



## Business & Golf Quotations

*Many of the quotations following are for their relevance NOT to the sport of golf but to the “game” of business. To illustrate this connection, we have highlighted with a ★ quotations from professional golfers where they appear to be talking about business and NOT golf. Please send us any new quotations!*

*The place of the father in the modern suburban family is a very small one, particularly if he plays golf.*  
Bertrand Russell, English author, mathematician and philosopher

*It is impossible to imagine Goethe or Beethoven being good at billiards or golf.*  
H. L. Mencken, US editor

*The income tax has made more liars out of the American people than golf has.*  
Will Rogers, US humorist

*Golf and sex are about the only things you can enjoy without being good at.*  
Jimmy Demaret, US author

*Although golf was originally restricted to wealthy, overweight Protestants, today it's open to anybody who owns hideous clothing.*  
Dave Barry, US humorist

*Golf isn't a game; it's a choice that one makes with one's life.*  
Charles Rosin, author

*There's something intrinsically therapeutic about choosing to spend your time in a wide, open park-like setting that non-golfers can never truly understand.*  
Charles Rosin, author

*Golf is a game in which you claim the privileges of age, and retain the playthings of childhood.*  
Samuel Johnson, English author and critic

*I regard golf as an expensive way of playing marbles.*  
G.K. Chesterton, Writer

*A typical day in the life of a heavy metal musician consists of a round of golf and an AA meeting.*  
Billy Joel, US singer

*★ Ask yourself how many shots you would have saved if you never lost your temper, never got down on yourself, always developed a strategy before you hit, and always played within your own capabilities.*  
Jack Nicklaus, US golfer

*\* Confidence in golf means being able to concentrate on the problem at hand with no outside interference.*

*Tom Watson, US golfer*

*\* Correct one fault at a time. Concentrate on the one fault you want to overcome.*

*Sam Snead, US golfer*

*\* Don't be too proud to take lessons. I'm not.*

*Jack Nicklaus, US golfer*

*\* Don't look for excuses to lose. Look for excuses to win.*

*Chi Chi Rodriguez, US golfer*

*Don't play too much golf. Two rounds a day are plenty.*

*Harry Vardon, English golfer*

*Eighteen holes of golf will teach you more about your foe than eighteen years of dealing with him across a desk. Grantland Rice, US sports columnist, author*

*\* Every day you miss playing or practicing is one day longer it takes to be good.*

*Ben Hogan, US golfer*

*\* Every great player has learned the two Cs: how to concentrate and how to maintain composure.*

*Byron Nelson, US golfer*

*\* Fear comes in two packages fear of failure, and sometimes, fear of success.*

*Tom Kite, US golfer*

*\* Focus on remedies, not faults.*

*Jack Nicklaus, US golfer*

*\* Golf has probably kept more people sane than psychiatrists have.*

*Harvey Penick, US golfer, teacher*

*Golf is a day spent in a round of strenuous idleness.*

*William Wordsworth, English poet*

*\* Golf is a lot like life. When you make a decision, stick with it.*

*Byron Nelson, US golfer*

*\* Golf is a matter of confidence. If you think you cannot do it, there is no chance you will.*

*Henry Cotton, English golfer*

*\* Golf is a thinking man's game. You can have all the shots in the bag, but if you don't know what to do with them, you've got troubles.*

*Chi Chi Rodriguez, US golfer*

- \* *Golf is assuredly a mystifying game. It would seem that if a person has hit a golf ball correctly a thousand times, he should be able to duplicate the performance at will. But this is certainly not the case.*  
Bobby Jones, US golfer
- Golf is good for the soul. You get so mad at yourself you forget to hate your enemies.*  
Will Rogers, US actor, lecture and humorist
- Golf is like solitaire. When you cheat, you only cheat yourself.*  
Tony Lema, US actor, lecturer, humorist
- \* *A good golfer has the determination to win and the patience to wait for the breaks.*  
Gary Player, South African golfer
- \* *A hungry dog hunts best.*  
Lee Trevino, US golfer
- \* *A light, tender, sensitive touch is worth a ton of brawn.*  
Peter Thomson, Australian golfer
- \* *Always keep learning. It keeps you young.*  
Patty Berg, US golfer
- \* *Be brave if you lose and meek if you win.*  
Harvey Penick, US golfer, teacher
- \* *Concentration is a fine antidote to anxiety.*  
Jack Nicklaus, US golfer
- \* *Confidence in golf means being able to concentrate on the problem at hand with no outside interference.*  
Tom Watson, US golfer
- \* *Correct one fault at a time. Concentrate on the one fault you want to overcome.*  
Sam Snead, US golfer
- \* *Reverse every natural instinct and do the opposite of what you are inclined to do, and you will probably come very close to being perfect.*  
Ben Hogan, US golfer
- \* *I will tell you privately it's not going to get better, it's going to get worse all the time, but don't fret. Remember, we "play the ball where it lies," and now let's not talk about this, ever again.*  
Bobby Jones, US golfer
- \* *It is nothing new or original to say that golf is played one stroke at a time. But it took me many years to realize it.*  
Bobby Jones, US golfer

