

Face, Base and Pace

By Chris Holloway



The majority of amateur golfers I play with fear the sand traps. Once in the bunker, they only try to get the ball out! I have 3 tips to help you get the ball close to the hole from a greenside bunker: face, base and pace.

To be a good bunker player, you must understand how the club is designed. The sand wedge has an added feature on the sole of the club head called 'BOUNCE'. Find it on the back edge of the bottom of your sand wedge. You must use the bounce of the club to hit the sand and ball out of the bunker. Let's look at how to do this.



Face:

Open the club's face a few degrees before you grip the club. The club will now rest on the bounce with the clubface slightly to the right of the target.



Base:

Sink your feet into the sand with a stance a little bit wider than your shoulders. This will keep your lower body stable throughout the swing and also lower your center of gravity making it easier to hit the sand.

Pace:

The golf club **MUST** accelerate through the sand to get the ball out of the bunker. Make a high follow through to ensure the club has enough speed to get the sand and ball on to the green.



Remember Face, Base, Pace next time you're in a greenside bunker and you'll be out and on your way to great golf!