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Golfer

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TOMMY

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HOW TO

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- ✓ Analyse your swing



AUGUST 2020 ISSUE 402 JULY 2-29 £4.99

THE OPEN

THAT NEVER WAS!

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SkyCaddie has transferred its brilliant GPS graphics and data into a watch

If you're serious about accurate, up-to-date GPS yardages, SkyCaddie have stood out for years. They insist on getting out there and measuring courses on foot – regularly – unlike most GPS suppliers who rely on measured distances from aerial photography and satellite information (which can be out of date).

But two years ago SkyCaddie took things to a new level of detail when they revealed the SX500 handheld GPS. It was similar in dimensions to a plus-size mobile phone, had a touch screen and happily calculated yardages to any point on the course all day long.

But the feature that really sold it for us was how it showed how far was left behind a flag, and how much green there was to play with either side of the flag – features a

laser could never compete with. So in depth was the yardage information the system spat out that, for the first time ever, several high profile tour players adopted the system and ditched their yardage books forever. And when you're playing for your livelihood and hundreds of thousands of pounds a season, that's a really big deal.

Wind the clock forward nearly two years and SkyCaddie have now rolled out the same kind of functionality and vivid graphics in the smaller SX400 and now in a watch, the LX5 GPS – and here's everything you need to know about it.

More than just a GPS

The LX5 lets golfers track stats too. Access your score, total putts, fairways hit and missed as well as how many greens you've hit in regulation.

Scroll and pan

Just like SkyCaddie's larger GPS handhelds you can scroll and pan around each hole to see hidden hazards and how far you've got to carry or lay up short of them.

Packed with features

SkyCaddie have thought of everything with the LX5, even down to selecting the tee boxes you're using, which all increases accuracy.



SKYCADDIE LX5 GPS WATCH

£299.95 (includes three-year
SkyGolf 360 Pro membership)

There's only one GPS unit in the world that can claim to have any sort of resonance on a professional world golf tour, and that's SkyCaddie's super powerful SX500. OK, it may only be a foothold on the Staysure Tour (Europe's Champions Tour) but while the game's biggest earners still rely on caddies and laser rangefinders, tour pros of the quality of Ian Woosnam are seeing the benefits GPS technology bring to their game for the first time.

The SX500 has been our favourite handheld GPS for nearly two years now, primarily because it's so powerful, and gives more detailed information than a traditional yardage book and laser rangefinder. But if there was ever a downside it was the unit's size (as big as a plus-size mobile phone), and we're well aware not everyone wants to keep such a device to hand on every step around the golf course.

So, recognising the success of their previous GPS watches SkyCaddie are shrinking the information you get on the SX500 to a brand new LX5 GPS watch size for your wrist. It's a genius move and well deserving of an inclusion within our Gear of the Year. For the full story of the game's newest and most powerful GPS watch see page 124.

