



Take It

By Leonard Finkel

If you're looking to lower your scores, develop an "on plane" golf swing, build golf specific muscles and increase flexibility, Maximus swing trainers (Andersen Golf) just might be the tools for you. Swinging just a few minutes a day on the range or at home is all that's required.

Roger Gunn, 2001 Southern California PGA Teacher of the Year has taught PGA players including Tom Lehman and Steve Pate. He founded and developed the Cyber Golf Pro lesson series and is currently the Director of Instruction at Tierra Rejada Golf Club in Moorpark, CA. Gunn firmly states, "The Maximus is perfect for one of golf's most devastating problems; casting the club. Anyone who experiences a lack of power because of this type of hand action will really benefit with just a few sessions with the Maximus."

tool for effective practice.

Andersen knows a bit about keeping things on plane. Having spent eighteen years at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory with NASA, Tom Andersen in point of fact is a rocket scientist. By comparison, perfecting a golf swing trainer is mere child's play. Maximus feels like a normal golf club, albeit a heavier one. "With precisely balanced extra weight, the club falls into a natural swing plane and repetitive use allows you to develop a proper wrist cock, wrist release and improved tempo and timing," declares inventor Tom Andersen. Critical to its success, with Maximus you actually hit balls, providing immediate feedback. Any swing trainer can be used incorrectly if you can't observe the ball trajectory. Seeing your correct ball flight reinforces sound swing mechanics.

The Product Line-up

Andersen originally introduced a 7-iron model. Responding to customer demand, the company followed with a driver version. More recently, the company introduced its Tour Edition L-Wedge, one of the first swing training devices approved for actual play by the USGA. Very accurate for shots of sixty yards and in, the L-Wedge is also particularly helpful getting out of deep rough and with tricky shots around the greens. The extra club weight powers it through even dense rough with no twisting of the head, propelling a ball towards the target.

Several other weighted trainers appear on the market, Momentum most prominent among them. In my opinion, Maximus is vastly superior. Momentum uses a thick metal rod from head to grip. By contrast, Maximus utilizes a bona fide golf shaft. Weight positioning is key to providing the feel of an authentic golf club. The Tour Edition proprietary thermoplastic weighting system provides a softer feel and allows for very precise weight positioning, something not possible with a metal bar.

Actions Speak Louder than Words

With my first swing, I could feel a difference. I was able to let the club ease through, instead of hitting at the ball. As

Available in three models, 7-iron, driver and the Tour Edition L-Wedge, Maximus fulfills several roles. Swinging a Maximus a few minutes a day builds and strengthens golf specific muscles and enhances flexibility. Swinging prior to and during play loosens tight muscles, promoting a more fluid golf swing. Additionally, when your swing inevitably leaves you during a round, the Tour Edition L-Wedge is there to restore your rhythm, tempo and timing. Most importantly, working with a Maximus swing trainer on a semi-regular basis will allow any golfer to feel and then ingrain in muscle memory the path of a proper swing plane. Any pro will tell you, the longer you keep your club on plane, the more often the club face will be square at impact... translating into longer, straighter shots. Unfortunately, there is no magic potion for improvement, only practice will do. Practice doesn't make perfect, it makes permanent. Maximus provides an essential

To The Max

opposed to my typical inside pull, the club head stayed on plane. Maximus allows any golfer to experience a smoother swing, letting the club do what it was designed to do.

At a nearby range, I sought feedback from other golfers. To a man, all my test subjects preferred Maximus to Momentus. (There was a Momentus club on site.) Within a few minutes, the beneficial impact of Maximus in correcting swing path was evident. In general, players felt that swinging Momentus was like swinging a steel bar (which is what it is) while the Maximus was like swinging an ordinary golf club. Golfers repeatedly spoke of feeling the club head moving through the swing. It was easy to hit balls with Maximus. My test group was as impressed with the product as I was. You might say Maximus is like having a coach in your bag.

The Professional Report

Wayne Searle of Kip Puterbaugh's Avira Golf Academy was impressed with Maximus and ordered all three Maximus models for the Academy. Wayne felt the balanced weight of Maximus discouraged casting or coming over the top, a common flaw with amateur golfers. It also allowed the hands to drop into the proper position during the downswing and promoted proper hand rotation on the follow through. "While a professional might not use the L-Wedge on the golf course, it could be extremely helpful for players that flip their wrists when chipping or pitching, and that is a very big group," Searle confided.

Roger Gunn's students were very impressed. Gunn points out, "Maximus Tour Edition is great for chipping too, as it

becomes more of an arm swing instead of that scooping with the wrists, which causes fat and thin shots. The overwhelming factor that I've seen in my decade of teaching is that the players that get the best are the ones that get the club in their hands the most often," Gunn adds.

Ron Wuensche has won on the Asian PGA Tour. Ron, an assistant at the D'Andrea Golf Club (Reno), is a big fan of Maximus, for himself and his students. Wuensche swings his Maximus twenty to thirty minutes a day, especially before playing. He feels he needs only five or six swings with his regular clubs after this warm-up.

“The Maximus is perfect for one of golf's most devastating problems: "casting" the club. Anyone who experiences a lack of power because of this type of hand action will really benefit with just a few sessions with the Maximus.” *Roger Gunn*

Ron says that, "The weight of the club forces you to use your body instead of slapping with your arms or hands. It forces a full body turn on the way back and you can feel that extra turn. Students love hitting with Maximus and it always slows them down."

Everyday Golfers Respond

Everyday golfers rave about Maximus trainers and their improvement as a result is quite impressive. Michael Dambeck (Jackson, GA) has been using the clubs for almost a year and has reduced his average

scores six or eight shots a round. "There is no finer golf company," Dambeck says of Andersen Golf. "Their customer service is second to none." Speaking of the Tour Edition L-wedge he adds, "It's the perfect no brainer, get out of jail free card, shot making machine. I really feel the club head through the swing now."

Fuzzy Briggs (Columbia City, IN), says the look, assembly and quality of Maximus is excellent. It really helps me feel the position of the club head through the swing. It teaches you to swing slower and I get instant feedback by actually hitting balls." Long time golfer Tom Green (Tustin, CA) has used the driver and 7-iron for only three months but his handicap has dropped in that time from 18 to 12. He relates, "I knew I wasn't releasing the club properly. With the Maximus, I got the correct feel the first bucket of balls I hit." He swings his trainers a minimum of five minutes a day, and although he still hits some weak shots, his overall ball flight pattern is much more reliable. He is hitting the ball further now too.

Contact Info

Maximus comes with an in depth interactive CD user guide. Prices are \$68.95 for the 7-iron, \$78.95 for driver and \$88.95 for the Tour Edition L-Wedge. Combo packages available are \$124.95 for driver / 7-iron and \$174.95 for all three clubs. Maximus models come with a money back guarantee. To order or for additional information contact Andersen Golf at 866-794-6400 or visit the web at www.andersengolf.com.

