

# 'Year Of The Wedge' Offers Several Unique Options

BY REID NELSON  
Equipment Editor

While Tour players are still adjusting to the new groove rule that went into effect the first of this year, 99.9 percent of us amateurs are still playing with the sharp-edged square grooves that we've been using for years. What's more, we can continue to do so for more than a decade to come.

Golf's ruling bodies have decreed that the great percentage of golfers don't have to make the switch to the "new" grooves until 2024 or later. The exact date is still in limbo. But they have also ruled that manufacturers cannot produce clubs with the larger "square" grooves beyond 2010.

For that reason, one OEM, Cleveland Golf, has declared this the "Year of the Wedge" and is urging amateurs – at least those of us not planning to play in the U.S. Open anytime soon – to stock up on the same wedges we've gotten used to, the ones the USGA and R&A won't let the pros use anymore because they say they were making the game too easy.

Now, I don't know about you, but I have yet to run into anyone who has given up golf because the game got too easy. But regardless, the rule has been changed for the pros and, long-term, it's going to be changing for all of us. But we, the great mass of golfers, don't have to give in to the rule change

just yet. So why not stock up on wedges with the larger, sharper-edged grooves now, while they are still available?

If you've experimented with the new grooves, you probably can't come up with a good answer to that question.

Note, we are saying "new" grooves, not "V" grooves. The rule change DOES NOT mandate V-shaped grooves, as opposed to U-shaped grooves. Specifically, the rule change addresses groove volume and the radius of the groove edge. It does not address the overall shape, except to make illegal any groove with converging sides. That is, no groove can be wider at the bottom than it is at the top.

Why is volume important? For the same reason different tires have different tread patterns. An off-road tire, for example, has deep, wide tread to channel away mud, water and other debris. Similarly, golf clubs with larger grooves are capable of channeling away more grass and other debris than clubs with smaller grooves, allowing for greater contact with the club-face itself and thus providing

more grip and, obviously, more spin.

So if this is in fact the "Year of the Wedge" and you want to lay in a supply of scoring tools, the question becomes which ones to buy. To best answer that, each individual golfer must know and understand a combination of factors – factors that can become complex in their physics. But basically, the player must know something about his or her own game – the type of short-game shots most often played, angle of attack, etc. They must understand the playing characteristics of their home course – firm vs. soft, tight lies or lush? And most important, they must understand the mechanics of the wedge itself. What is "bounce?" How do I use it and how much or little do I need?

Obviously, we cannot answer these questions here for any golfer, much less all golfers. But we can recommend a couple of reference sources that will help answer a myriad of questions about golf's most lofted irons, as well as the rule change that is being phased in over the next decade-plus.

Likely the best source of all things "wedgy" is Eidolon Golf's website, [www.eidolon-golf.com](http://www.eidolon-golf.com). Once there, go to the free downloads tab and read "All About Wedges" and "The Spin Zone – The Real Truth About Grooves." Eidolon Golf makes nothing but wedges, so you can bet the company knows what it's talking about.

A second authoritative source when it comes to wedges is Scratch Golf, located on the web at [scratch-golf.com](http://scratch-golf.com). From the home page, click on "Custom Fitting" and read about the three basic swing types.

Then, go to "Tech Talk" and learn about grinds, grooves, bounce and more. Scratch Golf now markets irons and wedges, but the company was founded as a wedge-only manufacturer and, like Eidolon, makes some of the best custom wedges in the game.

Eidolon's unique market claim involves its "V-Sole" design. With more bounce angle along the leading edge and less bounce through the mid and trailing edge sections of the sole, the Eidolon V-Sole wedges handle a variety of lies better than other wedges, the company says. And testing the wedges over many rounds seemed to bear out this claim. Further, Eidolon, unlike the majority of manufacturers, offers a variety of shafts and shaft flexes in its wedges rather than the "one shaft fits all" philosophy.

Eidolon offers wedges in four lofts – 48, 52, 56 and 60 degrees – and two finishes. The price is \$129 each for the satin finish, \$139 for the Prime or oil bath finish. Custom alterations are free.

Like Eidolon, Cleveland Golf built its reputation on its wedges when the company was founded by Roger Cleveland in 1979. The company has gone through a series of owners – Rossignol, Quicksilver and now SRI Sports, a division of Sumitomo Rubber Industries of Japan – since Cleveland, the man, sold Cleveland, the company, and moved on to Callaway. But now, in its own self-declared "Year of the Wedge," Cleveland Golf is returning to its roots and seeking to return to dominance in the wedge market.

