



## **Preparing for the 2008 Season**

By Tom Simpson, Assistant PGA Pro

With spring just around the corner most of us cannot wait to dust off our clubs and hit the links. Maintaining the condition of your clubs and having the necessary essentials not only prepares you for the upcoming season, but could potentially improve your game. Here are a few easy tips:

First, clean the faces of your clubs, especially the grooves. All you need is a bucket of warm soapy water, a small scrub brush, and a towel. After cleaning off the face, do a quick examination of the head of the clubs. Check to see that the hosel (where the shaft enters the head of the club) is securely attached to the shaft. Make sure all pieces of the hosel are in tact and tight, as to keep moisture out.

Next, check the shaft to make sure there is no damage. Any dents or folds in the shaft could cause the shaft to break later on and could be very dangerous. Make sure there is no rusting or discoloration on the shaft.

Now check the grips of the clubs. According to GolfPride.com this is a very important step.

“Ozone, heat, dirt and oils from your hands all age your grips and cause the natural degradation of the grip. The traction that a fresh grip provides lets you hold the club lightly without the subconscious fear of losing the club during your swing.”

GolfPride.com also recommends that you change your grips once a year. It is also important to keep your grips fresh throughout the season. Simply scrub them down with a wet towel and a little soap. Wipe them off with a dry towel and leave them out to air dry. While all the clubs are out of the bag air drying, open the pockets of your golf bag

and clean them out. Anything that you don't need or don't use will only weigh you down out on the course. Here's a list of the essentials:

- Golf balls (only enough for 18 holes)
- Golf tees
- USGA Rules Book
- Sharpie
- Coin to mark the ball on the green
- Divot repair tool
- Extra clothing (weather dependent)

After following these simple steps you should be ready to start the golf season. If your clubs need any repairs please call our experienced staff at (314) 344-4448. We can re-shaft, re-grip, check lofts, lies, or even fit you for new clubs. Remember that our driving range is a great place to hone your skills for the coming season, and you can do it in comfort on cool days thanks to our heated tees.

**Crystal Springs Quarry Golf Club (314) 344-4448 Ext.1**  
**Crystal Springs Quarry Practice Range and Golf Center (314) 514-0154**  
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