



For over 40 years a Japanese club-maker has been quietly making high quality forged irons and very few people in this part of the world have ever heard of them.

The name is Miura and the company was founded by Mr. Katsuhiko Miura, a man now in his mid sixties who has been crafting forged irons for close to 50 years in the small town of Himeli, Japan.

Part of the reason that the name is not well known is that the company has manufactured primarily for Golf Equipment Manufacturers around the world but is now beginning to expand into North America, primarily through a network of club-makers, under the name Miura Golf Inc.

Forged irons and cast irons can be compared as follows. The cast iron process involves the converting of metal into its molten, liquid state, after which it is poured into a mold to form the

ironhead design. Forging involves pounding or compressing the metal, in its solid form, from which the ironhead is made into the desired shape - after which additional drilling and machining steps are necessary to complete the production.

While it is generally accepted that most golfers would not know the difference between a forged and cast iron, the percentage that do believe the forged iron will be 'softer in feel' because the carbon steel of a typical forging is comprised of a softer metal.

Miura, despite his age and his success, never stops improving his product.

With his latest series, the CB-301, Miura has redefined weight distribution by pulling the centre of gravity inward towards the hosel and

moving more weight out towards the toe. Each of which has a different effect on the iron.

The first makes the head close more rapidly and the second slows it down. By working with this ratio, Miura is able to control the way the club face closes. In other words, the club head squares more easily. By forging the head and the hosel separately he feels he has produced superior 'feel' and a perfectly balanced head.

Bill Holowaty, the North American VP, has been slowly developing the Miura brand awareness and says, "because the Miura process is not mass production, we are only able to bring a limited number of sets to the marketplace each year. This is why we work closely with selected club-fitters and club-makers in key North American markets. Our dealer network continues to expand. Although we have been

tech tip

ARE THERE GAPS IN YOUR BAG?



Master club designer, Katsuhiko Miura pursues perfection in a forged iron.

dealing primarily with club-fitters, we do have some green grass accounts."

In Ontario, Miura clubs can be purchased from Gord Smith at McMahon Golf in Markham or Grant Tayler of Tayler Golf in St. Catharines.

Miura irons have, in the past, been played by lower handicap players but the company, and Miura himself feel that all golfers can benefit from playing forged irons.

The reason, says Miura, "feedback and feel."

Find out more » miuragolf.com

Too many times we see someone try to gear down on a wedge from 110 yards or try to muscle a 3 iron over a hazard because of improper equipment.

Having the proper gaps covered in clubs will ensure that you have the opportunity to make as many full swing shots as possible during a round.

Ask yourself this question, Do I currently have multiple clubs in my bag that I hit the same distance?

In most cases you will have answered yes. This is because people have just purchased equipment without taking into consideration what they actually need. In plenty of cases you may not even need the 14 clubs allowed by the rules. The concept into building the proper set of clubs is to have a different yardage for all clubs.

PGA Tour Professionals have their clubs tweaked to allow for proper

gaps in between each club. They are concerned with how each club will carry and not with total distance. This is because carry ensures that all hazards can be avoided with a properly struck golf shot.

The majority have their clubs set for a 12 to 15 yard gap between each iron as this allows for the best full shot potential without over swinging.

At the Golf Performance Center we have the monitors to measure ball speed and carry distances to allow players to ensure they have a club for all yardages.

Mike Skimson
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