

# COMMON CULPRITS

AROUND  
THE GREEN



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FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN'S GOLF GROUP



AROUND THE GREEN

# Common Faults

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*I am hitting  
my balls too  
hard?*

Usually when I hear this from my campers it is because they are hitting the ball thin, not too hard.

The short game is often referred to as the scoring game. It represents most of the strokes during a round of golf. Many players struggle with the short game. Let's change that.

# Setup Culprits



**NO**

Too far from the ball,  
or too close with too  
much knee flex.



**YES**

The club is shorter, so  
we stand taller and  
closer to the ball.



**NO**

Too wide or too much torso hang back.



**Low Point**  
Get consistent with a focus on **where the club bottoms out.**

**YES**

With the sternum ahead of the ball and more weight favoring the lead leg, this setup promotes a consistent low point.

# Takeaway Culprits



**NO**

Too inside or too vertical.



Players go off by initiating the takeaway with just the hands and arms.

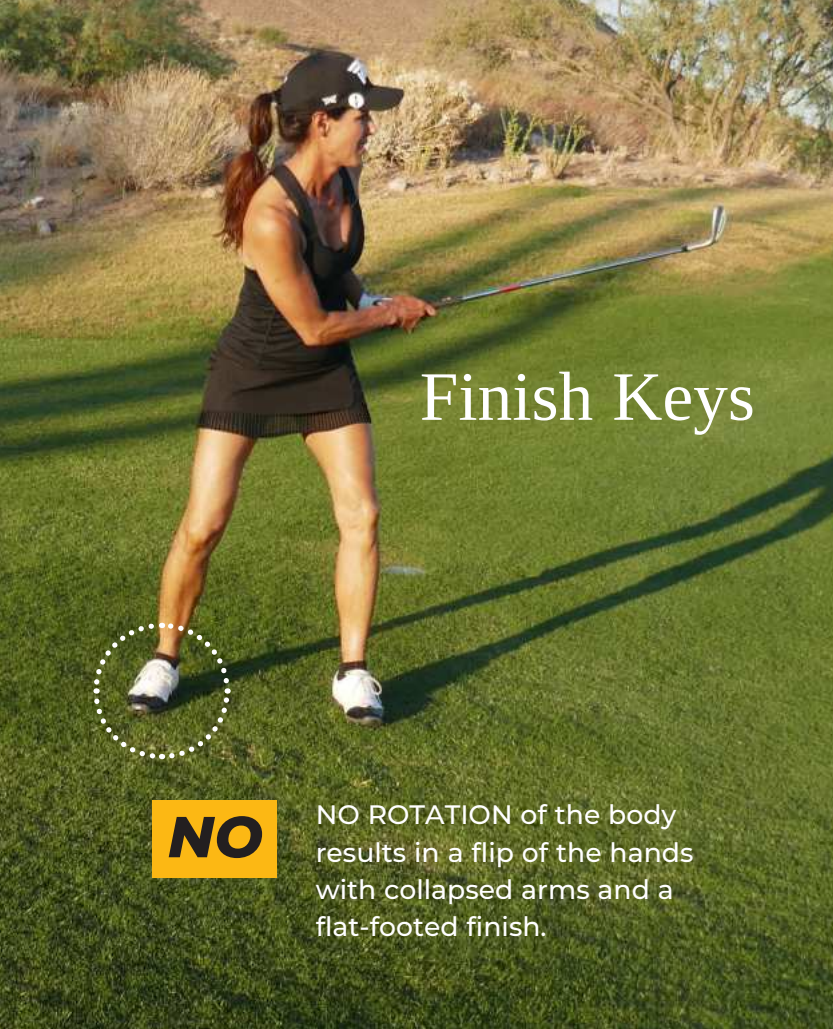


*The chest initiates the chip takeaway.*

**YES**

Upper arms are connected to chest. A slight rotation of the chest initiates the takeaway.

