



Bill Hardy demonstrates some of the steps in Juniorizing golf clubs. (Left) He measures for length. (Center) Grip is applied. (Right), Shaft is cut off.

How Hardy 'Juniorizes' Clubs

Mechanics of the Cut-down

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Golf clubs that have become worn and outdated and that are turned in on new sets have little or no resale value to the pro.

Since golf is a family game, the old set can be adjusted for Junior members of the family. A golf professional can do this job at a cost that is far less than the price of a new set of Junior clubs. In nearly all cases the clubs must be made shorter.

Most of the old sets have grips that extend down the shaft 14 to 16 inches. We can cut 4, 5 or 6 inches off the end of these and still have enough grip remaining for the youngster's hands since he only needs about an 8-inch grip. Since the grip is tapered and the thicker portion is removed, the remainder is just right for the Junior player.

Cutting Down Procedure

To shorten clubs, secure the shaft in a vise and mark the section to be removed. Cut through the leather and underlisting and remove them from the shaft. Saw

through the shaft with a hacksaw. This will expose the open shaft and top of the grip. Plastic caps are available to be glued over the grip and cover the open shaft. The caps are bell-shaped and resemble the rubber tips on the end of walking sticks or canes.

If the old grips are badly worn they, of course, should be replaced. A fast and excellent job can be done with the Golf Pride Junior rib lock grips. Here, remove the old leather and listing down to the shaft. Cover the shaft the length of the new grip with Miracle Tape. Place a shaft-clamp on the shaft and secure in vise with the shaft toward you. Coat the tape with gasoline, also putting some inside the grip. Then work the grip over the shaft end and into place.

What It Costs

In most cases, the cost of shortening and re-gripping two woods and five irons should not exceed \$15.00. To shorten seven clubs costs about \$7.00.

If a full set of woods and irons are available, the Junior can use the adjusted No. 2 and No. 4 woods and 3-5-7-9 irons and putter. The balance of the set can

be adjusted when the youngster becomes taller.

If there are two Juniors in the family, the taller should use the adjusted No. 1 and No. 3 woods and 2-4-6-8 irons and wedge. The shorter one can use the No. 2 and No. 4 woods and 3-5-7-9 irons.

Here are suggested lengths for youngsters from 7 to 14:

Woods — Medium	Putter — 31½ in.
1 — 39 in.	Woods — Short
2 — 38½ "	1 — 36 in.
3 — 38 "	2 — 35½ "
4 — 37½ "	3 — 35 "
	4 — 34½ "

Irons — Medium	Irons — Short
2 — 36 in.	3 — 33½ in.
3 — 35½ "	5 — 32½ "
4 — 35 "	7 — 31½ "
5 — 34½ "	9 — 30½ "
6 — 34 "	Putter — 29½ in.
7 — 33½ "	
8 — 33 "	
9 — 32½ "	

Some Additional Tips

Leather grips can be softened by removing dirt and grease with a cloth saturated with alcohol or acetone. Follow up with an application of Lexol, Neats-foot oil or a similar substance.

Very little can be done to restore worn iron heads. However, a good cleaning and a filing out of the dents will improve their appearance.

The looks of wood heads can be improved by rubbing them down with steel wool and then applying a coat of varnish or lacquer. In severe cases, a coat of black lacquer will cover a multitude of sins.

In the process of shortening standard length clubs for Juniors, the swing weight is greatly reduced and the heads will not be too heavy for him to swing. Also, as the heads are larger than on regular junior clubs, the youngster has a much larger hitting surface.

Mickey in Hall of Fame

Mickey Wright recently was elected to the Ladies PGA Hall of Fame, joining other active players, Patty Berg, Louise Suggs, Betty Jameson and Betsy Rawls, who have been so honored in recent years. Election to the Hall of Fame topped off a great 1963 season for Mickey. She won 13 women's tournaments and more than \$31,000 in prize money. In an Associated Press poll she was named 1963 female athlete of the year.

Ladies PGA Tour Begins in March

To develop continuity of play, the 1964 Ladies PGA tour will begin in March rather than January, and last through Thanksgiving, according to Leonard F. Wirtz, tournament director.

"Even though the tour is starting later," Wirtz adds, "I believe that in 1964, our total prize money will surpass the all-time record of \$327,000 set last year."

The Women's Western Open at Scenic Hills CC, Pensacola, Fla. will start off the tour on Mar. 19-22 with \$7,500 in prizes. Two new tournaments, the \$7,500 Baton Rouge Ladies' Open and the \$12,500 Squirt Ladies' Open at St. Louis, Mo., have been added to the schedule.

Mar. 19-22—Women's Western Open, Scenic Hills CC, Pensacola, Fla. \$7,500

26-29—Open

Apr. 2-5—St. Petersburg (Fla.) Women's Open, Sunset CC, \$10,000

10-12—Baton Rouge (La.) Ladies' Open, Sherwood Forest CC, \$7,500

17-19—Peach Blossom Open, Spartanburg (S. C.) CC, \$7,500

23-26—Titleholders Championship, Augusta CC, Augusta, Ga. \$7,500 (minimum)

May 1-3—Civitan Open, Alexandria G&CC, Alexandria, La. \$8,000

8-10—Squirt Ladies' Open, Glen Echo CC, St. Louis, Mo. \$12,500

15-17—Civitan Open, Muskogee (Okla.) CC, \$8,000

21-24—Civitan Open, Glen Lakes CC, Dallas, Tex. \$12,500

29-31—Babe Zaharias Open, Beaumont (Tex.) CC, \$8,500

June 5-7—To be announced

12-14—Sponsor to be announced, Turf Valley CC, Ellicott City, Md. \$10,000

19-21—Lady Carling Eastern Open, Pleasant Valley CC, Worcester, Mass. \$10,000 (minimum)

26-28—To be announced