

Craig Lea is a PGA Advanced Pro and Head Elite Coach at Myerscough College & the University of Central Lancs.

IRONS PLOT YOUR ACCURACY

A drill to improve your precision from wedge through to mid-iron

THE ACCURACY OF YOUR approach shots is vital to your mindset on the course and how well you ultimately score. When faced with an approach shot inside 150 yards, we should be thinking about a precise shot at the pin or to a specific safe point on the green. Improving accuracy

and distance control will take a lot of pressure off other areas; you needn't have to hit long, straight drives off every tee to shorten your yardages to the green and you won't have to get up-and-down and hole long putts for par and bogey so often. Poor approach play can be tricky to identify and lead

you to focus on areas that don't require such urgent attention. For example, you might think you're a bad putter, but the truth may be you're leaving long and difficult putts because your approach shots aren't close enough. This drill will help you analyse the standard of your approach play.

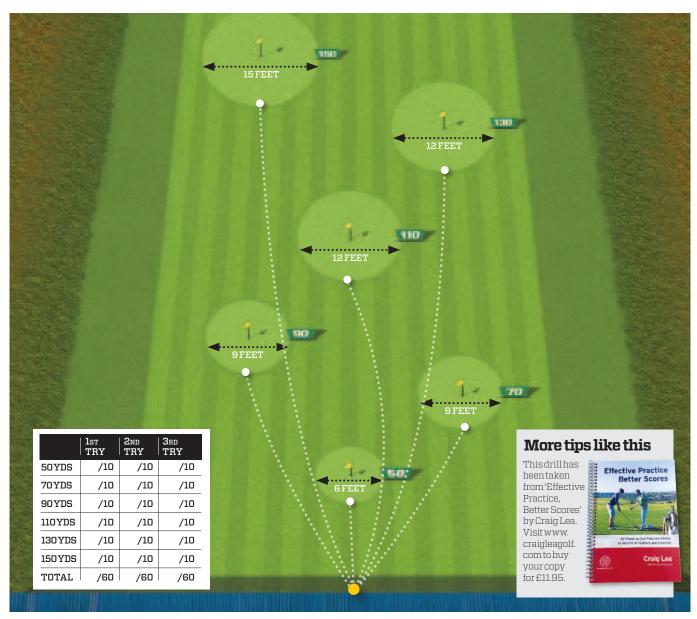


CHART YOUR ACCURACY & DISTANCE CONTROL WITH THIS SYSTEM

How it works

This drill is best done on a practice area or a quiet hole on the golf course where you can hit to relatively flat greens and walk out to collect your balls. Use whichever clubyou would take for that yardage to hit 10 golf

balls at the flag – preferably the same ball you use in competition. Collect your balls and award one point for every one that finished within the required distance of the hole.

Repeat this for all six yardages and record your points out of 60 in the

table above. Complete the 60 shots three times to give you an average score for each yardage, then set yourself goals for improvement in each area.

If you want to do this on a driving range, you can use targets on the

range as close as possible to the yardages. Remember, range balls will likely fly different distances than your competition balls and won't bounce and roll in the same way as on a green, but this will still enable you to monitor and improve your accuracy.