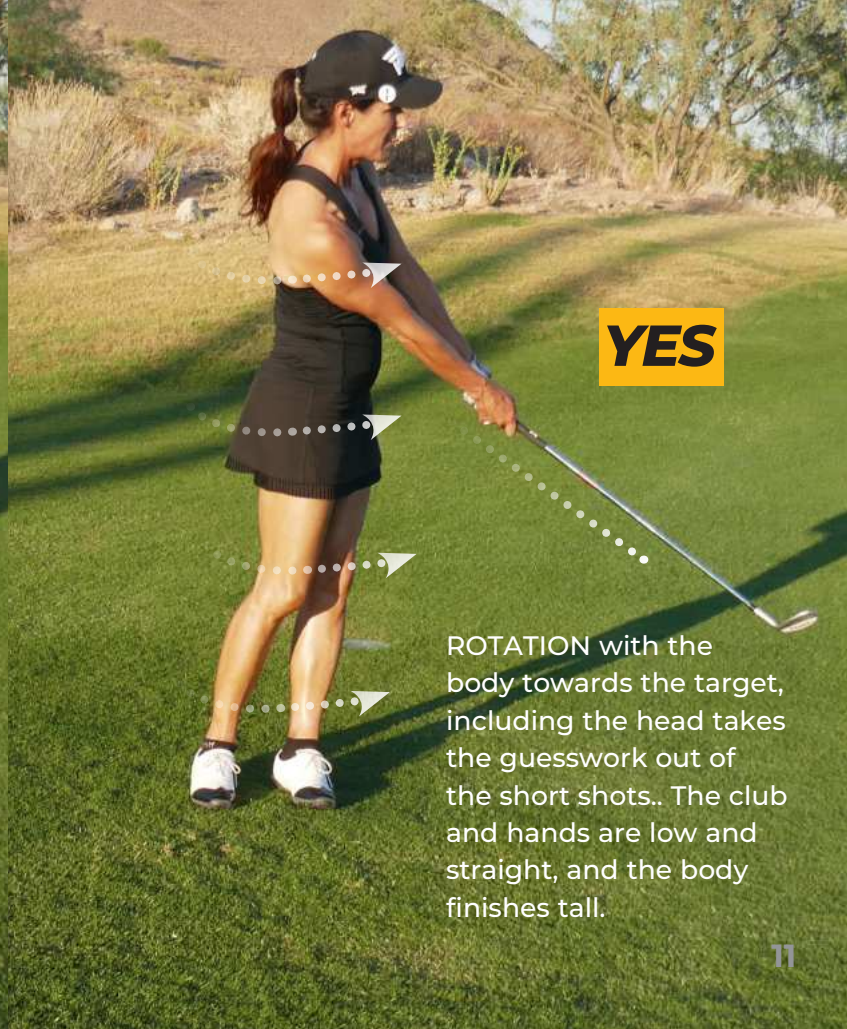
Club low and outside the hands and close to the thighs.



