

Drivers

Madeleine Winnett casts her eye over a selection of ladies' drivers that can give you extra yards



Nike Sumo2 5900

- Powerful square geometry plus multi-material construction equals the highest MOI in golf
- Large COR zone and multi thickness face for longer, straighter shots

Available Lofts: 10.5, 13 & 16°

SRP: £320

www.nikegolfeurope.com

0800 056 1640

LG verdict: Wow! This driver is really quite ugly, especially until you get used to it, and deafeningly loud – you have to apologise to other users at the range – but boy does it fly well! If it is distance you are looking for, this won't disappoint. The ball rockets off the clubface, has an effortless draw and carries a very long way.

LG RATING	
Looks	6
Forgiveness	9
Quality	9
Value	8
Overall	9

Yonex Nanospeed i

- Aerodynamic pentagon-shaped head smooths the airflow around the clubhead, providing stability and faster impact speeds for longer, straighter drives
- Carbon graphite crown allows weight to be positioned for a lower and deeper CoG for the perfect launch angle

Available Lofts: 12 & 14°

SRP: £199

www.yonex.com

0208 742 9777

LG verdict: I liked everything about this club apart from the very thin grip, which I guess is just down to personal preference. Despite the unusual head shape, it looks good, sits well, and provides a really good ball strike and flight. It's also long, and shapes the ball well. An impressive debut for my first try with a Yonex.

LG RATING	
Looks	8
Forgiveness	8
Quality	8
Value	8
Overall	8.5



Snake Eyes Viper Ti-462

- Twin rear screw weight ports allow for ball flight customisation.
- Offset hosel shifts the CG even further back, increasing launch angle while reducing slicing

Available Lofts: 15°

SRP: £149

www.golfsmith-europe.co.uk

01480 308 800

LG verdict: My opinion hasn't changed since last year. I'm not taken with this club looks-wise – the colour, the off-set head, and how it sits closed at address. But it is brilliant when it comes to hitting. Incredibly forgiving, effortless to hit, high-launching and offering a long carry. Higher handicappers should love it.

LG RATING	
Looks	6
Forgiveness	9
Quality	8
Value	8.5
Overall	9

MADELEINE'S SUMMARY

I THINK you have to go with the Nike if it's raw power and aggression that you're looking for. However, if you're after ultimate forgiveness, you certainly would never be disappointed with the TaylorMade or the Snake Eyes. I was also taken by the Yonex. But, there isn't one poor driver here in what was a highly-impressive bunch.



Wilson Staff Luxe

- Featherweight V2 shaft with softer flex and lower kick point to help launch the ball high and generate more clubhead speed

SRP: £169

www.wilsonstaff.com

01294 316 270

LG RATING

Looks	7.5	71
Forgiveness	7	
Quality	7	
Value	7	
Overall	7	

LG verdict: This looks very lofted at address, which may inspire confidence. It is also nearly as ear-splittingly loud as the Nike! The ball flies very high – an advantage to those looking for more height with a driver. The strike feels solid, but I wasn't always consistent.

Ping Rhapsody

- Confidence-inspiring, 460cc titanium head to provide distance and accuracy

SRP: £239

www.pinggolf.com

01427 615 405

LG verdict: To be honest, I miss the classic blue looks of the old G5L – this doesn't stand out. The ultra-light shaft is very flexible and is definitely more suitable for ladies with a slower swing speed. They will also appreciate the high ball flight and effortless nature of the club.

LG RATING

Looks	7.5	75
Forgiveness	8	
Quality	8	
Value	7	
Overall	7	



Srixon Z-TI

- Tungsten nickel weights and 0.5mm crown for max distance with high launch and low spin

SRP: £199

www.srixon.co.uk

01420 541 709

LG verdict: It sits very strangely at address, with the heel down, and the toe sticking up, but I really did like the strike with the ball. The flight was long with a good shape, and it was effortless to hit. Light and flexible, it is very easy to use.

LG RATING

Looks	8	78
Forgiveness	8	
Quality	8	
Value	7	
Overall	8	

LG RATING

Looks	6.5	81
Forgiveness	9	
Quality	8	
Value	8	
Overall	9	

TaylorMade Burner

- The size, shape and weighting of the 460cc titanium head make it stable and forgiving

SRP: £219

www.taylormadegolf.com

0800 8624 4653

LG verdict: This was my 2007 driver of the year, and I still love it. The forgiveness is outstanding. I don't like the way it sits closed at address, nor its ultra lightness and flexibility, but I still think it's impossible to miss the centre of the fairway every time with it. Long, straight and idiot-proof!



MD Golf Superstrong Lady Ti460

- The new EQL Offset helps eliminate sliced shots by keeping the club head square at impact

SRP: £99

www.mdgolf.co.uk
02894 460 333

LG verdict: I like the classic-looking head shape. This club grew on me the more shots I hit. Feels stiffer than many others, and flies much lower – although with a penetrating flight. Possibly more suited to stronger players, and faster swing speeds.

LG RATING	
Looks	8
Forgiveness	7
Quality	7
Value	7
Overall	7



Callaway Big Bertha

- Correct alignment stripe along with the consistent alignment sole makes it easier to point the driver in the right direction

SRP: £219

www.callawaygolf.com
0208 391 0100

LG verdict: Really good. It sits square behind the ball at address, just inviting you to hit it. In many respects, the shaft and grip feel quite similar to the Taylor Made. I tried the 13° which did fly very high – a bonus for those looking for more height – but carried a long way.

LG RATING	
Looks	7.5
Forgiveness	8
Quality	8
Value	8
Overall	8

Cleveland HiBore XL

- Full-Face Performance from a face-centered sweetspot for greater distance from anywhere on the clubface

SRP: £199

www.clevelandgolf.com
01252 761 300

LG verdict: I struggled to hit this consistently well – although that is undoubtedly due the light, flexible shaft not suiting my swing. When I did time it right, the ball flew very well – high and long. I liked the sponginess of the grip, but it was so thin you could feel the shaft through it. Worth trying.

LG RATING	
Looks	8
Forgiveness	6
Quality	7
Value	7
Overall	7.5



Lynx Tigress

- Lower CoG and high-launching lofts to promote optimised launch conditions

SRP: £149

www.lynx-golf.com
0870 428 1778

LG verdict: This grip is very thick, but beautifully soft and cushioned – although the combination of a purple grip with a pink shaft isn't great! The cycling helmet head shape doesn't look as strange on the driver as the fairway wood, and the results were very good. Great flight, shape, length and easy to use.

LG RATING	
Looks	6
Forgiveness	8
Quality	7
Value	7
Overall	7.5