

# "Better Speed equals better putting"

Practice tips from Matt Gotto, PGA ~ Edgewater Golf Club

**W**hen practicing putting, the majority of your time should be focused on the speed of your putts rather than the line. Most 3-putts occur because we fail to get the first putt close to the hole and that is almost always because of speed. Players rarely miss the correct line by more than 2 or 3 feet, so why do we continually have putts longer than 2-3 feet for our second putt?

Having better speed control will not only help your 3-putts, but it will also help you make more breaking putts. When you pick a line on a breaking putt, you have to match the speed to the line. A putt hit too hard will result in a miss on the high side of the hole, and too soft will miss on the low side.



*Practice Drill #1*

## Practice Drill #1

When you go to the practice green, place balls at varying distances from the edge of the green. The goal is to try to putt each ball close to the edge of the green without rolling onto the fringe. Putting to the edge of the green will help to eliminate focusing on the line, and will help you dial in your speed.



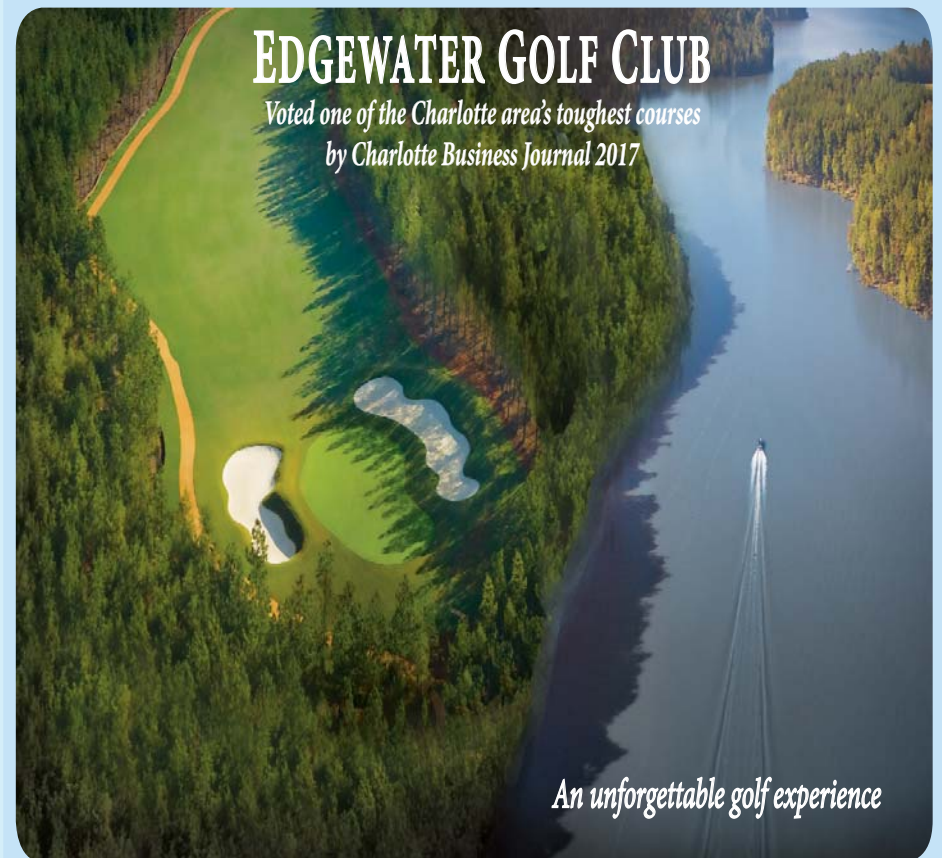
*Practice Drill #2*

## Practice Drill #2

Of course it is important to practice hitting putts on line, and when practicing, find a straight putt 3-5 feet long and see how many you can make in a row. This will do more than just improve your accuracy; it will also provide positive reinforcement by seeing a lot of balls go in. If you can make all straight putts from 3-5 feet, you will be able to get your ball started on the correct line for putts of any length.

For more help with your golf game, consult your local PGA Professional.

**Matt Gotto, PGA**  
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*Golf Advisor rates Edgewater*

Top 15 courses in S.C.

Top 25 value courses in U.S.

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**Championship course ~ Great customer service**  
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