

GOLF DOCTOR

By Steven Verrier

Copyright © 2003 by Steven Verrier, All rights reserved.

ISBN 1-932404-41-4

CAUTION: Professionals and amateurs are hereby warned that this Work is subject to a royalty. This Work is fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America and all countries with which the United States has reciprocal copyright relations, whether through bilateral or multilateral treaties or otherwise, and including, but not limited to, all countries covered by the Pan-American Copyright Convention, the Universal Copyright Convention and the Berne Convention.

RIGHTS RESERVED: All rights to this Work are strictly reserved, including professional and amateur stage performance rights. Also reserved are: motion picture, recitation, lecturing, public reading, radio broadcasting, television, video or sound recording, all forms of mechanical or electronic reproduction, such as CD-ROM, CD-I, DVD, information and storage retrieval systems and photocopying, and the rights of translation into non-English languages.

PERFORMANCE RIGHTS AND ROYALTY PAYMENTS: All amateur and stock performance rights to this Work are controlled exclusively by Brooklyn Publishers, LLC. No amateur or stock production groups or individuals may perform this play without securing license and royalty arrangements in advance from Brooklyn Publishers, LLC. Questions concerning other rights should be addressed to Brooklyn Publishers, LLC. Royalty fees are subject to change without notice. Professional and stock fees will be set upon application in accordance with your producing circumstances. Any licensing requests and inquiries relating to amateur and stock (professional) performance rights should be addressed to Brooklyn Publishers, LLC.

Royalty of the required amount must be paid, whether the play is presented for charity or profit and whether or not admission is charged.

AUTHOR CREDIT: All groups or individuals receiving permission to produce this play must give the author(s) credit in any and all advertisement and publicity relating to the production of this play. The author's billing must appear directly below the title on a separate line where no other written matter appears. The name of the author(s) must be at least 50% as large as the title of the play. No person or entity may receive larger or more prominent credit than that which is given to the author(s).

PUBLISHER CREDIT: Whenever this play is produced, all programs, advertisements, flyers or other printed material must include the following notice:

Produced by special arrangement with Brooklyn Publishers, LLC

COPYING: Any unauthorized copying of this Work or excerpts from this Work is strictly forbidden by law. No part of this Work may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, by any means now known or yet to be invented, including photocopying or scanning, without prior permission from Brooklyn Publishers, LLC.

GOLF DOCTOR

by
Steven Verrier

JACK, male, and PRO, male or female, are on a golf course or practice range, with golfing equipment.

PRO: So ... how many times have you played?

JACK: Does miniature golf count?

PRO: No. I mean on a course.

JACK: Four, five times.

PRO: Recently?

JACK: I'd say the start of my career dates back a decade. I've played once every two or three years since then.

PRO: And putt-putt?

JACK: What what?

PRO: Putt-putt. Miniature golf. How many times have you played that?

JACK: Oh ... about once for each of the years I didn't get on a real course.

PRO: How did you do?

JACK: At miniature golf? Not so well. I have a tendency to overdrive.

PRO: *Overdrive?*

JACK: You know. Overshoot the green.

PRO: It's *all* green on a putt-putt course.

JACK: Not where I hit the ball. I did a little better on a longer course. Got a trophy, in fact.

PRO: Really? And you've played only ...

JACK: Yeah, five times. But it's not as good as it sounds. Everybody got a trophy. There was a fifty-dollar fee every entrant paid for the guarantee of winning a trophy. That's the only reason I played. There were about eighty people who forked over fifty bucks apiece, and every single one went home with a trophy. It said "Cedar City Open" on top and underneath it said "Outstanding Performance." Fooled the heck out of my co-workers. None of them knew every single player in the tournament was an "outstanding performer."

Truth was, we were as sorry a collection of golfers as anyone could possibly have assembled in one place.

PRO: And you'd like to correct a flaw in your swing now?

JACK: Well, actually, I'd like to learn how to golf. Start from the ground up. Once I *have* a swing we'll see if there's anything to correct.

PRO: Fair enough. Now, as you know, this is a free sample lesson with no obligations. We can work on anything you like – going from the ground up, as you say. And though you're under no obligation to continue, I suggest, if you're serious about learning to golf –

JACK: Oh, I am. I'm dead serious.

PRO: Then I suggest you set aside an hour or two – perhaps on Saturday afternoon like this – every week so we can work on bringing out the best in your game. Or we can arrange a more intensive schedule, if you prefer – say, two, three ... even four or five times a week.

JACK: Are you kidding? I can't come here four or five times a week.

PRO: Of course not. I'm sure you're very busy. How many times would you like to come?

JACK: Once.

PRO: Once a week will be –

JACK: Not once a *week*. *Once*.

(beat)

PRO: Once?

JACK: Once.

PRO: Just once?

JACK: That's all the time I have. Unless You don't give lessons on Sundays, do you?

PRO: No.

JACK: Then that's all the time I have.

(pause)

PRO: Just what do you hope to accomplish here ... once?

JACK: I told you. I want to learn to play golf.

PRO: In one lesson?

JACK: Well, like I said, that's all the time I have. **(pause)** Look, a few weeks ago some idiot at work decided it would be fun to organize a company golf tournament. Fine, I thought at the time, I'll just go and divot up the course and lose my usual hundred or so balls and be done with it. But then, just yesterday in fact, right before the end of work, Walter from Personnel said I was the heavy odds-on favorite to win the tournament. You see, when I won – or should I say *bought* – that trophy a few years ago, I kind of let it slip in the office. More than let it slip, actually. What I did was, I brought the trophy to work the Monday after the Cedar City Open ... and I guess I kept it on my desk for over a year after that. **(firmly)** Now, I never *said* I was a great golfer. I just kind of let my trophy speak for itself.

PRO: And now –

JACK: I find out everyone at work is expecting me to make like Tiger Woods. Why, doc, I'll suffer a major credibility blow, if not a few broken bones, if I don't at least break par.

PRO: I'm not a doctor, though I wish I were.

JACK: But your ad said –

PRO: I know. The *Golf Doctor*. That's merely an expression. **(scrutinizing JACK, whose desperation shows.)** Oh, all right, I'll be your doctor. You certainly can use one if you're serious about wanting to break par.

JACK: **(looking confused)** Why?

PRO: Do you realize what the chances are that a golfer with your experience will break par?

JACK: What's the big deal? I did it once in miniature golf.

(pause)

PRO: Well, you leveled with me. Let *me* level with *you*, Mr. ...

Thank you for reading this free excerpt from GOLF DOCTOR by Steven Verrier. For performance rights and/or a complete copy of the script, please contact us at:

Brooklyn Publishers, LLC

P.O. Box 248 • Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

Toll Free: 1-888-473-8521 • Fax (319) 368-8011

www.brookpub.com

Do Not Copy