*\* Some people think they are concentrating when they're merely worrying.*

*Bobby Jones, US golfer*

*\* Discipline and concentration are a matter of being interested.*

*Tom Kite, US golfer*

*\* Confidence is the most important single factor in this game, and no matter how great your natural talent, there is only one way to obtain and sustain it: work.*

*Jack Nicklaus, US golfer*

*\* He had a lot of talent, but didn't have much dedication, wasn't organized, didn't know how to learn, didn't know how to comprehend what he was doing, didn't try to learn how to get better.*

*Jack Nicklaus, US golfer*

*\* I'm a firm believer that in the theory that people only do their best at things they truly enjoy. It is difficult to excel at something you don't enjoy.*

*Jack Nicklaus, US golfer*

*\* My ability to concentrate and work toward that goal has been my greatest asset.*

*Jack Nicklaus, US golfer*

*\* I'm a very intense person. When I go after something, I want to go after it with everything I have. I want to push myself to the edge.*

*Greg Norman, Australian golfer*

*\* Concentration, Confidence, Competitive urge, Capacity for enjoyment.*

*Arnold Palmer, US golfer*

*\* What do I mean by concentration? I mean focusing totally on the business at hand and commanding your body to do exactly what you want it to do.*

*Arnold Palmer, US golfer*

*\* You must play boldly to win.*

*Arnold Palmer, US golfer*

*\* Overall the fundamentals seem to be there and he's obviously got a very mature head on his shoulders. He's got a kind of presence.*

*Nick Price, Zimbabwe golfer*

*\* I am the toughest golfer mentally.*

*Tiger Woods, US golfer*

*\* I don't know if I even have an aura, man. I just try to win.*

*Tiger Woods, US golfer*

*\* I'm trying as hard as I can, and sometimes things don't go your way, and that's the way things go.*

*Tiger Woods, US golfer*

*\* If you can't laugh at yourself, then who can you laugh at?*

*Tiger Woods, US golfer*

*\* Golf is deceptively simple and endlessly complicated; it satisfies the soul and frustrates the intellect. It is at the same time rewarding and maddening - and it is without a doubt the greatest game mankind has ever invented.*

*Arnold Palmer, US golfer*

*The difference between golf and government is that in golf you can't improve your lie.*

*George Deukmejian, Former governor of California*

*The great thing about this game is that the bad days are wonderful.*

*Bill Clinton*

*Talking about golf is always boring. Playing golf can be interesting, but not the part where you try to hit the little ball; only the part where you drive the cart.*

*Dave Barry, US Humorist*

*Golf is like life in a lot of ways - All the biggest wounds are self-inflicted.*

*Bill Clinton*

*The trees taunt you; the sand mocks you; the water calls your name and they say golf is a quiet game.*

*Anonymous*

*Golf is played by twenty million mature American men whose wives think they are out having fun.*

*Jimmy Bishop, US writer*

*Give me golf clubs, fresh air and a beautiful partner, and you can keep the clubs and the fresh air.*

*Jack Benny, US comedian*

*They call it golf because all the other four-letter words were taken.*

*Ray Floyd, US golfer*

*Have you ever noticed what golf spells backwards?*

*Al Boliska, Radio personality*

*The earth is God's golf ball.*

*Don Van Vliet*

*A Major golf tournament is 40,000 sadists watching 144 masochists.*

*Thomas Boswell, U.S. writer*

*Go play golf. Go to the golf course. Hit the ball. Find the ball. Repeat until the ball is in the hole. Repeat this 18 times. Have fun. The end.*

*Chuck Hogan, U.S. writer*

*His golf bag does not contain a full set of irons.*

*Robin Williams, US comedian*

*Golf is a game not just of manners but of morals.*

*Art Spander*

*"If you are caught on a golf course during a storm and are afraid of lightning, hold up a 1-iron. Not even God can hit a 1-iron."*

*Lee Trevino, US golfer*

*It took me seventeen years to get three thousand hits in baseball. I did it in one afternoon on the golf course.*

*Hank Aaron, US baseball legend*

*\* Sometimes things work out on the golf course and sometimes they don't. Life will go on. You try to understand what happens, but maybe today I don't want to know. I just screwed up so maybe I should just put it behind me.*

*Greg Norman, Australian golfer*

*Golf is a game in which you yell "Fore!" shoot six, and write down five.*

*Paul Harvey, US radio broadcaster*

*Nothing dissects a man in public quite like golf.*

*Brent Musburger, US broadcaster*

*\* Golf is the hardest game in the world. There is no way you can ever get it. Just when you think you do, the game jumps up and puts you in your place.*

*Ben Crenshaw, US golfer*

*Golf is typical capitalist lunacy.*

*George Bernard Shaw, Irish playwright*

*\* They say golf is like life, but don't believe them. Golf is more complicated than that.*

*Gardner Dickinson, US Golfer*

*\* Golf is an awkward set of bodily contortions designed to produce a graceful result.*

*Tommy Armour, Scottish golfer*

*Golf appeals to the idiot in us and the child. Just how childlike golf players become is proven by their frequent inability to count past five.*

