BirCo. Gutta Percha Golf Ball

£680

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REF: 30867

Diameter: 4.3 cm (1.7")

Description

Solid Mesh 'Bir Co.' Gutty Golf Ball.
A solid moulded square mesh patterned gutta percha golf ball in good condition. The Victorian 'Bir Co.' gutty ball manufactured by Birmingham India Rubber Co., Birmingham, England. The ball is marked on both poles, 'Bir Co.' in inverted lettering within a large segmented square with a circle in the middle.

The ball is approximately 4.3 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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