



September Tip 2007

Well the rains have finally ceased!! Two things come to mind immediately- long, nasty, gnarly rough and mosquitos. The latter is easily addressed with long pants and bug spray. The minimal discomfort of not wearing shorts will be offset by keeping the pests off your legs. It will also be an opportunity to experience golf like a professional- always in long pants!

But more importantly, playing the ball from abnormally long rough needs to be addressed. Full shots from off the fairway and short chips to the green present new issues for the golfer playing from excessive rough. Club selection is important. On full swing shots make sure you have enough loft to conservatively get the ball airborne. The swing plane should be steeper and perhaps even moving the ball back in the stance a few inches will force that change. Pick a target line that will get you to a manageable place. Firing at the pin may not be the best option if the green is heavily guarded.

When chipping from the rough it is **ESSENTIAL** you use a lofted club and preferably one with more bounce. Coming to the ball from a steeper angle will decrease the chances of the grass twisting or snagging the club face. Get your club head high on the backswing while keeping your hands low to achieve the steepest attack you are capable of. Popping the ball out of the rough will become much easier for you if you can practice and master this. Be prepared for an exaggerated rollout of the ball once it lands on the green as the spin will either be forward or none existent.

See you at the Mueller.