

PREFACE

The concept for GOLFOLOGY developed while I was the Director of The Woodlands Golf Academy located at the world-renown Nemacolin Woodlands Resort in Farmington, PA. During my tenure, the Academy was one of the top ten destination golf schools listed by W.R.Miller, PhD in his *The Golf Primer*. At the time, I was receiving numerous phone calls from students asking how to implement what they had learned. This dilemma created a concern that our students needed a follow-up school manual to use after they graduated from the Academy. Computer-video was in its infancy and there were no cell phones, iPads, or truly portable cameras at the time. My intent was for the students to use this manual to apply what they learned while practicing away from my school setting. This follow-up book was entitled “The Purposeful Practice Program.”

As I went to work on the content during my spare time from playing, teaching, travelling schools and personal clients, an excess of content was developing. As my fingers constantly pounded the keyboard, I unintentionally continued to spew out more than just a practice plan. I was portraying a real-life personal account of my own difficulties in learning the game. Consequently, out of this mental mire, a hypothesis as to why golf is so difficult to learn began to emerge. The phrase “Golf Sense and Common Sense don’t mix” was born as the single term: GOLFOLOGY or the study of golf.

Later in my teaching journey, I felt I needed a more complete understanding of the mind-body network so I obtained my PhD in Holistic Sports Performance writing the thesis called: *The Integral Golfer*. This fifth version represents more studies from my culmination of 50+ years of playing, 40+ years of teaching and 20+ years of academia. This newly revised, updated and fully illustrated version of my study of Golf: “GOLFOLOGY ver. 5.0. It also includes, in the appendix, several excerpts from my new venture entitled *Holistic Golfology*. This book is a combination of my years of academic studies and its application to enhance learning the game of golf. My intent, as always, is to continue to expose all the confusing conundrums in learning golf. I portray myself more as a “WHY” than a HOW teacher-coach. Everyone is smart enough to figure out HOW. But, you must understand the WHY (golf sense) before you can successfully apply the HOW (common sense)!”

To conclude, A quote of Shivas Irons from the book *Golf in the Kingdom* written by Michael Murphy “You know Michael, I’m against writing’ since there are so many “how to” (golf) books in the world.” I trust this edition of GOLFOLOGY helps bring to light the “WHY” of correct golf concepts and how to retain them. Moreover, I suggest you apply the concepts in GOLFOLOGY to re-connect your golf-body-mind by harmonizing your common sense and golf sense so you can experience golf’s true gravity.