

CURRENT RULE

c. Impact Area Markings

Markings in the impact area must not have sharp edges or raised lips as determined by a finger test. Grooves or punch marks in the impact area must meet the following specifications:

(i) Grooves. A series of straight grooves with diverging sides and a symmetrical cross-section may be used (see Fig. 10).

- The width and cross-section must be consistent across the face of the club and along the length of the grooves.
- Any rounding of groove edges shall be in the form of a radius which does not exceed 0.020 inches (0.508 mm).
- The width of the grooves must not exceed 0.035 inches (0.9 mm), using the 30 degree method of measurement on file with the United States Golf Association.
- The distance between edges of adjacent grooves must not be less than three times the width of a groove, and not less than 0.075 inches (1.905 mm).
- The depth of a groove must not exceed 0.020 inches (0.508 mm).

Note: Exception — see US Decision 4-1/100.

(ii) Punch Marks. Punch marks may be used.

- The area of any such mark must not exceed 0.0044 square inches (2.84 sq. mm).
- A mark must not be closer to an adjacent mark than 0.168 inches (4.27 mm) measured from center to center.
- The depth of a punch mark must not exceed 0.040 inches (1.02 mm).
- If punch marks are used in combination with grooves, a punch mark must not be closer to a groove than 0.168 inches (4.27 mm), measured from center to center.

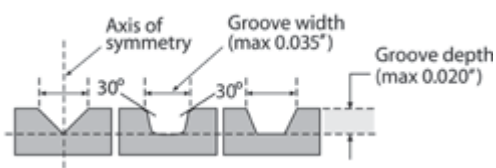


Figure 10

PROPOSED RULE

c. Impact Area Markings

If a club has grooves and/or punch marks in the impact area they must meet the following specifications:

(i) Grooves

- Grooves must be straight and parallel.
- Grooves must have a symmetrical cross-section and have sides which do not converge (see Fig. 10).

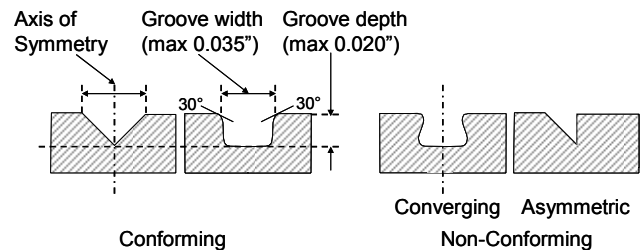


Figure 10

- The width, spacing and cross-section of the grooves must be consistent throughout the impact area.
- The width (W) of each groove must not exceed 0.035 inches (0.9 mm), using the 30 degree method of measurement on file with the United States Golf Association.
- The distance between edges of adjacent grooves (S) must not be less than three times the width of the grooves, and not less than 0.075 inches (1.905 mm).
- The depth of each groove must not exceed 0.020 inches (0.508 mm).
- (*) The cross-sectional area (A) of a groove divided by the groove pitch (W+S) must not exceed 0.0025 square inches per inch (0.064 mm²/mm) (see Fig 11).

$$\frac{A}{W + S} \leq 0.0025 \text{ in}^2 / \text{in}$$

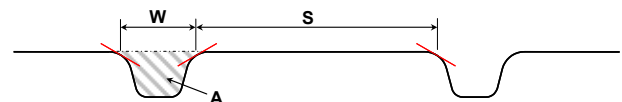


Figure 11

- Grooves must not have sharp edges or raised lips.
- (*) Groove edges must have an effective radius which is not less than 0.010 inches (0.254 mm)

when measured as shown in Figure 12. Deviations in effective radius within 0.001 inches (0.0254 mm) are permissible.

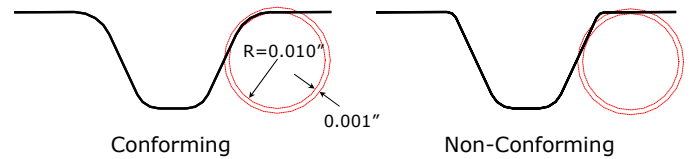


Figure 12

(ii) Punch Marks.

- The maximum dimension of any punch mark must not exceed 0.075 inches (1.905 mm).
- The distance between adjacent punch marks (or between punch marks and grooves) must not be less than 0.168 inches (4.27 mm), measured from center to center.
- The depth of any punch mark must not exceed 0.040 inches (1.02 mm).
- Punch marks must not have sharp edges or raised lips.
- (*) Punch mark edges must have an effective radius which is not greater than 0.020 inches (0.508 mm) and not less than 0.010 inches (0.254 mm) when measured as shown in Figure 12. Deviations in effective radius within 0.001 inches (0.0254 mm) are permissible.

(*) These specifications do not apply to driving clubs.

Note 1: The specifications above marked with an asterisk (*) will not be enforced until January 1, 2009.

Note 2: With effect from January 1, 2009, a Committee is authorized to waive the above specifications marked with an asterisk (*) for applicable clubs manufactured prior to January 1, 2010.

It is recommended that granting of this waiver be the normal practice for all competitions not involving expert players and, in that case, the Committee need not give written notice that the waiver is being applied.

Where a Committee opts not to grant the waiver and to apply all specifications of the Rule (as it is entitled to do) this should be clearly stated in the Conditions of the Competition and the Entry Form.

d. Decorative Markings

The center of the impact area may be indicated by a design within the boundary of a square whose sides are 0.375 inches (9.53 mm) in length. Such a design must not unduly influence the movement of the ball.

Decorative markings are permitted outside the impact area.

d. Decorative Markings

The center of the impact area may be indicated by a design within the boundary of a square whose sides are 0.375 inches (9.53 mm) in length. Such a design must not unduly influence the movement of the ball. Decorative markings are permitted outside the impact area.

e. Non-metallic Club Face Markings

The above specifications apply to clubs on which the impact area of the face is of metal or a material of similar hardness. They do not apply to clubs with faces made of other materials and whose loft angle is 24 degrees or less, but markings which could unduly influence the movement of the ball are prohibited. Clubs with this type of face and a loft angle exceeding 24 degrees may have grooves of maximum width 0.040 inches (1.02 mm) and maximum depth 1½ times the groove width, but must otherwise conform to the markings specifications above.

f. Putter Face Markings

The specifications above with regard to roughness, material and markings in the impact area do not apply to putters.

e. Non-metallic Club Face Markings

The above specifications do not apply to wooden clubs on which the impact area of the face is of a material of hardness less than metal and whose loft angle is 24 degrees or less, but markings which could unduly influence the movement of the ball are prohibited.

f. Putter Face Markings

If a putter has markings on the face they must not have sharp edges or raised lips. Other specifications above with regard to roughness, material and markings in the impact area do not apply to putters.

[NOTE: The definition of the 'impact area' as illustrated in Appendix II, 5b of the Rules of Golf and detailed in 'The Guide to the Rules on Clubs and Balls' would be slightly modified as a result of these proposals.]