Articles and Tips - Don't Use All Golf Tips

Don't listen to every tip.

The tip of the month is to don't and I repeat don't listen to everything you here to help your golf game. I can't begin to tell you how many times a new student will come to me with a great new tip they heard on television or something they read in some publication. The problem here is if that correction or helpful tip does not apply it could make matters worse. Every individual is different and that is refreshing for me as a teacher. People have different body styles, personalities, mannerisms, athletic talent, and perception. I can promise that a thought that helps one student get the club in a better position at the top of the backswing or at impact can make the next student want to give up the game.

I have found over many years it is much better to teach each individual. As you can see on my recommended reading on the website, the only instruction books I recommend are by Hank Haney. The rest of the books that I recommend have a great story or they are on the mental part of the game. Hank used to say that every instructor that works at his facilities had to write down what they were working on in their own golf swing, put it in their pocket and never be allowed to teach a student what they are working on themselves. I think that is very accurate. Just think how many times a friend or so-called teacher has offered you advice on what works for them.

My advice to you is be careful what you read and apply. Reading and learning is great and over the past twenty years, I continue to learn every day about this game. But on the other hand, I am extremely careful what I say to each individual student. When I do my analysis of a students game, whether it be in their full swing or short game, I construct a concise plan on how to fix them. I will never just try this or that in a lesson. Someone who tries this or that will never get better. They may think a quick fix is the answer because it is new and it has not failed them, but let me assure you that a quick fix will go away quick. This is because they are adding one quick fix on top of another, and not really fixing the 'root' problem with their swing. If you truly fix your swing, you will not need any 'band aid' or 'quick' fixes. My goal when I teach, both at my onsite and my remote video lessons, is to truly improve your swing.

Great Golf, Neil Wilkins