Schotten

Chemico Popular Golf Ball

£350

Manfred Schotten Antiques
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REF: 30870

Diameter: 4.3 cm (1.7")

Description

Chemico Popular Rubber Core Golf Ball.
An unusual patterned rubber core golf ball in used condition. The ball is marked "Chemico Popular" on both poles in inverted lettering. The unusual pattern covering the ball is large inverted flat dimples and is a good collectable golf ball made by County Golf Co., Chemico Works, 367 Bradford Street, Birmingham, England. 'Chemico' was their trade name and used it on many of their products. They first started trading in about 1895 in a chemists shop on the High Street in Coleshill, Birmingham and later moved to a factory in Bradford Street when the original premises were required by Great Western Railway. They produced many things from cycle puncture repair kits, kitchen cleaner to brazing flux. They started making golf balls around 1910 and their "Chemico Bob" golf ball was the only golf ball to sell at a "Bob". Chemico's most famous invention was in 1929 and was a hair product. During the 1930's the demand for this product escalated beyond their dreams so they sold it to Beecham Trust Ltd., this product was 'Brylcreem Hair Cream'.

The ball is approximately 4.3 cm in diameter.

The rubber core ball (the ancestor of the modern ball) began its life in the late 1890's. The first mass produced rubber core ball was by Coburn Haskell of Cleveland, Ohio. The first core balls were hand wound with elastic thread with a Gutta-percha cover, moulded with the raised square mesh pattern of their predecessor. The slight irregularities in the early wound balls made them quite lively, it was not until the invention of the automatic winding machine by John Gammeter (an engineer at Goodrich) and the change of pattern from mesh to bramble that the balls became more consistent and predictable. In later years, the 1920's, the design went back to a mesh pattern with lattice design.

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