

R9 SUPERDEEP TP:

## For the Pure Player

By Ernest Pagnia

TAYLORMADE GOLF has released another new driver to the market, but this one isn't for everyone.

The new R9 SuperDeep TP is a pure player's driver, descended from the legendary 300 Tour and R510 TP.

### THE RUNDOWN

The R9 SuperDeep TP driver is engineered to promote a mid launch-angle and low spin-rate for strong swingers who tend to launch the ball too high and with too much spin with other drivers. The ultra-deep clubface (69.7mm tall) is the deepest of any TaylorMade driver ever, and the head height is equal to USGA limit. The head is also more compact from heel to toe than other drivers such as the R9 SuperTri and Burner SuperFast. This gives R9

SuperDeep TP a low moment of inertia (MOI) which, combined with its forward centre of gravity (CG) location, makes it more workable for players who like to shape their tee shots.

Its combination of a newly designed Flight Control Technology (FCT) sleeve, which is 38% lighter than the first-generation and Movable Weight Technology, gives a choice of 488 possible launch condition combinations. The R9 SuperDeep TP also comes equipped with Aldila's new R.I.P. graphite shaft with Reverse Interlaminar Placement technology, which delivers low torque while promoting increased hoop strength and increased tip stability.

Appearance-wise, the R9 SuperDeep TP does not disappoint. It features an all-black finish, including the clubface, and includes TaylorMade's famous TP logo on the toe as



well as comes with an all-black headcover with magnetic closure. The whole package is very reminiscent of its TP heritage.

This driver is designed for a select few who can generate a rare combination of high clubhead speed, high clubhead control and high smash factor. The R9 SuperDeep TP is designed for the most demanding players who want full control of their drivers.

COBRA BAFFLER RAIL FAIRWAY:

## Maximum Forgiveness

By Ernest Pagnia



**THE BAFFLER TECHNOLOGY** comes to fairway woods in an easy-to-hit, ultra-forgiving package. The large, shallow head has a low and deep center of gravity to produce higher launch conditions than most conventional fairway woods in the market today.

### THE RUNDOWN

Just like its hybrid brother, the Baffler fairway features a series of metal bars that extend along the sole of the clubhead, from clubface to the back of the club. The "rails" help the club to work through the grass and turf with the greatest of ease. It minimises clubhead resistance, allowing the clubhead to slide through and keep distance loss at a minimum when hitting from the rough.

The thin, high-strength 456 maraging steel clubface is designed to increase ball speed and distance. Cobra engineers strategically reposition 10% of the lost weight away from the clubface and position it low and back, for improved launch characteristics and an expanded sweet zone (9 Point Face Technology). The thin face of these fairway woods is made from steel and designed to increase ball speed to maximise distance. Given their low profile and elongated face, they are ideal for players who are looking for high-

flying, soft-landing shots. The Baffler fairway features a premium, high-performance Fujikura Motore shaft for optimum distance and control.

"Baffler hybrids have long been known for their exceptional forgiveness, control and versatility," says Brian Zender, General Manager and SVP of Cobra-PUMA Golf. "Our R&D team applied technology from our hybrid series to create the high performance Baffler fairway. This entirely new line will appeal to golfers looking for more forgiveness and control in their long approach shots, as the Baffler Rail Fairway is the highest-launching, easiest-to-hit fairway wood we've ever produced."

The Cobra Rail Fairway is available in 3-wood (15.5 degrees), 5-wood (18 degrees), and 7-wood (20 degrees) models with a Fujikura Motore graphite shaft (R-60g or S-60g flex) and a Lamkin grip. A women's model is available in 3-wood (18 degrees) 5-wood (20 degrees), and 7-wood (22 degrees) and Golf Pride grip.

SOLAIRE:

## Looks and Performance

By Ernest Pagnia

**WITH MORE AND MORE** women starting to pick up the game of golf, this golfing population has become the fastest growth market segment to date.

### THE RUNDOWN

**THE CALLAWAY SOLAIRE** is a 14-piece women's golf set that boasts innovative technology and the looks to cater to the ever-demanding women's market. One of the best things about the set is that it is not "patronising"; this remark meaning it is neither pink nor purple. The well-sculptured driver shows elegance and style. At the same time, it delivers maximum performance. It utilises an all-titanium construction that features lighter, draw-biased weighting that will help women find

more fairways off the tee, and with improved distance and higher launch conditions.

The irons, meanwhile, are considered the most forgiving stainless steel irons designed for women. These irons boasts a wide sole design that promotes consistent solid shots. With its low, deep center of gravity helps women to get the ball airborne quicker and easier. Resulting in easier playability and longer distance.

The center-shafted, mallet-designed putter is designed for easier alignment and improved putting accuracy. The milled face of the putter also enhances the feel and sound on every stroke. The center-shaft is ideal for beginners or occasional golfers, as it helps keep the clubface square through the putting stroke for improved accuracy. The white alignment stripe makes lining up putts easier.



# Vokey Design Spin Milled Wedge

By Ernest Paguia

**WEDGES ARE USED FOR** a wide variety of shots close to the green. Most players carry three wedges: the pitching wedge, the sand wedge, and either the gap/approach or the lob wedge. Some players carry four or five wedges. The choice of which wedges to use depends on the lie, the distance from the green, the situation, and the skill of the player with each club.

Key features of a wedge, in addition to loft, are shaft length, lie angle, and bounce angle. Additional features include sole design, grooves, and materials of construction. Soft materials like carbon steel, and nickel are commonly used for wedges in addition to softer grades of stainless steel.

Given the considerations above, it is useful to look for a range of wedges that address varied needs.