The latest in the long line of Tour-quality wedges from Cleveland is the CG15. Available in three finish options and more than two dozen loft/bounce combinations for \$120 at most retail shops, the CG15 is unique because of the "texture lines" milled into the face. Like mini-grooves, these texture lines are small enough that four can fit between two grooves, giving the CG15 face adding gripping capabilities by maximizing friction between the ball and the

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Cleveland  
CG15  
Wedge

Eidolon  
V-SOLE  
Wedge



Photo courtesy of gettyimages

Phil Mickelson hits an approach shot on his way to second-place finish at Quail Hollow Championship.

It was the lowest in relation to par since Ryan Palmer shot 62 to win in 2004 at Walt Disney World. No disrespect intended, but the Disney courses are hardly Quail Hollow.

McIlroy's 16-under 128 on the weekend is a staggering seven shots better than the previous best final 36-hole score of 135, shared by four players. And he did it in spite of three bogeys on Saturday. For the weekend, McIlroy played exactly half of his 36 holes in sub-par figures – 17 birdies and one eagle.

He is the first player to win after making the cut on the number since Chris Couch did it in 2006 in New Orleans. Two days shy of his 21st birthday, McIlroy is the youngest Quail Hollow champion and the third straight 20-something to win the title, following Anthony Kim in 2008 and Sean O'Hair last year. What's more, his 15-under-par 273 made him the youngest winner on Tour since Tiger Woods won for the first time at the 1996 Las Vegas Invitational.

And what of Woods, who was making his first start since finishing fourth at the Masters and only his second start of the year? On this particular week, the world's No. 1 player was a story only because he was never a factor.

Woods shot 74-79—153 to miss the cut by eight shots. It was only the sixth missed cut and his highest 36-hole score of his career. In fact, Woods only beat 11 players in the 156-player field.

"The last two days, it seemed as if everything had just gone right," said McIlroy, who moved into the top 10 in the world rankings with the victory. "You get yourself into sort of a mind-set like that, and you just keep going. It's just been a great day."

And a profitable one. McIlroy's 273 total was good for \$1.17 million.

"I've got to congratulate Rory," Mickelson said. "He played some incredible golf. He's an amazing talent. You knew he was going to come out and win out here. He is some kind of player."

And what about that fateful eagle on Friday?

"Most important shot of the year, to be honest," McIlroy said. "If I don't make eagle there, I'm practicing at Ponte Vedra this weekend. I said after the 66 yesterday, 'That could have been the turning point in my season.' I think today I've confirmed that."



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# Charlotte CC Seeking Volunteers For U.S. Women's Amateur

Charlotte Country Club will host the 2010 U.S. Women's Amateur Aug. 9-15, and the club is seeking volunteers to assist with the tournament.

According to club head professional Bill Hall, anyone age 14 or older who understands the game of golf is eligible to serve as a volunteer. Twenty-nine separate committees will employ volunteer help to assist with all phases of the championship.

While spectators are invited to attend the Women's Amateur free of charge, volunteers will be required to pay a \$75 fee to work the tournament. But for that, each volunteer receives two Peter Millar golf shirts, a hat or visor, a souvenir water bottle and access to an exclusive volunteer hospital area, so the "fee" actually represents quite a value.

Anyone interested in volunteering can visit [www.charlottecountryclub.org](http://www.charlottecountryclub.org) and follow the prompts to the tournament volunteers' page. There, you will find a list of committees and their functions, as well as application forms. Separate forms are available for club members, non-members and juniors (ages 14-17).

Anyone with questions about the volunteer program can contact Hall at 704-333-9809. Or contact Morgan Lang, director of the championship, at 704-944-5233 or via e-mail at [mlang@charlottecountryclub.org](mailto:mlang@charlottecountryclub.org); or Brittany Murray, volunteer coordinator, at 704-944-5228.

Volunteers are selected on a first-come, first-served basis. Those interested are urged to submit their completed forms as soon as possible. Some 400 volunteers will be needed to assist with the Women's Amateur. However, as of late May, the club web site reported that only 50 openings remained to be filled.

Committee assignments and final schedules will be sent to all volunteers by July. Potential volunteers are reminded that, although the championship is scheduled for August 9-15, some volunteer assignments will begin on Wednesday, August 4. However, the application form asks potential volunteers to list the days and times they are available to serve.

