

Golfing Wit

*Quips and Quotes for
the Golf Obsessed*



Aubrey Malone

GOLFING WIT

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Introduction

I'm not really gloating at the lovable losers or dotty eccentrics in this volume. They're more like my soulmates in crime, viewed from the relative safety of the 19th (hic!) hole. That's where you can sit over your pint and reminisce quietly about your purgatorial double bogeys as if they were perpetrated by someone else, and fantasise about the dream holes-in-one to a barman who probably won't care if they happened or not.

You can keep to yourself the manifold times you beheaded the ball, or hit your face with the club on your backswing as the divot went higher than a house and you found yourself begging for your fifth mulligan... on the same hole.

When I started this project I wasn't at all sure that the pros could be as (unintentionally) funny as yours truly. Nick Faldo? Bernhard Langer? Pul-eease! Better quote Phil Silvers' line: 'Be funny on a golf course? Do I kid my best friend's mother about her heart condition?'

But yes, dear reader, there was humour to be found, though not always where expected. I could have filled the book on Lee Trevino's expostulations alone but there were other unlikely jokesmiths too. Many of the jokes were rueful, and/or black, as one might be entitled to expect from a game that looks like heaven and feels like hell.

Some people call it terminally boring and others an unconquerable addiction. Somewhere in the middle of this fairway are the Walking (and Joking) Wounded. This is their story.

Aubrey Malone

WHAT IS GOLF?



Golf is somewhere
between making love
and writing a poem.

John Updike

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Golf is the loneliest of all games,
not excluding postal chess.

Peter Dobreiner



Mark Twain said golf was a good
walk spoiled. From which we can
only conclude he'd either had a bad
day on the course or, more likely,
never played the game. A walk is
a missed opportunity for golf.

Andrew Greig



Golf is a game that needlessly
prolongs the lives of some of
our most useless citizens.

Bob Hope



Golf is a game where
white men can dress
up as black pimps
and get away with it.

Robin Williams

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Golf is the most popular method
of beating around the bush.

Leopold Fechtner



Golf is a young man's vice
and an old man's penance.

Irvin S. Cobb



Golf is not a game, it's bondage. It
was obviously devised by a man torn
with guilt, eager to atone for his sins.

Anon



Golf is just an excuse for
carrying unconcealed weapons
and a Scotch breath.

Gideon Wurdz

WHAT IS GOLF?

Golf is like a love affair: if you don't take it seriously it's boring, and if you do it breaks your heart.

Rod Funseth



Golf is an 'umbling game.

Bobby Jones



Golf's not that hard. The ball doesn't move.

Ted Williams



Golf is not a funeral, though both can be very sad affairs.

Bernard Darwin

GOLFING WIT

Golf was never meant to be an exact science. Einstein was lousy at it.

Bob Toski



Golf is a whore you go home to every day because a perverse part of your brain enjoys being tortured by her.

Anon



Golf is a game where you sock the ball hard and walk four feet.

Herbert Prochnow



The game was invented
for simpletons.

Spike Milligan

GOLFING WIT

Golf is a dumb game. You're supposed to play it for fun, but the less times you hit the ball, the more fun you have.

Lou Graham



Golf is a dull game. The players are stick-carrying robots. They don't even scratch their privates like other athletes.

Lewis Grizzard



Golf is the easiest game of all to play badly.

Kevin Flanagan

WHAT IS GOLF?

Golf should be played on Sunday,
not being a game in the view of the
law, but rather a form of moral effort.

Stephen Leacock



In Africa the natives have the custom
of beating their clubs and uttering
blood-curdling yells. Anthropologists
call this a form of self-expression.

In Europe we call it golf.

Phil Silver



Golf is a game in which players
lie about their scores to people
who used to be their friends after
a day spent thrashing about on
surfaces that look like spoiled
pastures. That's why we take it
up 'for the good of our health'.

Karen Durasch

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

I sometimes wonder
how my mother
survived my childhood.

Jack Nicklaus

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

The best year of my life was when
I was 11. I won 32 tournaments
that year. Everything's
been downhill since.

Tiger Woods



When I first started golf, my
father told me I was going to
do more good than Gandhi,
Mother Teresa, the Pope and
Tony Blair all rolled into one.

Tiger Woods



Dad, what do people do on
Sunday who don't play golf?

Bobby Jones to his father as a child

GOLFING WIT

My dentist recently discovered there was a narrow line of enamel missing from around my upper teeth. 'Did you suffer from malnutrition or a terrible disease as a child?' he asked. 'No,' I replied, 'just my mother's cooking.'

Nick Faldo



You shoulda seen it, Mom. Dad got to hit the ball more than anybody.

Dennis the Menace



I'll never play golf. It's a cissy game.

Arnold Palmer to his father at 15