



AFTON GOLF CLUB

Member

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Guy Dawson
Head Professional

Reading the Conditions of a Golf Course

There are several factors we want to consider about the playability of a golf course even before we tee off on the first hole.

1. Is the course playing hard and fast or soft and slow? Will the greens hold our approach shots? If not, we want to make sure to adjust our yardage to have the ball land just short of the green then roll to the flagstick.
2. Always try to identify the high points and low points on and around the course and keep them in mind when reading your putts and in anticipating which way your ball will bounce when it lands on drives and approach shots. Also, in most cases, if there is a pond or lake next to the green, your putts will break toward the water.
3. In what direction is the prevailing wind? Obviously the wind direction will change throughout a round of golf, but it's always smart to keep in mind what direction the wind blows most of the time.

So remember, incorporating these three simple factors into your playing strategy is a sure way to shave strokes off your score.

*Guy Dawson PGA
Director of Golf – Afton Golf Club*

Guy Dawson has owned and operated the Afton Golf Club for the past 21 years. He is a PGA Professional and Member of the Central New York PGA. Guy has been playing golf for 47 years and has given thousands of golf lessons. If you would like Guy to give you a quick, FREE lesson on reading the conditions of a golf course, you can contact him at 607 639-2454 or guyedawson@yahoo.com.