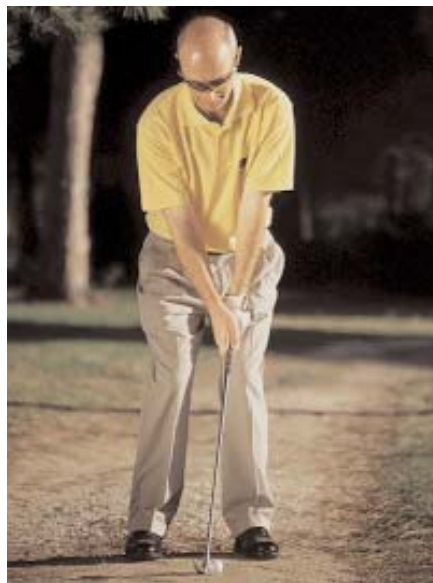




BARE LIES

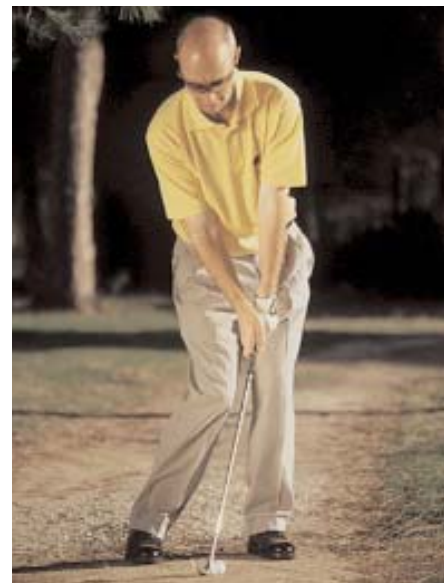
Bare necessities

»» This is one of the toughest shots in golf – the chip off a bare lie. It is tricky enough coping with a dry patch of ground when you are having a full swing at the ball, but the closer you get to the green, the more control you need and the harder the shot becomes. Here are some simple tips which will help you make decent contact and give you greater control when chipping from a bare lie. GM



01 THE SET-UP

»» Never use a sand wedge from this position – it has a rounded sole that will bounce off firmer ground and make it hard to hit the bottom of the ball. Use a wedge or a 9-iron with a sharper leading edge. Position the ball centrally in your stance – you need to make contact with it before the ground.



02 THE STRIKE

»» Keep your hands ahead of the clubhead throughout the shot. You want the leading edge to hit the bottom of the ball – it will fly low with plenty of backspin. DON'T try to help the ball into the air by scooping with your wrists – you'll end up in the bushes behind the green!



By Mid-Herts GC professional Barney Puttick, with Edward Craig

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Cheers