## Charlotte's Killough Finishes Second

LAKE WORTH, Fla. – Nick Latimer of Brooklyn, Ohio, birdied the first playoff hole to edge Russell Killough of Charlotte and capture a Minor League Golf Tour victory at Winston Trails Golf Club.

Both Latimer and Killough, who finished tied at 3-under-par 69, were looking for their second tour victories in the one-day MLGT event played May 12.

Latimer hit his wedge approach to 10 feet to set up the winning birdie on the par-4 first hole. Killough missed a 35-foot birdie attempt from the front of the green before watching Latimer sink the winning putt.

Only eight players competed in the event, the smallest MLGT field since seven played in an event Dec. 5, 2007 at Hammock Creek GC. Contributing to the low number may have been the combination of Winston Trails being a late addition to the schedule and practice rounds for two U.S. Open local qualifiers in South Florida later in the week.

Latimer received \$450, Killough \$325 from the \$1,000 purse.

## Auction Nets More Than \$100K

Organizers have declared golf's great online auction at [Rounds4Research.com](http://Rounds4Research.com) a "major success" after this year's event raised \$106,000 to benefit turf-grass research.

The web-based auction across five states, including the two Carolinas, Georgia, Virginia and Texas, offered more than 1,100 lots or tee-times donated by clubs and courses. Successful bids ranged from more than \$4,000 for play on a mystery course in the Southeast to \$15 for a foursome at a par-3 course in North Carolina.

"This was our second year and the support from both the industry and the consumer sides was outstanding," said [Rounds4Research.com](http://Rounds4Research.com) chairman Paul Jett, superintendent at Pinehurst No. 2. "More than 700

individual courses donated tee times and the web traffic from golf shoppers was phenomenal."

Jett said the money raised for golf turfgrass research was effectively an investment in the economies of the states involved. "Golf is an industry that creates jobs, generates tourism and provides all sorts of social benefits to a community," he said. "Research at our universities helps ensure the health of the courses that provide the platform for all of that."

Some \$75,000 of money raised by [Rounds4Research.com](http://Rounds4Research.com) this year will stay in the Carolinas to help protect the industry's annual economic contribution measured at about \$8 billion. Last year, [Rounds4Research.com](http://Rounds4Research.com) raised \$55,000 for turfgrass research work at Clemson and North Carolina State universities. Budget cuts have reduced the flow of state funding for both institutions.

"This project illustrates just how committed we are in golf to creating solutions instead of complaining about problems," said Tim Kreger, executive director of the Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association, which created [Rounds4Research.com](http://Rounds4Research.com). "Our members and golf's allied associations – professionals, owners and club managers – all collaborated to get this project off the ground and make it successful."

Next year's [Rounds4Research.com](http://Rounds4Research.com) auction again will be conducted in April. Kreger said it is likely to include even more states.

## Reppart Named Peninsula Head Pro

CORNELIUS – Brian Reppart has been named head golf professional at The Peninsula Club, a private club on Lake Norman.

Reppart, originally from Ohio, has been a PGA member 1997. He started his career as an assistant professional at Firestone Country Club in Akron before moving to Addison Reserve Country Club in Boca Raton, Fla., where he spent four years as head professional. For the past nine



years, he as served as head pro and general manager at Rattlesnake Ridge Golf Club in Sunbury, Ohio.

## Coulter Tour Schedule Set

The Coulter Pro Tour season tees off June 12-13 at The Club at Irish Creek, the first of eight events on a schedule that runs through September.

The Coulter Tour is a developmental tour based in Charlotte. CPT events are limited to 24 players. Entry fee for each event is \$400, with \$2,000 going to the winner. Currently, the 2010 schedule has eight events listed, with some sites yet to be determined.

The schedule appears in the Calendar section of this issue. For more information about the Coulter Pro Tour, go to [www.coulterprotour.com](http://www.coulterprotour.com) or call 704-906-2948.

## Ballantyne To Host LPGA Nationals

Ballantyne Hotel and Golf Club, located on the south side of Charlotte between Pineville and Matthews, will be the site of the 2010 LPGA Teaching and Club Professionals National Championship Sept. 12-15.

The three-day, 54-hole event will draw 144 teaching and club professionals from across the country. Prior to the championship, a pro-am, set for Sunday, Sept. 12, will match one profes-

Brian Failing, Lee Sargent, Chris Cross, Jim Brand; 80: Gary Fesperman; 81: James Brannen.

