



Colwood Clinic clinches it: Practice pays off **By Bonnie LaFord, Education chair**

We had a great turnout for the Skills Clinic with Dennis Dolin and Kathy Wentworth at Colwood's fine golfing facility on June 25. And I was pleasantly surprised to find that five out of the 20 registered participants were new Portland EWGA members.

Here are a few pointers that Dennis taught us about chipping:

- Make sure that you position the ball in the middle of your stance.
- Use a swing similar to a putting stroke.
- Decide/visualize where you want your ball to land on the green and run toward the hole.
- Your club choice depends on the lie, distance, grass conditions, etc.

Kathy gave several great tips on putting:

- Mark and clean your ball every time you're on the green.
- Use the line on your ball to line up your putt.
- Most important of all – read the green (slope, undulations, distance, etc.) from all sides of your ball before putting

Following the clinic, each participant had the opportunity to practice the skills she learned on Colwood's Par-3 course. Many of the gals were pleased to find that they could drive more of the greens and were able to score lower than expected.

These comments from two of our new members indicate the skills and confidence the clinics gave them:

“ What a great experience -- both pros were great! I think putting and pitch shots are the most difficult and I now have four things from each clinic to practice and put into play -- what a difference a little instruction can do to make you feel better about your game.”

-- **Kathy Stromvig**

“I thought the clinic was great, especially the Chipping Clinic. I am absolutely confident the Clinic helped my game -- I got two pars!! (Scores on other holes were not as good, but not terrible.) I appreciated the opportunity to meet and become acquainted with other members of the Chapter. I am new to the game and new to the area, so meeting new people is essential to increasing opportunities to play. I am quickly learning why golf is an addictive sport. I am looking forward to other clinics in the future.”

-- **Priscilla Kisling**