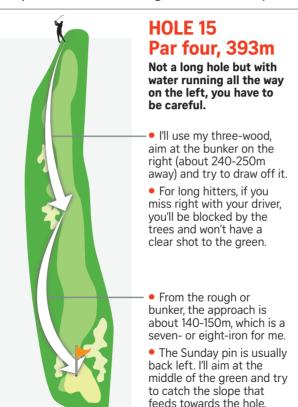
Serapong's litmus test

The Singapore Open returns this week after a three-year absence and will be held at the Sentosa Golf Club's Serapong Course. Singapore's Lam Chih Bing, who will compete in his 11th Open, takes ST through three of the pivotal holes.





HOLE 18 Par five, 496m

How you want to play this hole really depends on how aggressive you want to be as it could decide the championship.

Conservative play

- The safe play is to aim at the right bunker with my driver. But you don't want to hit it too long as the bunker comes into play at about 260m.
- I'll lay-up with my five-iron (185m), which will carry the second group of bunkers ahead. That leaves 90m to the flag.
- With my lob wedge, I'll go straight at the pin and hit slightly over. There's a slope 4.5 metres past it which I'll use to roll the ball close to the hole.

Go-for-broke play

- The aggressive play is to aim left, bringing the lake into play.
 You want to be as close to the water as possible.
- I can hit about 270m with a good drive with a slight downwind. From that angle, the hole is shortened by 10-15m.
- It's maybe 215m to the front of the green. The Sunday pin is usually on the left. I'll aim right with a three or five-wood
- Even if I'm short, it's a short chip and putt for birdie.