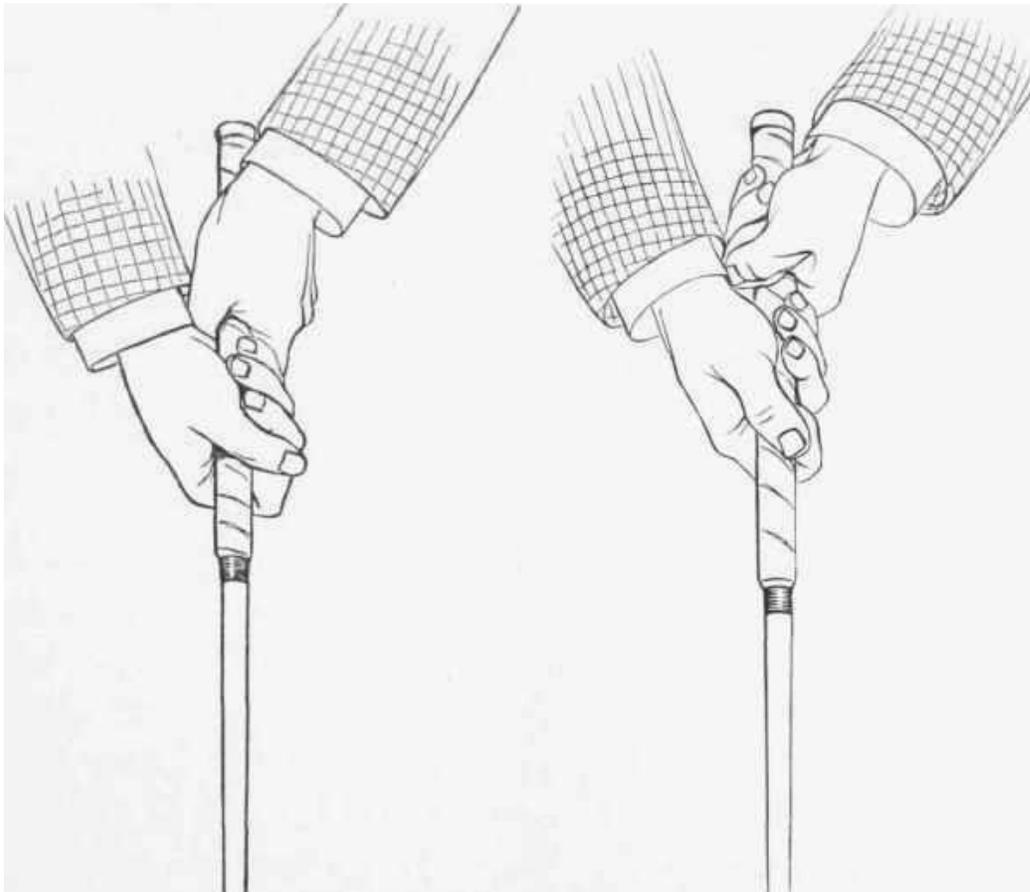


Early Gutter Golf

This is a unique era that some players are associated with while playing hickory golf. There are details that need to be embellished to bring this era into legitimacy.

First and foremost, the Early Gutter Club equipment guidelines have been established and must be adhered to. We are pointing out that there is an experience difference between early gutter and transitional gutter play. The Long Nose woods are unique to the game.



Besides the equipment set, the Early Gutter Golf game was played using a non-interlocking (baseball) style grip. This is a mandatory requirement to participate in the early gutter golf division. The most important thing about this grip is that the left thumb was wrapped around the grip, not placed on top of the shaft as in more modern grips.

The grip was altered from weak to strong depending on the shot at hand.

RULES FOR THE GAME OF GOLF
AS IT IS PLAYED BY THE ROYAL AND ANCIENT
GOLF CLUB OF ST. ANDREWS OVER THEIR
LINKS,

May, 1858. (Abbreviated)

The hole is won by the party holing at fewest strokes, and the reckoning of the game made by the terms *odd and like, one more, two more, &c.*

When, **on any part of the course**, or off it, or in a bunker, **the balls lie within six inches of each other**, the ball nearest the hole must be **lifted** till the other is played, and then placed as nearly as possible in its original position - the six inches to be measured from the surface of the balls.

If the ball is in water, the player may **take it out**, change the ball if he pleases, **tee it**, and play from behind the hazard, **losing a stroke**.

If a ball is lost, the player (or his partner, in a double match) returns to the spot, as near as possible, where the ball was struck, **tees another ball**, and **loses both the distance and a stroke**. If the original ball is found before the party has struck the other ball, the first shall continue the one to be played.

In holing, no mark shall be placed or line drawn to direct the ball to the hole; the ball must be played fairly and honestly for the hole, and not on your adversary's ball, not being in the way to the hole; **nor**, although lying in the way to the hole, is the player entitled to play with any strength upon it that might injure his adversary's position, or greater than is necessary honestly to send your own ball the distance of the hole.

In *match*-playing, every ball must be played, wherever it lies, or **the hole be given up**.

In *medal*-playing, a ball may, under a penalty of two strokes, be lifted out of a difficulty of any description, and teed behind the hazard; and if in any of the golfing holes, it may be lifted, dropt, and played as above, without a penalty. In all cases where a ball is dropt, the party doing so shall front the hole to which he is playing, standing close on the hazard, and drop the ball behind him from his head.