

AUGUST 15-19, 2016

· Ages 4-11 · Before & after required

· Full & half day

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#### **SPORTS**

# Open duel one for the ages

By Cory Gentes Special to The IFP

We were treated to some exceptional golf this weekend at the British Open at Royal Troon hard against the Scottish coastline.

The week started with Phil Mickelson narrowly missing a putt to set a record for the lowest score in a major championship round and ended with the greatest last-round battle in recent history.

Henrik Stenson and Mickelson both played brilliantly, with Stenson winning with a final round 63 and Mickelson putting up a bogeyfree final round of 65.

Stenson won his first major in over 40 starts after finishing second on a few occasions most notably to Mickelson at the 2013 British Open.

Both players had control of their games from tee to green and putted incredibly with Stenson making a couple of bombs on the way

What stood out to me was how they played some of the tight chips and pitches to the green. When the turf is tight and firm on links type courses it demands that the appropriate amount of forward shaft lean is maintained in

your swing through the shot.

This allows the player to use the bounce on the club to keep the leading edge from digging in to the turf. One of the drills I use to practice and have my students work on is to take an alignment rod, piece of doweling or even an old shaft and place it under your grip so it sticks out past your front hip.



### From the Ground



Now make some chips. If you are losing your shaft lean by flipping your hands you will hit yourself in the side with the stick. If you maintain your shaft lean, which is ideal, you will not hit yourself with the stick.

Give it a try and watch your contact improve and your scores come down.

Call me sentimental but my pick this week at the RBC Canadian Open: David Hearn.

Cory Gentes is a 15-year PGA of Canada Teaching Professional and the Director of Instruction at The Old Pro Driving Range. Gentes-FamilyGolf.com

# Naumovski 4th, 11th at provincials

Hornby teenager Alexandra Naumovski just missed cracking the top 10 at the Golf Association of Ontario Women s Amateur Championship last week in Windsor, shooting nine over par through 72 holes.

for 22nd following rounds of 74-76-76-84.

baoinstitute.com

Naumovski also had a strong showing at the GAO Junior Girls Championship earlier this month at the Loyalist Country Club in Bath, near Kingston, tying for fourth overall.

Georgetown s Kristen Giles, who plays out of the Cutten Fields course in Guelph, carded rounds of 79-78-79-78 to finish in a tie for

