Antique Golf Ball, Gutta Percha

£550

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REF: 30072

Diameter: 4.3 cm (1.7")

Description

Solid Mesh Gutty Golf Ball.
A very rare solid moulded unusual square mesh patterned gutta percha golf ball in original, well used condition. The 1890's gutty ball with no name and manufacture unknown. The unusual mesh pattern of squares and diamonds. The ball is in the raw state with virtually no paint.

The ball is approximately 4.2 cm in diameter.

The solid gutty golf ball replaced the feathery ball because of its cost effectiveness, as a gutty could be rolled in a matter of minutes, and slowly the game of golf became affordable to the masses. The 'Gutty' era lasted from around 1848 well into 1900's.

To make a gutty golf ball first the gutta-percha was heated and loosely rolled into a ball shape. The ball was then put into the mould and then placed into a press. The press would imprint the pattern onto the ball and the excess would squeeze out of the sides. The seams were then trimmed when cool, leaving a hard and non-brittle "Gutty" golf ball. The durability of the gutta along with its lower costs and better play rejuvenated the game of golf.
Gutta-percha is the evaporated latex produced from a tree, mostly found in Malaysia.

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