



## AFTON GOLF CLUB

Member

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Guy Dawson  
Head Professional

### The Bunker Game

In 1988 my good friend Butch Baird had just turned 50 and was preparing to go out on the PGA Senior Tour and asked me if I'd like to caddy for him "for just a few tournaments". Being single at the time, I jumped at the chance and caddied for him in 8 PGA Senior Tour events. It was a great experience and left me with many fond memories. At the end of that 1988 season Butch led the senior tour in sand saves and always looked forward to hitting bunker shots. Here are some of the things Butch taught me about bunker play. If the sand is soft and fluffy you must open the club face and let the club slide through the sand and under the ball. If the sand is hard and compact you must close the face a little to make sure your club does not bounce off the sand and into the ball. Also, he would always say that the proper bunker shot has a distinct sound to it and he would always listen for that sound when he was practicing his bunker play. Lastly, don't rule out the possibility of putting out of a bunker if you have a good exit route to roll the ball through.

*Guy Dawson*  
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