example, say he selects a No. 5 iron from a set with a lie that is on the upright side. He gets a clear view of the sole line as he places it on the floor. He takes his normal stance and feels that his hands are higher than usual. Therefore, the remark that the club is too long.

The lie of a club has some influence on its length. For instance, take the average lie of a 43 in. driver, alter the sole so it is one deg. more upright. It will bring the grip end of the shaft 3/16 in. higher. A one-deg. flatter lie will lower the end of the shaft 3/16 in. A 37 in. No. 5 iron shaft will move 3/16 in. up or down if the sole lie is made 1 deg. more upright or flatter.

If your member is interested in new irons, show him a set with a slightly flatter lie. Let him hit some shots on the practice fairway or play the course with them. In dealing with you he has the advantage of trying out the clubs in addition to your help when alterations are necessary. After a member buys a new set and has played a few rounds, ask him how he is getting along. He may say that he is hitting well but is fading the No. 6 iron. Check the lie of this club and make it a little more upright as it may be too flat compared with the No. 5 in the set. A lie that is too flat will tend to fade the ball. If too upright, a hook will result.

Watch Him Hit

There are occasions, when fitting a player, when the sole lie looks perfect to you when he takes his stance. However, he comes back to you after several rounds and says his shots are going off to the right. Go out on the tee and watch him use the clubs. An extreme case, I noted in this respect, was a player whose hands came into the ball much higher on the downsing than at address — in addition he was up on both toes! ! This of course resulted in the toe of the club going into the turf and opening up the face. We made his entire set a little more upright.

The entire sole of woods and irons should not lie flat on the turf. All clubs should rest toward the heel. High speed photos reveal that all golfers’ hands come into the ball a little higher on the downswing than they were at the address. In addition, there is a slight downward bend in the shaft. These factors tend to lower the toe of the club.

Fit Clubs to Individual

We should consider a person’s likes and natural tendencies. There are cases when a player successfully uses a set with which you would not normally fit him judging from appearance. Have him indicate the club or clubs he likes best in his old set. Check the entire set for length, weight, swing-weight, lie, loft and face alignment on the woods. These measurements will definitely indicate to you why he likes certain clubs in the set. This information will give you a better idea of what to select from your stock for his inspection.

Certain golf club manufacturers have available printed data on the specifications for all the clubs they make. The companies vary a little on length, weight, swing weight, loft and lies. From these charts you may be able to suggest a brand or model that meets your member’s requirements and thus avoid making a major alteration or placing a special order with a manufacturer.

More Swing Weight

For most beginners I recommend a little more swing weight. It gives a player clubhead feel to develop a swing rather than hit at the ball with his hands.

As for the ladies, do not fit them too short on club lengths. They are inclined to stand more erect than men.

Know your stock. Check every set for swing weight, lie, loft, as well as face alignment of woods. With this information you are in a better position to select from your stock the needs of your customer. There is a variance between two or more sets, and sometimes within a set because of mass production of clubs.

Ease Caddie Age Minimum

The New York legislature recently lowered the minimum age for caddies from ’4 to 12 years. Under the new bill, sent to Governor Rockefeller for his signature, 12- and 13-year olds would be limited to a single bag and 36 holes a day. Written consent for kids of this age to caddie would be required from parents.

Too Much Slice

Due to a typographical error, Golfdom took a much larger slice out of Bob Rosburg’s driver than his clubmaker did. In the January issue (page 78) it was said that a 15 deg. loft was added to Rosburg’s No. 1 wood and accounted for part of his success in 1959. This should have read 5 degs. Quite a few pros, including Rosburg, called this error to our attention.