happens: you build **confidence, ability, experience, resilience** and most of all, **trust**, in the most important [wingman](#) you have in your life... yourself.

If you want to take your business or life to new heights, try something where there's a possibility you'll fail. Be willing to stretch yourself and push your personal envelope. Step outside your comfort zone. Perform in the face of fear.

Top Gun winners in life take-off and fly even when there is a chance they'll get shot at or fail. They face their fear, strap in, and fly the tough missions when others stay in the hangar of mediocrity. Winners prepare for failure and in doing so, avoid it. But winners also accept that they *may* fail, regardless of how much they prepare. They embrace failure as an opportunity to grow. So here's a question: When the tough missions come, what will you do?

Yes – failure is always an option. Just do your part to avoid it. And don't make it an option that chooses you.

Push it up!

Waldo

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