SAM PuttLab 6 – New SAM Tour reference data 2018

Science & Motion Sports

SAM PuttLab 6

2nd feature update 2018

New SAM Tour Reference Data
2018
SAM PuttLab 6: Updated PGA Tour data reference

The 2nd SAM PuttLab 6 feature update from August 2018 introduces brand new PGA Tour players reference data.

The Tour data reference is used to calculate the Score and Consistency ratings as well as to indicate preferred data ranges in the reports.

Changes of average performance and consistency of the actual Tour Players will have influence on data ratings displayed in the PuttLab software.

PGA Tour data reference

**PGA Tour data reference 2006:**

The original Tour player data comprised 99 PGA Tour players being collected between 2003 and 2005. It has been updated in 2009.

- No of players included: 99

**PGA Tour data reference 2018:**

Now we have implemented an updated PGA Tour reference database from 2018. It contains data from 150 PGA Tour players.

- Period of data collection: until 2018
- No of players included: 150
Differences in Tour data 2006 / 2018

If we compare the PGA Tour reference data 2018 with the data from 2006, we find some improvements in average performance in the new database:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Face at Address</td>
<td>0.35°</td>
<td>0.14°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face at Impact</td>
<td>0.30°</td>
<td>0.27°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Path at Impact</td>
<td>-0.80°</td>
<td>-0.43°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face Rotation Impact Zone</td>
<td>3.24°</td>
<td>3.60°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhythm</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Besides the improvements for Face at Address, Face at Impact and Path at Impact there are some other significant changes:

The Face Rotation in the impact Zone has increased from 3.24 to 3.60 degrees and the backswing Rhythm has changed slightly to 2.2 now.

However, the most important aspect is an overall increased Consistency of the players performance.

These improvements of the putting performance on the PGA Tours might be a consequence of introducing putting analysis technology like SAM PuttLab in putt training in the past years.

By default the new 2018 scoring system is activated after installation of the feature update. If you want to stay with the old scoring you need to set this in the settings like described on the last page.
Example: *Face at Address*

Here we see the changes for *Face at Address*:

The graphs show the distribution of the players. The height of the bars corresponds to the number of players at a specific Aim Angle (at "0" on the horizontal scale is the zero Aim Angle).

In 2006, the average Aim Angle was 0.35 degrees to the right. This has changed in 2018 to 0.14 degrees to the right, which is more to the center. This means, that the average Aim Angle has improved significantly.

Additionally the distribution between the players has become more narrow. There are less extreme Aim Angles to the left and to the right in 2018. The standard deviation between players changed from 1.56 to 1.31 degrees now.
Example: Consistency *Face at Address*

There are also **differences in Consistency**:

![Graphs showing Consistency for Face at Address in 2006 and 2018](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Consistency</th>
<th>SD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>0.70°</td>
<td>+- 0.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>0.60°</td>
<td>+- 0.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The average Consistency, which is the repeatability for each player, has improved from 0.70 in 2006 to 0.60 degrees in 2018.

The distribution between the players has decreased. It has decreased from 0.30 to 0.25 degrees.

**Overall, there is an improvement of the Face at Address data in 2018.**
Consequences on putting results displayed in SAM PuttLab

Different Performance Scores for HC 25

The scoring system in the SAM PuttLab reports is based on the Tour players reference data.

An improved data reference necessarily has consequences on the scoring system in the SAM PuttLab reports. Based on this the increased performance in the Tour players data 2018 will result in somewhat lower scores in the PuttLab reports.

If we compare a report based on the 2018 Tour data with a report based on the 2009 Tour data, the performance scores will be slightly lower.

This means, the scoring system of PuttLab based on 2018 reference data has become more challenging, based on improved performance of the Tour players.
Choosing the Tour Data Reference in the software

If you want to keep the old scoring system of SAM PuttLab 6 you can choose which Tour data reference and scoring you want to use:

- Click the "Settings" button on the Main Screen
- Select "General" in the left sidebar
- If you want to use the new scoring, you do not have to do anything, since this option is already preset by us (-> checkbox "based on 2018 tour player data new" is activated)
- To keep the old scoring from 2009, select the first checkbox ("based on 2009 tour player data original").

By default the new 2018 scoring system is activated after installation of the feature update. If you want to stay with the old scoring you need to set this in the settings like described above.