**B Flight**  
74: Bill Maryman; 77: John Leak; 79: Tommy Simpson, Dave Courtright; 80: Don Russell; 82: Ray Smith; 84: Robert Winfrey; 85: James Herndon.

**C Flight**  
80: Joe Gendoes; 83: Don Elsass; 89: Larry Griffin; 91: Jim Wittersheim, Larry Hinson; 92: Matt Papes, Jerry Hoogevest; 96: Mac Geddie.

### May 5 @ Carolina Lakes

**Championship Flight**  
71: Jeff Rausch, David Watterworth; 73: Mark Federal, John Walters, Ken Powers; 74: Ted Cox; 75: Richard Burton, Brad Kroll; 76: John Burton, Jerry Sennett.

**A Flight**  
69: Cletis Dozier; 73: Ted Friel; 74: Grant Hoffman, Steve Williams; 75: Toby Tyler; 76: Ron Ballew, Marty James; 77: Jim Brand; 78: Larry Culler, Tom Carbone, Lee Sargent.

**B Flight**  
76: Dave Courtright; 78: Bill Shenoha, Bill Barnett; 79: James Brannen, Frank Czaniecki; 81: Sam Carpenter; 82: Howard Rohrer; 83: Bill Holland, Joe Burgess.

**C Flight**  
78: Sindo Mayor; 82: Mike Hinson; 84: John Crofts; 85: Stan Wetmore, Mark Roden; 86: Larry Hinson; 88: Bill Lovine, John Willman, Don Elsass, Bill Church.

## EGOLF PRO GOLF TOUR

### Grand Harbor Open

**The Patriot G.C.**

**Par 71; 7,133 yards**

**The Golf Club at Star Fort**

**Par 72; 6,952 yards**

**Ninety-Six, S.C.**

**May 26—29**

S Weatherly, Fort Payne, AL, \$34,427 .65-65-67-68—265  
J Mueller, Mesa, AZ, \$17,202 .....61-69-67-69—266  
M Welch, Quincy, MA, \$10,134.25 .....66-71-68-64—269  
B Harman, St. S Island, GA, \$10,134.25 68-65-69-67—269  
T Biershenk, B Springs, SC, \$10,134.25 67-68-67-67—269  
M Hughes, Dalton, GA, \$10,134.25 .....66-66-66-71—269  
R Knox, Jacksonville Beach, FL, \$6,697 68-69-64-69—270  
J Kokrak, Warren, OH, \$4,817.33 .....72-67-66-66—271  
K Coakley, Bluffton, SC, \$4,817.33 .....68-67-68-68—271  
M Davidson, C Hill, NC, \$4,817.33 .....69-68-66-68—271  
S Brame, Wilson, NC, \$3,984.33 .....74-65-67-66—272  
R Grube, Palo Alto, CA, \$3,984.33 .....69-67-67-69—272  
R Castro, Alpharetta, GA, \$3,984.33 .....67-66-66-73—272  
R Dillon, Desert Hills, AZ, \$3,145 .....65-72-69-67—273  
C Wolfe, Warner Robins, GA, \$3,145 .67-68-70-68—273  
D Woltman, Beaver Dam, WI, \$3,145 .69-70-66-68—273  
C Ross, Ontario, Canada, \$3,145 .....66-65-72-70—273  
E Turner, Augusta, GA, \$3,145 .....67-68-68-70—273  
D Stone, St. Petersburg, FL, \$3,145 .....71-67-65-70—273  
Danny Ellis, Heathrow, FL, \$2,772.50 .73-67-69-65—274  
M Hendrix, Greenville, SC, \$2,772.50 67-70-67-70—274  
F Mechereffe, Char, NC, \$2,556.40 .....69-70-70-66—275  
T Mordt, Arlington, TX, \$2,556.40 .....66-70-70-69—275  
L Williams, A City, AL, \$2,556.40 .....68-67-70-70—275  
J Haas Jr, Greenville, SC, \$2,556.40 .....68-70-67-70—275  
C Waddell, Wilmette, IL, \$2,556.40 .....68-69-68-70—275

**Other Scores of Interest**  
M Ureta, Chapel Hill, NC, \$2,209.57 .....66-68-72-70—276  
R Linton, Pinehurst, NC, \$2,209.57 .....67-68-71-70—276  
F Adams III, Salisbury, NC, \$1,922.25 .....67-73-66-71—277  
M Cannon, Statesville, NC, \$1,587.11 67-73-71-68—279  
D Weaver, High Point, NC, \$1,295.62 68-67-72-73—280

