Common Ball Flights

These nine ball flights are frequently seen on the golf course. Being able to identify the flight your ball tends to follow allows you to understand the reasons behind the flight direction.

The swing path of the club in relation to the target line is the primary cause of the initial direction of the ball's flight. The angle of the clubface at impact is the primary influence on the curve the ball follows during flight.

Go to the chart below this diagram to understand the causes of the nine ball flights, or, if you recognize your own tendency below, click on the colored number to find out how to fix that fault.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Initial Ball Direction</th>
<th>&quot;Curve&quot;</th>
<th>Target Line</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Straight</td>
<td>straight</td>
<td>straight</td>
<td>straight</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The club path is straight down the target line and the clubface is square.
2  Fade  straight  right
The club is headed down the target line but the hands have not released the club so the clubface is slightly open.
3  Draw  straight  left
The club is headed down the target line but the clubface is closed.
4  Slice  slightly left  right
The swing path is outside-inside and the clubface is open to severely open.
5  Push  right  straight
The swing is inside-out and the clubface is square to the target line.
6  Push  slice  right  right
The swing path is inside-out and the clubface is open at impact.
7  Hook  slightly right  left
The swing path is slightly inside-out and the clubface is closed to severely closed.
8  Pull  left  straight
The swing path is outside-inside and the clubface is square to the target line.
9  Pull  hook  left  left
The swing path is outside-inside and the clubface is closed.