## Finish Keys

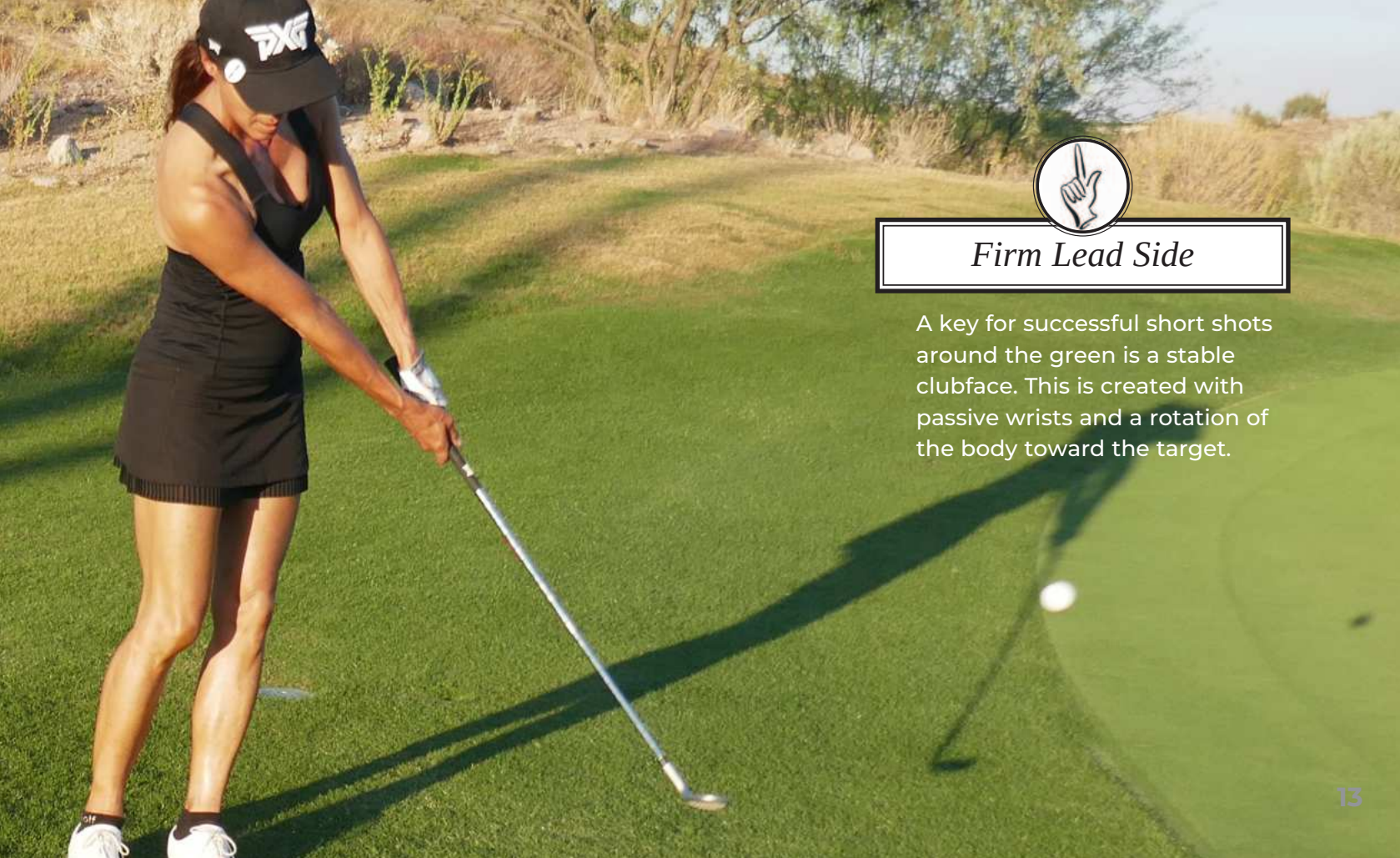
**NO**

NO ROTATION of the body results in a flip of the hands with collapsed arms and a flat-footed finish.



**YES**

ROTATION with the body towards the target, including the head takes the guesswork out of the short shots. The club and hands are low and straight, and the body finishes tall.



### *Firm Lead Side*

A key for successful short shots around the green is a stable clubface. This is created with passive wrists and a rotation of the body toward the target.



**NO**

A cupped lead wrist indicates a scoop or trying to help the ball get airborne. Instead, allow the rotation of the body and loft of the club to do all the work.

Players try to help the ball in the air and end up with more weight on the trail side, creating thin and fat shots.



**YES**

The magic to a consistent short game is body rotation. Rotate toward the target for more pars.





## *Dominant Hand*

When the wrists get over-active the dominant hand is typically the culprit. Focus on the lead arm making the strike, not the trail. The trail side is the dominant side.



# Slope Culprits

Many players are not clear how to play off slopes of any kind. The key to success is to work with the slope, not against it.

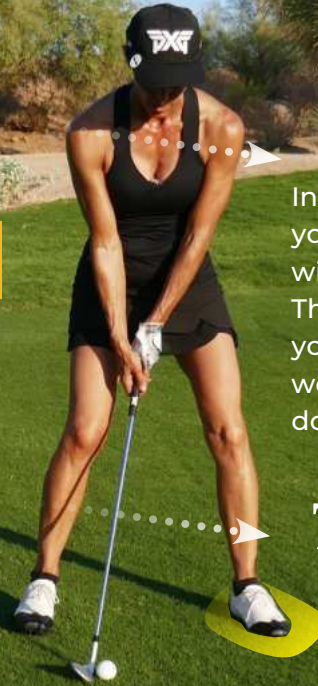
# Downslopes

**NO**



Leaning back on a downslope will create thin or fat shots.

**YES**



Instead, angle your body lines with the slope. This means you'll have more weight on the downhill leg.

70%

**YES**



Swing down the slope for success.



**NO**

Players try to scoop the ball up.



## What's Your Land Spot?

*Players go off by not allowing for the roll-out.* Once the ball lands, it will roll, so selecting a land spot to allow for this is key. Depending on the severity of the slope, oftentimes, this is off the green.

# Ball Below Feet



Common culprits with a ball below the feet include: poor alignment, standing too tall at setup, and popping out of the shot too early.

The ball will tend to have a left-to-right flight, so it is important to modify your alignment to accommodate this.



The key with a ball below the feet is to stay in your posture well past impact.

Scottsdale National  
*beautiful practice area*

**NO**

Body is positioned on the target line.



Target it  
this flag



*clubface is on the target*

*Players place their body on the target line. This is incorrect.*

**YES**

With a flat lie, clubface is positioned on the target line, but in this case, aim slightly left of the target line.



The ball will  
veer toward  
the angle of  
the slope, so  
adjust your  
alignment to  
accommodate  
for this.

*Body is parallel and left of the target line*



IT'S GOING TO BE A PARTEE!

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