

College Golf Team

Stanford University Men's Golf Team

Conrad Ray, Head Coach

<http://gostanford.cstv.com/sports>

Conrad Ray, a former Stanford University golfer and touring golf professional, will begin his fourth season as Head Coach of the men's golf program in 2008. Over the past three years he has taken a team ranked 74th in the nation to winning the NCAA Championships last year. In his own words, "TrackMan™ was a big part of that." He is one of the elite few NCAA head coaches to have won an NCAA title as both an athlete and coach and was a member of the legendary 1994 Stanford championship team that featured Tiger Woods, Casey Martin and Notah Begay. Ray was named the 2007 Pac-10 Coach of the Year, the Pacific Regional Coach of the Year and the Dave Williams/Eaton Golfpride National Coach of the Year following the 2007 campaign.

Why choose TrackMan™

A challenge for any university is funding. Ray is fortunate that his team receives tremendous support from the university, foundations and supporters. Importantly Ray says that having TrackMan™ can be an advantage with recruitment.

"It's a good selling point. As a golfer you're looking for the school that will help you become a better player and take you to the next level. Knowing a school is using TrackMan™ means that they're serious and that you will be able to take advantage of it to get better.

I see success coming to the kids and teams that really pay attention to the details. To compete at the highest level, you have to take the variables out of the equation. Distance control is very important in college golf. TrackMan™ gives us so much information with the ball, complete, tangible and concrete info. It is the one system that can make a difference," says Ray.

Bringing value and results

Ray believes in practicing how you play. He likes his players to work in stations that simulate game time conditions. Working on shots they are going to use.

"There's no trickery to the numbers that TrackMan™ provides, it's unbiased feedback. There's so much useful information. We're probably just scratching the surface. It's like a sports car. The numbers are phenomenal even though we presently just use a few parameters. It's better to have more information than less.



Stanford Head Coach - Conrad Ray.

Because it is very mobile, we basically always have it out. The PDF reports that the system generates are great. We can print them out and the players can take away their numbers. They are very interested in the statistics and understand the value in using them.

The advantage TrackMan™ gives can make a difference. We're getting better at understanding and appreciating all it can do," says Ray.

Using TrackMan™

"When you see the best players in the world paying so much attention to the finite details, you pay attention too. TrackMan™ has helped us eliminate the variables (in our game). It let's you learn to control what you can control. Knowing your precise distance for example, allows you to check that off your list.

We always train with 3-4 stations, playing shot games. TrackMan™ has been great for our short yardage control. It has helped the players really learn how far their wedges go. In fact, one of our top players carries four wedges in his bag, TrackMan™ has taught him precisely which swing he needs for a particular distance.

Most players, even the top pros, don't pick a small enough target. With the driver we were able to learn how to focus on a small target. TrackMan™ helps us pick a small target and zero in on it, improving our dispersion and focus.

In golf, it's pretty easy to be good but tough to be great. TrackMan™ helps you improve what really matters; tangible numbers, no guesswork, improving your awareness," says Ray.