*John Updike, American writer*

*When you fall in love with golf, you seldom fall easy. It's obsession at first sight.*

*Thomas Boswell*

*Golf is the pursuit of the infinite.*

*Jim Murray*

*He who has the fastest golf cart never has a bad lie.*

Mickey Mantle, baseball legend

*One of the most fascinating things about golf is how it reflects the cycle of life. No matter what you shoot, the next day you have to go back to the first tee and begin all over again and make yourself into something.*

Peter Marshall

*Golf is a wonderful exercise. You can stand on your feet for hours, watching somebody else putt.*

Will Rogers

*Golf is the only sport that a professional can enjoy playing with his friends. Can Larry Holmes enjoy fighting one of his friends?*

Chi Chi Rodriguez, US golfer

*Golf is an exercise in Scottish pointlessness for people who are no longer able to throw telephone poles at each other.*

Florence King

*"There's no game like golf: you go out with three friends, play eighteen holes, and return with three enemies"*

Anonymous

*Golf: A game in which you claim the privileges of age and retain the playthings of youth.*

Samuel Johnson

*Show me a man who is a good loser and I'll show you a man who is playing golf with his boss.*

Jim Murray

*I met my wife through playing golf. She is French and couldn't speak English and I couldn't speak French, so there was little chance of us getting involved in any boring conversations - that's why we got married really quickly.*

Sean Connery, Scottish actor

*Golf... is the infallible test. The man who can go into a patch of rough alone, with the knowledge that only God is watching him, and play his ball where it lies, is the man who will serve you faithfully and well.*

P. G. Wodehouse

*\* A kid grows up a lot faster on the golf course. Golf teaches you how to behave.*

Jack Nicklaus, US golfer

*All I've got against golf is it takes you too far from the clubhouse.*

Eric Linklater

*Many men are more faithful to their golf partners than to their wives and have stuck with them longer.*

John Updike, US writer

*Golf is not a fair game, so why build a course fair?*

Pete Dye, Golf Course Architect

*It's good sportsmanship to not pick up lost golf balls while they are still rolling.*

Mark Twain, *American humorist*

*I know I am getting better at golf because I am hitting fewer spectators.*

Gerald R. Ford, *American President*

*The uglier a man's legs are, the better he plays golf-it's almost a law.*

H. G. Wells, *English novelist*

*An interesting thing about golf is that no matter how badly you play, it is always possible to get worse.*

Anonymous

\* *There is no such thing as a natural touch. Touch is something you create by hitting millions of golf balls.*

Lee Trevino, *US golfer*

*Golf was once a rich man's sport, but now it has millions of poor players.*

Anonymous

\* *When it's breezy, hit it easy.*

Davis Love, Jr., *US golfer*

\* *By the time you get to your ball, if you don't know what to do with it, try another sport.*

Julius Boros, *US golfer*

*Golf is very much like a love affair, if you don't take it seriously, it's no fun, if you do, it breaks your heart. Don't break your heart, but flirt with the possibility."*

Louise Suggs

*"Golf is the cruelest game, because eventually it will drag you out in front of the whole school, take your lunch money and slap you around.*

Rick Reilly

\* *I look into their eyes, shake their hand, pat their back, and wish them luck, but I am thinking, "I am going to bury you".*

Seve Ballesteros, *Spanish golfer*

\* *Never break your putter and your driver in the same round or you're dead.*

Tommy Bolt, *US golfer*

*Golf is a good walk spoiled.*

Mark Twain, *US humorist*

\* *It is nothing new or original to say that golf is played one stroke at a time. But it took me many years to realize it.*

Bobby Jones, *US golfer*

*If you watch a game, it's fun. If you play at it, it's recreation. If you work at it, it's golf.*

Bob Hope, US actor & comedian

*Golf may be played on Sunday, not being a game within the view of the law, but being a form of moral effort.*

Stephen Leacock, Canadian economist & humorist

*One golfer a year is hit by lightning. This may be the only evidence we have of God's existence.*

Steve Aylett, US author

*\* A lot of guys who have never choked have never been in the position to do so.*

Tom Watson, US golfer

*\* Putts get real difficult the day they hand out the money.*

Lee Trevino, US golfer

*\* The only shots you can be dead sure of are those you've had already.*

Byron Nelson, US golfer

*Golf is a game that needlessly prolongs the lives of some of our most useless citizens.*

Bob Hope, US humorist

*Golf is the hardest game in the world to play, and the easiest to cheat at.*

Dave Hill, US golfer

*Golf is a game which aim is to hit a very small ball into an even smaller hole with weapons singularly ill-designed for the purpose.*

Winston Churchill

*Golf is a game where guts and blind devotion will always net you absolutely nothing but an ulcer.*

Tommy Bolt, US golfer

*Drive for show, Putt for dough, Shank for comic relief.*

Anonymous

*Golf is a game where the ball lies poorly, and the players well.*

Anonymous

*Real golfers don't cry when they line up their fourth putt.*

Anonymous

*\* As you walk down the fairway of life you must smell the roses, for you only get to play one round.*

Ben Hogan, US golfer

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