

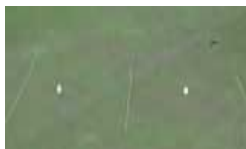
Articles and Tips - Lag Putting Drill



◀ The string drill is my preferred lag putting practice. For many years I have used this drill in my one day golf schools, summer junior programs, evening clinics, and individual putting lessons. It takes the hole out of the equation with a total focus on distance control. This drill will challenge all players from the rank beginner to a single digit handicap and will help keep the boredom out of your practice session.

I am not positive but I think that I learned this string drill years ago from a noted sports psychologist named Dr. David Cook, who is now at The Golf Academy at La Cantera.

This is how it works; you simply cut 5 or 6 pieces of string 3 feet long and lay them down on the practice green 3 feet apart.



◀ I like to start at about 20 feet, but you can do this from 60 feet. You can practice downhill or uphill. Get out a dozen balls and just try to roll them between the strings. Use your eyes and look and react to create feel for distance. Try to roll your first ball just over the very first string so that it stops between the first and second strings and then roll the second ball over the second string and so on. After you can master this, mix it up and putt to the last string, then to the first, then to the third and so on. If the ball stops between your target strings, the longest '2nd putt' you

will encounter will be 18 inches (imagining the hole located midway between the strings). Remember to use your eyes and look and react.

It is uncanny how good your direction control is when doing this drill and please take your mind off the line. Line bound putters tend to have poor distance. Loren Roberts told me once that he feels he can make a putt on any green if he hits it the right speed. He said that when he putts all he thinks about is the speed he rolls the ball ▶