### River Hills Classic

**River Hills CC**

**Par 72; 6,704 yards**

**Palisades CC**

**Par 72; 6,797 yards**

**April 28 – May 1**

C Baker, Brownstown, IN, \$35,000 .....69-68-70-66—273  
D Oakey, Atlanta, GA, \$18,330 .....70-67-70-69—276  
M Davidson, Chapel Hill, NC, \$14,405 68-70-72-67—277

J Kennedy, GA, \$9,599.33 .....73-69-67-70—279  
T Biershenk, B Springs, SC, \$9,599.33 67-68-72-72—279  
D Robinson, GA, \$9,599.33 .....70-67-70-72—279  
R Thornberry, Ceres, CA, \$6,885 .....72-66-72-70—280  
J Schultz, Dallas, TX, \$4,954.67 .....73-68-73-67—281  
C Jensen, Jupiter, FL, \$4,954.67 .....74-64-74-69—281  
R Gildersleeve, FL, \$4,954.67 .....69-69-72-71—281  
E Turner, Augusta, GA, \$4,049 .....70-71-73-68—282  
H Kim, Jonesboro, GA, \$4,049 .....69-72-71-70—282  
M Hendrix, Greenville, SC, \$4,049 .....67-72-72-71—282  
D Cone, FL, \$3,381.67 .....70-73-72-68—283  
A Goldberg, Encinitas, CA, \$3,381.67 68-72-74-69—283  
A Hamilton, Aiken, SC, \$3,381.67 .....66-74-73-70—283  
C Wilfong, Thomasville, NC, \$2,850.60 70-74-68—284  
F Mechereffe, Char, NC, \$2,850.60 .....70-68-74-72—284  
N Lashley, Scottsdale, AZ, \$2,850.60 .71-67-73-73—284  
M Cannon, Statesville, NC, \$2,850.60 70-66-72-76—284  
M Catalioto, Ramsey, NJ, \$2,850.60 .....68-70-70-76—284  
T Glissmeyer, CO, \$2,530.50 .....70-73-72-70—285  
G Waite, Ocala, FL, \$2,530.50 .....78-64-74-69—285  
J Caron, Jupiter, FL, \$2,530.50 .....70-70-76-69—285  
J Enander, Hedin, Sweden, \$2,530.50\* 71-68-71-75—285  
C Thompson, Lawrence, KS, \$2,530.50 3-66-70-76—285  
R Vermeer, Lawrence, KS, \$2,530.50 .72-69-69-75—285

**Other Scores of Interest**  
C Gallagher, Char, NC, \$1,785.71 .....72-69-74-73—288  
A Bare, West End, NC, \$1,785.71 .....72-70-74-72—288  
R Linton, Pinehurst, NC, \$1,785.71 .....73-69-72-74—288  
M Cook, Cashiers, NC, \$1,785.71 .....67-71-78-72—288  
F Adams III, Salisbury, NC, \$1,785.71 .174-68-75-71—288  
C McMartin, Arlington, VA, \$1,785.71 .70-73-74-71—288  
P Mollica, Anderson, SC, \$1,432.33 .....72-72-70-76—290  
D Sanchez, Pinehurst, NC, \$1,432.33 70-72-79-69—290  
D Perry, Weddington, NC, \$1,175 .....75-69-76-74—294

