



Gutta Percha, Mesh Pattern Golf Ball. Eclipse Patent

£450



REF: 30061

Diameter: 4.3 cm (1.7")

Description

Solid Mesh 'Eclipse' Gutter Golf Ball.

A solid moulded square mesh patterned gutta percha golf ball in original, unpainted condition. The late 1880's 'Eclipse' gutter ball manufactured by William Currie & Company, The Caledonian Rubber Works, Viewpoint Place, Edinburgh, Scotland. The ball name is imprinted on a band on both poles, a cross in center of the circular band, ball name 'Eclipse Patent'

The ball is approximately 4.3 cm in diameter.

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

To make a gutter 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 "Gutter" 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.