Book helps golfers to talk a better game abroad

"Do You Speak Golf?" won't cure a hook or slice, but the pocket-sized book will help golfers talk a better game abroad.

It's the international golfers' language guide for Western Europe and North, Central and South America. English phrases are translated and accompanied by an easy-to-understand pronunciation guide.

With a golf club in one hand and the book in the other, players should be able to manage their way around the golf course, pro shop and clubhouse where Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, Dutch, German, French, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese are often spoken.

Admittedly, there will be much groping and stumbling when trying to ask such simple questions as "Do you accept tee times?" or "Is there a putting green or driving range handy?" No matter how easy the language reads, the switch to phonics probably will leave the listener puzzled.

It's worth a shot, though. Author Gregg M. Cox covers in each language these topics: basic conversation at the golf course or pro shop, paying, renting, golf equipment, clubs, golf terms, colors and numbers.

Cox came up with the book idea while stationed in Germany in the U. S. Armed Forces. He's working on a dictionary that adapts general terms from English to 50 other languages.

Novel cartoons by British artist Dennis D. Horan spice the text. Because "Fore" is understood universally, the word is missing from the list of common golf terms. It means "Duck" in any language.

Price is $7.95, plus $2 for shipping and handling. Mail orders should be addressed to Pandemic International Publishers, Inc., P. O. Box 61849, Vancouver, Wash. 98666 U.S.A.

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