### Cowans Ford Open

**Cowans Ford CC**

**Par 72; 6,872 yards**

**NorthStone CC**

**Par 72; 6,900 yards**

**May 5-8**

C Jensen, Jupiter, FL, \$34,233 .....63-67-66-69—265  
R Castro, Alpharetta, GA, \$17,020 .....63-70-66-69—268  
F Mechereffe, Charlotte, NC, \$13,599 68-67-65-69—269  
Eric Axley, Knoxville, TN, \$9,379 .....68-67-68-67—270  
R Grube, Palo Alto, CA, \$9,379 .....68-68-66-68—270  
F Brewbaker, Salem, VA, \$5,431.67 .....67-67-70-67—271  
J Curran, Hopkinton, MA, \$5,431.67 .72-68-65-66—271  
M Mincer, Knoxville, TN, \$5,431.67 .....69-67-67-68—271  
J Turcott, Raleigh, NC, \$5,431.67 .....72-67-64-68—271  
D Summerhays, UT, \$5,431.67 .....67-67-68-69—271  
K Coakley, Bluffton, SC, \$5,431.67 .....68-66-66-71—271  
B Peffley, Lebanon, PA, \$3,811.67 .....66-69-67-70—272  
P Spargo, Australia, \$3,811.67 .....68-66-67-71—272  
S Weatherly, Fort Payne, AL, \$3,811.67 61-67-61-69-71—272  
B Ottenweller, Huntersville, NC, \$3,089 70-67-68-68—273  
G Todd, Florence, AL, \$3,089 .....67-68-69-69—273  
A Goldberg, Encinitas, CA, \$3,089 .....70-67-66-70—273  
J Persons, Fargo, ND, \$3,089 .....62-70-67-74—273  
R Thornberry, Ceres, CA, \$2,676.29 .69-68-70-67—274  
C Gallagher, Char, NC, \$2,676.29 .....65-71-70-68—274  
E Turner, Augusta, GA, \$2,676.29 .....69-67-70-68—274  
C Wilfong, Thomasville, NC, \$2,676.29 71-69-68-66—274  
J Kennedy, GA, \$2,676.29 .....67-70-66-71—274  
C Lowe, Charlotte, NC, \$2,676.29 .....69-68-66-71—274  
T Biershenk, B Springs, SC, \$2,676.29 .69-67-65-73—274

**Other Scores of Interest**  
M Cannon, Statesville, NC, \$2,257.14 65-72-71-67—275  
F Adams III, Salisbury, NC, \$1,302.60 .70-67-70-72—279  
D Bray, Charlotte, NC, \$1,217 .....68-69-68-75—280  
J Eades, Charlotte, NC, \$992 .....67-70-74-78—289  
M Petzold, Charlotte, NC, \$982 .....72-68-74-79—293

## Equipment

Continued from page 10

clubface.

What's more, the "Zip Grooves" CNC milled into the face are of the maximum volume and sharpness allowed under the "old" rules, adding to the CG15's stopping power. Testing this club from a variety of lies, including thick rough, did nothing to dispute the company's claims.

The grooves in the new TaylorMade TP wedges with xFT conform with the "new" rule, making them legal for Tour play this year. But these wedges, \$130 at most shops, are unique because of the removable face. Once the grooves begin to wear, xFT or exchangeable face technology allows the player to insert a new face, as simply as loosening and tightening two screws. New face inserts cost \$40.

These classic teardrop-shaped, versatile and easy to work TP wedges provide a solid, yet soft feel because of dampening material behind the insert. The wedges have made quick and significant impact on Tour, with TaylorMade vaulting from third in the number of wedges in play at tournaments as recently as Bay Hill and the Masters to a solid second at Quail Hollow, here in Charlotte. Tour players love the fact that, once they get a club the way they want it, with a special sole grind, lie angle or whatever, they can have fresh, high-performance grooves anytime they want with the quick turn of two set screws.

Speaking of classic looks, the Puglielli Black wedges from Adams Golf certainly fit the description. Forged from 8620 carbon steel to provide a soft feel, these beauties were designed by Max Puglielli, who serves as tour director for Adams Golf and as such, has unlimited access to input from some of the best players in the game. Finished in distinctive black nickel-chromium plating, the

Puglielli wedges also feature the newly conforming grooves and come in five loft options with standard bounce, as well as a 56-degree high bounce model. Better players will appreciate the added heel relief that makes it easy to open the face for those short, soft shots around the green.

Available in five lofts, the Adams Puglielli Black wedges are priced at \$100 at most shops and online retailers, making these Tour-quality clubs quite a value in today's marketplace.

And though his company is named Heavy Putter, Stephen Bocieri has added the Heavy Wedge to his product lineup this year. The Heavy Wedge Control Series featured wedges with the company's trademark counter-

weighting, designed to provide better acceleration through impact, a smoother take-away and tempo and improved overall feel.

Available in 52, 56 and 60 degrees, the 8620 carbon steel heads have a non-glare satin finish, CNC milled face and grooves and come with an FST Hi-Rev steel shaft. But it is the added weight that separates these from all other wedges.

Sixty-five grams is positioned high in the shaft, raising the club's balance point nearly 40 percent, promoting distance control, an improved swing path and tighter shot dispersion, as well as better tempo. The clubhead is only slightly heavier than normal clubs, with this counterbalancing of weight keeping the swing weight in line with other clubs in your bag.

The Heavy Wedge is available in all three lofts for both right- and left-hand, with a low-bounce (four degrees) 60-degree model with additional heel relief available for righties only. The clubs are priced at \$110 each.

