

ULTIMATE GUIDE TO NEW IRONS | TOUR DRIVING TIPS



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APRIL 2005

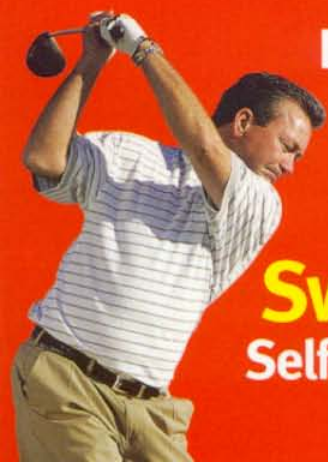
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DISPLAY UNTIL APRIL 12, 2005

www.golftipsmag.com



kzg

PC-III

www.kzggolf.com

(800) 200-8800 | \$449 (\$549 graphite)



KZG has cultivated a strong following for its high-end, custom-fitted golf equipment, and the PC-III irons are sure to continue this trend with an emphasis not only on quality, but on affordability as well.

Each iron is uniquely perimeter-weighted—there's minimal perimeter weighting in the short irons and maximum perimeter weighting in the long irons, resulting in excellent maneuverability. The cavity also is progressive, culminating in a series of blade-style short irons designed for precision shotmaking. The center of gravity is lowest in the long irons, gradually rising up the face as loft increases. **Cast from stainless steel, the PC-IIIs echo the feeling of some of KZG's other forged clubs.** The PC-IIIs also are relatively pliable for custom-fitting.

Clubhead: Stainless steel • **Clubface:** Same

Design: Cast progressive • **Size:** Midsized • **Clubs:** 3-SW (available LH) • **Shaft(s):** KZG Dynamic Gold steel (X, S, R); KZG Tourforce graphite (X, S, R, A, L)

la jolla club

Knife

www.ljcgolf.com

(800) 468-7700 | \$299 (\$349 graphite)



After the remarkable success of La Jolla's innovative Knife fairway and utility clubs, the company has transitioned its three-blade technology to a full set of irons.

The Knife irons

feature a patented three-blade design on the sole for less drag and added stability through impact for more consistent shotmaking. Also, each iron features a hollow core behind the clubface to effectively increase the club's perimeter weighting, and a tungsten ring located in the back of the clubhead lowers the CG, both resulting in added forgiveness and a higher trajectory. A vibration ring on the back of the club helps to enhance feel. Even with all this technology, the Knife irons retain a classic profile and topline for a traditional look at address.

Clubhead: Stainless steel • **Clubface:** Same

Design: Cast cavity-back • **Size:** Standard

Clubs: 3-PW • **Shaft(s):** Harrison steel (S, R, A, L); Rapport proprietary graphite (S, R, A, L)

we tried it!

Golf Tips Gives the Cleveland Launchers A Go

Cleveland's Launcher irons feature a higher MOI than any iron the company has ever produced, which has included a fair number of quality, game-improvement models. As such, it's not an iron for ultra-serious, ultra-traditional players. Cleveland's new CG lineup and last year's TA-1 and TA-3 are better-suited for these types of golfers. But for the rest of us, the Launcher is an excellent match.

Everything about the Launcher iron is big. The head is large, the back cavity encompasses nearly the entire rear of the clubhead, and there's a noticeable offset. Our first reaction was that perhaps they were too big; our second take was that they're very easy to set up at address and frame the ball beautifully.

Cleveland touts the iron's low CG, and sure enough, our good swings produced shots that flew on a high, yet stable trajectory. One drawback of the design, however, is the wider sole width, which certainly adds to the iron's forgiving capabilities, but steps up the difficulty when playing off tight lies and for those with shallower swings. Nevertheless, for golfers who need assistance, and who also feature swings that are more steep than shallow, this is hardly worth a

concern. In fact, it's a tangible benefit.

Regarding distance, the combination of the large head, low and deep CG placement, and slightly stronger lofts made the Launchers about a full club longer than normal. Part of the added distance seemed to be due to the relatively high trajectory produced by these clubs, which is something to consider if you tend to play in a lot of wind on a regular basis. For target-style golf courses, however, the higher ballflight and longer carry distance provided by the Launchers is ideal.

Verdict: The Launchers are designed primarily for players who want forgiveness with added distance and a high trajectory, and in each of these areas, they don't disappoint. They should satisfy a wide range of golfers, including some single-digit players who desire just a bit of help.



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- ★ **WINNER:** Three "BEST OF THE BEST" awards from independent golf reviewer Rankmark
- ★ **WINNER:** The "SEAL OF EXCELLENCE" from independent golf reviewer Golf Test USA



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