Nine possible flight directions may occur. These directions are determined by the club path, clubface position and ball velocity. The ball may fly in three directions – right, straight or left – with three-clubface positions – open, square or closed. The combinations of these factors determine the initial direction and curvature of the ball in flight.

**Curve - The position of the clubface at impact**

The position of the clubface at impact determines whether the ball flies straight in the air. For a right-handed golfer, an open clubface produces a curve to the right (slice) and a closed clubface produces a shot that curves to the left (hook).

**Direction - The path of the swing**

The direction of the ball’s flight is caused by the direction of the club, with respect to the target line, as it moves through the ball. It’s like throwing a ball at a target, the hand (in the case of a thrown ball) should point to the target at the release of the ball. The ball travels in the direction it is released. This concept applies to golf. For a right-handed golfer, if a shot goes to the left (a pull) the club was moving along a path that traveled to the left at impact. If the shot traveled right (push), the swing path was traveling right at impact.