

... iGolf ...

 Reviewed by [Henry Kong](#), on March 29th 2001

Another One Joins The Fore

There is no match that is made in heaven as fitly joined together as golf and PDAs. ZioGolf was THE game to buy a PPC for. When it was ported to the Palm, it immediately was crowned as the best game on that OS. Then there was ZioGolf 2, sexier and better than ever. So when iGolf was released by [CECraft](#), i was excited to see yet another golf game for the PPC by this newcomer.

First Experiences

I must admit that my first experiences were not positive. The first trial download does not install properly. I downloaded it a second time. It went through the process, but when I tried to get on the first three courses, it freezes up between the selection of the player to the tee off at the first course. A week or two later, I made my third attempt and everything works. Well, almost everything. The swing engine was so fast that getting the ball into play was like a wheel of fortune spin. After a several more minutes, I lost all interest. Well, there is always ZioGolf. Not one to give up easily, I went back to the game a week later. This time, I have already moved it to the storage card with the proper links. Somehow it did not run. Maybe the trial period is over, I guessed.

One More Time, With Feeling

When friends tell me how much they liked iGolf, I started paying a little bit more attention to the spat of reviews that were just beginning to come out. Mike from [PocketGamer](#) gave it a pretty high rating. Hmmm... there must be more to this game than a pretty face. I downloaded the trial version (for the fifth time) and took it through the paces. I must say that this game does grow on you. Let me roll out the golf cart and take you through the first hole. As you can see above, iGolf has a nice header, then takes you right to the selection of courses. At present there is only the registered and demo courses, but CeCraft promises a slew of (now hear this) free courses to come. I can hardly wait.

On the First Hole...

Once you have chosen your (colorful) character, you can elect to use the owner's name that the program took from your registry or enter a new name. You can choose multiple or single play, or if you are really serious, network play as well. For single play, it is rather fun to have the cpu (or should I say, pda) to pace along. I must say that a lot of thought has gone into the layout. It is stunningly beautiful, with attention-to-detail graphics. The screen does not look overly busy, and at the same time provides the vital data. The clubs, ball factor etc can be opened or closed at will. By default it is opened before you decide to take the swing, and automatically closes when you take the swing. Nice.

Simply Nice

The swing engine, which is the most important part of the game is a tad too fast on the Ipaq. With more practise, it is possible to master it. As it is, it does make the game rather challenging. The first tap starts the upward swing (power); second tap decides the

Scoreboard Scores					
Henry Kong - 77					
	PAR	YOU	PAR	YOU	
1	4	5	10	5	
2	4		11	4	
3	5		12	4	
4	4		13	4	
5	4		14	3	
6	3		15	4	
7	4		16	4	
8	3		17	3	
9	4		18	5	
Next ▶		Total		4	+1

SCORE

★★☆☆ (8/10)

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strength and the third tap is for accuracy. On the green, only one tap (for power) is necessary. This is a good thing as it is very difficult to do 3 taps on a 1 yard miss! There is a nice swwissh sound each time you take a swing. I would have swore that I heard, "Yesss!" when I hit a dead center! The chirping birds and ocean waves are also a nice touch to the entire game.

Summary

Well, as you can see above, a fair first hole on the pda. It would be great if I could repeat this on a real course! Although the price tag is a little high imho, this game is worth every cent you pay for. Especially when you think of the many promised courses that will soon be available for downloading. You have to wait a long time before another game, with strong points in gameplay, graphics and sound; as good as this comes along.

Dr. Henry Kong is a self-confessed PDA-addict, starting with the first Palm Pilot. He has been in the ministry for over 35 years and has a popular personal website which he fondly calls, Henry's 3Cs' - computer, church and cuisine.

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