

## Is a long driver for you?

For years, the average driver was 43 inches. This length was perfect to get the club components a chance to work together. Steel shaft, wood head, rubber grip and plastic insert were a fine combination to get the club balanced and not be too long to be too unwieldy to use. It was relatively easy for one to hit the golf ball on the center of the face, the majority of the time. In about the late 1970's early 1980's, the average length went to 43 and ½ inches. This was meant to help improve distance. I remember this seemed like a very long club, a lot harder to control.

Today, with the invention of steel, titanium, or composite heads, the face was made larger along with the rest of the head. Longer shafts, because of better quality, were introduced to try and get more distance. It is very common today to see 45 and 46 inch drivers with huge heads. It is much harder to hit the center of the face with a longer club. Because of this, the much sought after distance, can be harder to attain. Accuracy is another item, that can be affected with extra length. If you get a chance to study the charts on all of the variables, you'll find that the extra long drivers are not all that great. Personally, I still use a 43and½ in driver and when I swing it correctly, I'm still quite satisfied with the result.

I'm sure others that use the long drivers will say they are very satisfied with their performance. The extra distance they get, seems well worth the adjustment they make to the longer club.