The Vokey line of wedges, created by master craftsman Bob Vokey, provides a full range

of lofts from 48 to 64 degrees with low, mid and full bounce sole options available in three distinct non-glare finishes: Tour Chrome, Oil Can, and Black Nickel. It is Tour-validated, having been made based on Bob's experience working with the best players in the world. Vokey Design wedges has been one of the players' choices on the PGA Tour since 2004.

## THE RUNDOWN

**Here is a snapshot of the features and qualities of the Vokey:**

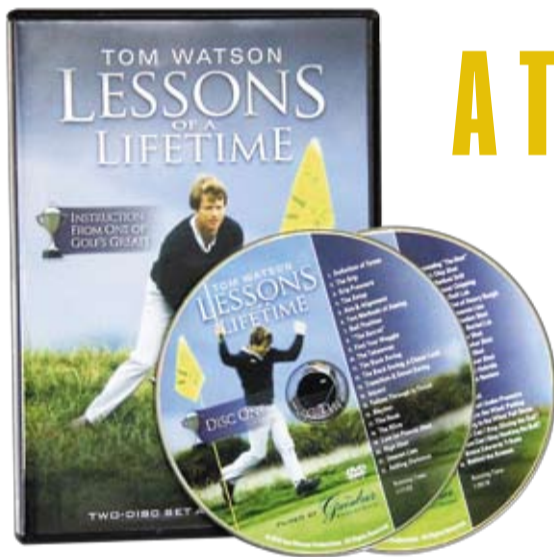
**Precise Shapes:** The profile for each wedge has been precisely created using CAD to perfectly blend the size, shape and offset from loft to loft.

**Hand Ground soles** - During the development process, each sole is hand ground

**Spin Milled Technology** - The face on each wedge is machined flat before the grooves



and the face texture are precisely milled. **Precision Milled Grooves** - A tighter edge radius and steeper draft angle with maximum depth provide 30% more groove volume. **Roughened Face Texture** - Milled micro-edges provide additional power for more spin, particularly on partial shots. **Soft 8620 Mild Carbon Steel** - Superior feel and sound for touch and distance control



LESSONS OF A LIFETIME:

## A Tom Watson legacy

By Baffie Balata

coincidentally comes just in time for two events that carry great significance in the beloved golfer's life—Father's Day and a U.S. Open being played at Pebble Beach Golf Links.

After all, when Tom was six years old he was given a cut-down, hickory-shafted 5-iron by his father, Ray, an accomplished amateur. Ray then showed Tom the grip, and how to hook and slice the ball—all the game's basic fundamentals. Tom Watson would grow up to win eight major championships, including the 1982 U.S. Open at Pebble Beach, when he improbably chipped in for birdie from deep rough behind the 71st green to key his victory over Jack Nicklaus, a shot many historians consider to be the shot of the 20th century. In fact, a recreated video and play-by-play of that famous chip-in welcomes visitors to his website.

**WE ARE NOT** at all surprised that World Golf Hall of Famer Tom Watson's comprehensive two-DVD set, "Tom Watson: Lessons Of A Lifetime," has reached 10,000 units sold in the first 6 weeks of its release.

The news of the milestone of the best-selling "Tom Watson: Lessons of a Lifetime"

The two-DVD set—filmed at the famous Greenbrier Resort located in White Sulphur Springs, WV, where Watson is the Golf Professional Emeritus—is the golfing superstar's first-ever instructional program and represents the culmination of more than 50 years of playing the game and learning from others.

The two-DVD set's approximately three hours of content provides the ultimate Tom Watson learning experience, covering all facets of the game—from the grip to full shots, to chipping, confident putting and effortless-looking drives, plus specialty shots including those required in strong wind conditions. Watson shares lessons learned from his childhood through competition, and gifts from the great teachers he has encountered. Watson—who has played with and against some of golf history's greatest players during his 38-year career—shares lessons he learned from his father and from longtime club professional Stan Thirsk, as well as many professional golfers such as Nicklaus, Lee Trevino, Sam Snead, Ben Hogan and Bryon Nelson.

The set is available at [www.tomwatsondvd.com](http://www.tomwatsondvd.com)

ROSSA GHOST PUTTERS:

## You'll love this ghost!

By NA Ramirez

**FINALLY HERE'S A PUTTER** that looks different from the rest of them. In addition to being easy to aim and easy to use to roll the ball down your intended line, its white putterhead stands out so clearly against the green or putting surface. It was designed with significant input from the hottest putting instructor in the world, Rossa Tour Staff professional Dave Stockton.

## THE RUNDOWN

The high contrast maximises stimulation to the retina and highlights the head's shape and features. The contrast would be lower if the putter were black or grey because these colours are closer in luminance to the colour of the putting green than white. White creates

the biggest difference in luminance, hence maximizing contrast and promoting focus. Many golfers use the leading edge of the putter as part of their alignment strategy (by positioning the edge perpendicular to the imagined target line). So, this high contrast for the leading edge gives the golfer the best chance of squaring up the putterface at address. Also, the lines on the top of the putter are painted black to achieve maximum contrast against the white surface of the putter. All of these high-contrast alignment elements give the golfer the best possible chance of accurately aiming the putter."

To make it even easier to aim putters in the Rossa Ghost series, engineers put three black alignment lines on the crown and a circular hole in the back of the putterhead, giving you different options to focus on to lock in your aim. You can focus on the topline to aim the putters, or you can focus on the alignment lines to visually connect the circular hole and your ball to lock in your aim. The point is that you've got options, each one highly effective."

Because the putterheads in the Rossa Ghost series is white, its three alignment options are easier to focus on and use. The Rossa Ghost putter's three alignment elements all have



high contrast against their backgrounds. This high contrast maximizes stimulation to the retina, which helps the golfer to focus and use these aiming features effectively.

You'll love this ghost.