



Vintage Golf Club, Claude Johnson's Patent Driver, Hickory Shaft.

Sold



REF: 28403

Height: 103 cm (40.6")

Width: 7 cm (2.8")

Depth: 7 cm (2.8")

## Description

Patent Golf Club, Adjustable Driver By Claude Johnson.

The first adjustable driver, TaylorMade and Callaway were not the first. This is a fine and extremely rare driver with an unusual shaped head by Walter Claude Johnson. Today very few of Johnson's clubs have survived, two are displayed at the British Golf Museum in St Andrews and a few are in private collections. This is a great chance to add a rather rare club to your collection.

Johnson received a British patent for his club on 4th of May 1893.

One of the advantages of this club was that it had a detachable head so that you could order a new head or new shaft and it could be fitted without the need of a professional club maker, the shaft is held in place by a brass ferrule and secured with a grub screw. Made by Angus Teen & Company the weight of the club head could also be adjusted, lowering the center of gravity or making it heavier or lighter. This is easily done by removing the brass plaque on top of the club head and adding to or removing discs to the chamber underneath. The weight can be adjusted by the cork disks and specially made lead weights, the lead weights stamped "Ballast for Claude Johnsons Patent". The brass cast plaque marked 'Claude Johnson's Patent, No. 752 Pattern B', the production number and pattern code made it easy to order replacement heads or shafts. The plaque would also direct the players eye to the club head, in line with the center of the club face, thus assisting a good ball strike. The slightly convex brass sole plate of the club is stamped by "A. Teen & Co. Golf Club & Ball Manufacturers, 18 Eastcombe Ter. Blackheath, London. S.E Sole Makers. The club is hickory shafted with an old polished leather grip, probably original.

In 1894 the club under went remodelling, the brass ferrule was done away with and the ballast was inserted in the sole, making this club on offer one of the first run of production.